

**Upcoming Events**  
**Business Meeting: Today at 3:30 p.m.**

**Panera Bread Open Bible Study:**  
New location: see church website

**GREAT NEWS!**  
**Andrea Chandler was baptized last Wednesday evening!**

**Living for Jesus**

*“Therefore, if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.”* Colossians 3:1

*“...the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.”* 1 John 2:6

*“If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”* John 14:15

**October Birthdays**

3 Betty Heitmeyer                      28 Allan Brown

# Indio Informer

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**Walking Bibles**

Excerpted from article by Ron Thomas

For all our life we have studied the Scriptures. We can recall in an instant for someone who asks where something is located if there is a need to know. We have not only read the Scriptures faithfully, the entirety of the Bible at least once annually, but we have done much detailed exegetical work on many passages of Scripture. If anyone thinks of us, they think of a “walking Bible.” In some strange way, there is something in that descriptive term that is ego-building though perhaps, in our modesty we deflect such sentiments. Jesus faced this when He faced those religious leaders in the community who were considered “walking Bibles.” Yet, Jesus took note of how little they truly knew. *“Are you not therefore mistaken, because you do not know the Scriptures nor the power of God?”* (Matt. 22:29) He indicted those professional religious leaders with being unlearned, at least in part!

*“You do not know the Scriptures”* is a mighty powerful indictment against people who would be considered “walking Bibles.” Notice, also, Jesus said they did not know the power of God. I learned a good-while back and was reminded of this by David Pharr while in preaching school, the words of Paul:

*“For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height-to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him*

**Regular Meeting Times**

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

**Preacher:**  
(Vacant)

**Church of Christ**  
81-377 Ave 46  
Indio, CA 92201  
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*who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”*

(Ephesians 3:14-21)

To have someone call us a “walking Bible” might make us feel very good, but one needs also to remember, when speaking of people, a walking Bible has many empty pages. Even the smartest of those called “walking Bibles” will tell us how inadequate and empty they are or feel on not a few, but many occasions. Try as one might to understand and apply, there are many times when weakness or neglect soon follows. It is very important to have knowledge of God’s way, but that knowledge will do nothing on judgment day to help if the knowledge attained is not put into application.

### **Be Careful Not to Fall**

By Edd Sterchi

It always amazes me how some can claim that it is impossible for a Christian to fall away from the grace of God. Consider these texts from the book of Hebrews:

- Heb. 2:1, *“Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.”*
- Heb. 3:12, *“Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God”*
- Heb. 4:1, *“Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it.”*
- Heb. 6:4-6, *“For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift...if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God...”*
- Heb. 10:26, *“For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins”*
- Heb. 10:38, *“Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.”*

- Heb. 12:15, *“looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled”*
- Heb. 12:25, *“much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven”*
- Heb. 13:9, *“Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines.”*

And that’s just the book of Hebrews, let alone all the others books of the New Testament (of which there are many, many more passages that relate this truth). The Bible clearly reveals that it is possible to fall away from God’s grace. Knowing that, we should be inspired to remain faithful and active for the Lord. Let us watch our steps and be careful not to fall.

*“But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul”* (Heb. 10:39).

### **Live or Die?**

By Steve Higginbotham

In times past, it was much more difficult to be a Christian than it is today, well, at least in the United States. In times past, and even today but in different nations, being a follower of Jesus could cost you your life. But for those of us living in the United States, Christianity comes easy. Because we live in such a permissive and pluralistic society, no one really cares what we believe and practice. It's all good.

Consequently, we find it easy to answer such hypothetical questions such as, "would you be willing to die for the Lord?" We can quickly respond by saying, as did Peter, "Sure, I'd die for the Lord." However, because we probably will never be asked to do such a thing, it's easy for us to say. So let me challenge us with this thought...

If we can say that we'd be willing to die for Jesus, that's wonderful. But until we're called upon to do so, would we at least be willing to live for him? Give it some thought.