

## Upcoming Events

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

## Commitment

*“Motivation is what gets you started. Commitment is what keeps you going.”* Jim Rohn

*“There’s a difference between interest and commitment. When you’re interested in doing something, you do it only when it’s convenient. When you’re committed to something, you accept no excuses; only results.”* Kenneth Blanchard

*“There are only two options regarding commitment; you’re either in or you’re out. There’s no such thing as life in-between.”* Pat Riley

## September Birthdays

3 Wendy Cortes      11 Marie Burruss      15 Marcos Perales  
16 Jim Burruss      24 Mason Perales  
30 Dortha Gentry      30 Kurt Hoffman

### 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  
(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

# Indio Informer

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## Only Pay for What You Need

By Joe Slater

I suppose you’ve seen those obnoxious insurance commercials insisting that you should switch to that company because you’ll only pay for what you need. Unless your name is Rip Van Winkle, you know that all insurers let you select the coverage you want. If your vehicle has no loan against it, you aren’t required to have full coverage. Not exactly news, right?

How does “only pay for what you need” apply to our relationship with God? Just how much religion do we need, and what will it cost us?

Some would say they don’t need much at all. “I’m a good person. I don’t drink or cuss or smoke or . . . (we can extend the list as far as we like). So why would I need religion?” Let us be reminded: *“There is none righteous, no, not one”* (Romans 3:10). I doubt that we’re any better than Cornelius (Acts 10), who needed to hear *“words by which you and all your household will be saved”* (Acts 11:14). Cornelius needed full coverage; so do we!

As to what it will cost us, the premium is astronomical. If we had all the money in the world, we couldn’t start to commence to begin to make a down-payment on the interest! Fortunately for us, Jesus paid the price for our redemption: His blood (1 Peter 1:19).

There is a sense, however in which it will cost us everything. Jesus said, *“Whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple”* (Luke 14:33). We’re not talking dollars-and-cents here. We’re talking about dedication and willing surrender to the

will of Christ – not half-hearted lip service, but genuine commitment to the Lord.

Jesus paid for everything we need. Do we mean it when we sing, “I surrender all”?

## **Not a Joking Matter**

By Edd Sterchi

There was once a farmer who was going broke farming, so he quit and started selling hammers. He would buy hammers for \$3 apiece and sell them for \$2 each. He was selling a lot of hammers and seemed happier than before. A friend soon reminded him that for every hammer he sold he was losing \$1. To which the he smiled and replied, “Yeah, but it’s more profitable than farming.”

That joke is similar to what people sometimes do with their lives. Activities like drunkenness, sexual immorality, extreme selfishness, obsession with material possessions, deceit, etc. can cause folks to view their lives as being morally and spiritually bankrupt. So they decide to go to church services, pray, or read the Bible every once in a while without actually correcting the behaviors that got them into such a big mess to begin with.

Going to church services, praying, and reading the Bible are good things to do, but until one takes some corrective action and makes a full commitment to Jesus Christ and His teachings, they are still “going broke.” It’s like buying hammers for \$3 and selling them for \$2 – or like taking two steps forward and three steps backward.

It’s past time for some people to get more serious about their Christianity and truly change their lives and totally live for Jesus. He needs to be at the center of every thought, every intent, and every action in life. The old ways are to be completely left behind and the things that make for righteousness are to be constantly pursued (1 Cor. 6:9-11; Phil. 3:13-14; Col. 3:1-17; Jas. 1:21-25).

You see, living in Christ and with Christ does not work unless we truly and totally live for Christ! Don’t make a joke out of our life. Live the way He wants us to.

*“Therefore, do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.”* (Rom. 6:12-13)

## **Lukewarm**

By Travis Robertson

The church in Laodicea was neither hot nor cold, but lukewarm (Revelation 3:14-22). It had become a congregation that was of no use to the Lord. Their lukewarm attitude had made the Lord so sick, that He spit them out of His mouth. What we find in this message to the church is that it was personal. The church at Laodicea was lukewarm because the individual members were lukewarm. But it wasn’t just a message to the individuals at Laodicea. The Lord knew that this would be a universal problem within the church, that’s why He preserved this letter for us today.

It is easy for us to become complacent religiously. But if we are going to overcome our lukewarm attitudes, we first must look inside ourselves. Have we become lukewarm in our service to the Lord? Are we on fire like we once were? Have we settled for a comfy spot in the pew to keep it warm? If this describes us, it is time to make a change. Let’s not settle for the spiritually comfortable life, it isn’t pleasing to the Lord.

Sometimes it isn’t us that is lukewarm but someone else. If that is the case, it is time to reach out, invite them into our home, pray for them, encourage them. Remind them, that they are not alone, and we are here for them. Maybe all they need is a little nudge to get moving, or a little spark to get the fire started again.