

## Welcome New Family Members

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**Speaker for Today**  
Thank you again, Jon Dungan

### Regular Meeting Times

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

**Website:**  
[indiochurchofchrist.com](http://indiochurchofchrist.com)

**Preacher: Vacant**

**Church of Christ**  
81-377 Ave 46  
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# Indio Informer

Vol. 36 No.11  
March 16, 2025

*"Trust in the Lord with all  
your heart and do not lean on  
your own understanding."*

Proverb 3:5

- *"Fight the good fight"*
- *"Keep the faith"*
- *"Finish the course"*

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## In Season and Out of Season...But...

A single point: The Message depends on messengers.

I believe in writers and books and other such forms of communication but very few people come to God in Jesus Christ apart from actual contact with an actual person or persons in whom the message is embodied. Certainly, that's how it was in the early days when faith in Jesus raced through Palestine and out into the regions beyond (see Acts 11:19-20). It's true that it was the Message about Jesus that people gladly and often gallantly embraced, being baptized into his name, but the Message didn't come to them in letters—it came to them in messengers, in actual people; it was a people-embodied Message.

A fine man with no gospel to tell is sub-Christian. A fine man with merely moral advice and right values is sub-Christian. The gospel that raced through Palestine wasn't just a lot of nice people saying nice things, you understand; it was nice people with a Message about Jesus!

The ancient Jewish council members had moral values as real as Peter's and they could quote the Old Testament texts as well as the Galileans, but it was when Peter and John stood up, proclaiming an astonishing Message about the recently crucified, but now very much alive, Jesus of Nazareth, that the fire broke out. There they stood, formerly fear-filled and now defying the Supreme Court of

the Israelite people. Two months earlier the apostolic group had scattered to save their lives, and now they thanked God for the privilege of suffering for the name of Jesus and telling the distressed jurists (Acts 4:19-20), *"We cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard!"*

## Entering the Kingdom of Heaven

By Edd Sterchi

Many people believe that all one has to do is claim Jesus as Lord and they will automatically be placed in His kingdom. On the other end of the spectrum are the folks who think they can earn salvation through good works in His name. The debates and arguments concerning this are endless.

Why not get the answer from the Savior Himself? He settles the issue in Matthew 7:21-23, *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not...done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"* Let's note a few important matters from this.

**Just recognizing Jesus as Lord is not enough.** Did you notice that there were some who called Jesus "Lord", but they were not saved? God demands more than just mental acknowledgment. The head is not enough.

**Just doing something in Jesus' name is not enough.** Did you also notice that there were some who were doing wonderful things to honor Jesus, but they too were not saved? Works alone fall short of God's formula for justification. The hands are not enough.

**We become a part of the kingdom of heaven through obedience to God.** If one has such a respect for God and His wishes, there will be no problem believing Him and doing His will exactly as stated in His word. Obviously, this involves the heart. The heart that is right and set on God's ways will involve the head and the hands in obedience, as well.

Have you obeyed God's plan of salvation? Are you truly doing the will of the Father in heaven? Are you intent on living the way He has prescribed in the New Testament? Remember, start with the heart, believe His word, and perform the will of the Father.

*"But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does."* (James 1:25)

## TODAY

*Outside my window, a new day I see,  
And only I can determine what kind of day it will be.  
It can be busy and sunny, laughing and gay,  
Or boring and cold, unhappy and gray.  
For my own state of mind is the determining key,  
For I am only the person I let myself be.  
I can be thoughtful and do all I can to help,  
Or be selfish and just think of myself.  
I can enjoy what I do and make it seem fun,  
Or gripe and complain and make it hard on someone.  
I can be patient with those who may not understand  
Or belittle and hurt them as much as I can.  
But I have faith in the Lord and believe when I say  
I personally intend to make the best of each day.*

- Author Unknown

The above should remind us all of Debbie Pescador's message on her phone...

*"We are looking and feeling better every day by choice"*  
(She's also been saying this every day for 52 years!)

Great attitude...very commendable!