

**Attention**  
**Business Meeting**  
TODAY at 2:30 p.m.

**Thank you...Alexis Brown**  
**Speaker for today**

**God Provides...Give Thanks**  
(Author Unknown)

I asked for strength...And God gave me difficulties to make me strong. I asked for wisdom...And God gave me problems to solve. I asked for prosperity...And God gave me a brain and energy to work. I asked for courage...And God gave me danger to overcome. I asked for love...And God gave me troubled people to help. I asked for favors...And God gave me opportunities. I received nothing I wanted, but I received everything I needed.

### **March Birthdays**

19 Monserrat Isidoro      23 Lupita Isidoro  
30 Regino Arellano

#### **Regular Meeting Times**

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

**Website:**  
**indiochurchofchrist.com**

**Preacher: Vacant**

**Church of Christ**  
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Indio, CA 92201  
(760) 342-1859

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# *Indio Informer*

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*"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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### **How Long Must I Be Faithful?**

Excerpts from article by Jay Launius

After a person hears, believes, repents, confesses, and is baptized into Christ, the journey is not over, but is just beginning. Many times, those who obey the Gospel and become Christians quickly realize that life continues to have its challenges or now even more so because Satan is more determined than ever to drag them away from the Lord. That is why the scriptures spend so much time teaching us about remaining "faithful" to the Lord.

When we hear the phrase, "faithful Christian", many of us think of someone who is consistent in their attendance to the meetings and worship services of the church. However, being a faithful servant of God is much more than "going to church every time the doors are open." Being a child of God certainly includes consistent worship but also must include study, giving, benevolence, and most importantly, love. Christianity should encompass one's whole life, not just one portion of it. We don't turn off our Christianity when the last "Amen" is said.

Paul used marriage as a metaphor for our relationship to God. *"I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him."*(2 Corinthians 11:2) So in this sense, we

can think of our faithfulness to Christ as we would our faithfulness to a spouse. Is it acceptable for a husband to carry on an affair with another woman while married to his wife? So, is it acceptable for a Christian to participate in activities of the devil while claiming Christ? The New Testament does not fall short in its warnings against unfaithfulness.

So how long should we be faithful to the Lord? Let's return to our example of marriage, don't our marriage vows include the phrase "till death do us part?" A faithful marriage is to last a lifetime (Matthew 19:6), so is our faithfulness to the Lord. *"Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."* (Revelation 2:10b)

### **"A Long Obedience in the Same Direction"**

By Eugene Peterson

"It is not difficult in our world to get a person interested in the message of the Gospel; it is terrifically difficult to sustain the interest. Millions of people in our culture make decisions for Christ, but there is a dreadful attrition rate.

Many claim to have been born again, but the evidence for mature Christian discipleship is slim. In our kind of culture anything, even news about God, can be sold if it is packaged freshly; but when it loses its novelty, it goes on the garbage heap.

There is a great market for religious experience in our world; there is **little enthusiasm** for the patient acquisition of virtue, little inclination to sign up for a long apprenticeship in what earlier Christians called holiness."

### **How to Please God Everyday**

(from Memory Delight website)

A college man walked into a photography studio with a framed picture of his girlfriend. He wanted the picture duplicated. This involved removing it from the frame. In doing this, the studio owner noticed the inscription on the

back of the photograph:

*"My dearest Tom, I love you with all my heart. I love you more and more each day. I will love you forever and ever. I am yours for all eternity."*

It was signed "Helen," and it contained a P.S.: "If we ever break up, I want this picture back." Helen was obviously not completely committed to that relationship.

In the Book of Ruth, Ruth was a young woman who understood total commitment. God also loves commitment. That's why He included Ruth's statement to her mother-in-law in your Bible:

*"Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus may the LORD do to me, and worse, if anything but death parts you and me."*

That's the kind of commitment God admires - unqualified commitment. How about us? Are we seriously committed to know Christ and be like Him?

### **Quotations about Trusting God**

*"You have trusted Him in a few things, and He has not failed you. Trust Him now for everything, and see if He does not do for you exceeding abundantly above all that you could ever have asked or thought, not according to your power or capacity, but according to His own mighty power, that will work in you all the good pleasure of His most blessed will. You find no difficulty in trusting the Lord with the management of the universe and all the outward creation, and can your case be any more complex or difficult than these, that you need to be anxious or troubled about His management of it?"*

- Hannah Whitall Smith -

*"Keep praying but be thankful that God's answers are wiser than our prayers!"* - William Culbertson -