

**Thank you, Alexis Brown
...for being our speaker for today!**

May Birthdays

15 Kena Brown

May Anniversaries

5 Calvin and Paige Cree
5 Aaron and Esmeralda McCollum

"For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."

Galatians 5:13

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

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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"*

"Love is the Perfect Unifier"

By Kevin Cauley

The title of this article is my translation of the last part of Colossians 3:14. The English Standard Version translates it thus: *"And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."* The New King James Version says, *"But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection."* The New American Standard Version renders the verse: *"Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity."* The Christian Standard Bible says: *"Above all, put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity."*

Does God's word lie? Or is it true that love is the perfect unifier? All disagreements, disputes, differences, and disunities could be resolved with a healthy application of love. We don't love each other enough! We would rather split apart to preserve our own prideful opinions than to value someone else more than our own alleged intelligence. How intelligent are we really? Not very, if we are willing to sacrifice relationships for our own pride. Lack of love is the culprit. When I look at another person, what do I see? Do I see someone made in the image of God? Do I see someone for whom Christ died? Do I see a soul that will spend eternity in either heaven or hell? Many simply see other people as

means to ends: “You are only as good as what you can do for me” they think. This is not loving people. This is using people for our own selfish purposes. People are ends in and of themselves. They are worth sacrificing ourselves for. God certainly thought that, and Jesus demonstrated it (Romans 5:8)! Don’t cast aside relationships like they are just toys for our amusement. Repent, and love people more.

God bless you, and I love you (I really do!)!

Why I Go to Every Service of the Church

By Author Unknown

- **I Go To Every Service of The Church Because I Am Made Stronger.** Power is given in worship to live a nobler, holy life (Acts 20:32). There is the sweetest fellowship on earth. Why should I want to miss ANY service?
 - **I Go To Every Service of The Church Because God Wants The Church To Grow** (cf. Acts 2:47; 4:4). The church always grows when members put God first by loyal attendance. Here is a way all can help in the finest work on earth.
 - **I Go To Every Service of The Church To Set A Good Example.** Many look my way and follow in my steps (Matthew 5:14-16). Influence is either good or bad. Any hour the church meets, my influence is with or against Christ.
 - **I Go To Every Service of The Church To Prove My Love and Gratitude.** One who truly loves God does not ask if he must attend all services. His love compels him to! If I show love to God by attendance, I show lack of love by absence (Matthew 22:37-39).
- **I Go To Every Service of The Church To Obey God.** The Bible says, “*Not forsaking our own assembling together*” (Hebrews 10:25). Any service where the Bible is taught, prayer is made, and God is worshiped, is good, and “*to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin*” (James 4:17). If it is good to be present for all services, it is bad to be absent from any if I can possibly help it.
 - I Go To Every Service of The Church To Put First Things First. “Seek FIRST His kingdom” (Matthew 6:33). Jesus said the church must be first to the Christian, even before seeking food, clothing or shelter.
 - **I Go To Every Service of The Church Because It Is Safe To Do So.** All who forsake an assembly without a legitimate reason for doing so must wonder if they sin. But I know I am safe in attending every service (Romans 14:21-23).
 - **I Go To Every Service of The Church To Abound In The Lord’s Work** (1 Corinthians 15:58). One who is a true Christian will want to do ALL they can and not as LITTLE as they can. Since the assemblies of the church are vital, I must abound in attendance.

