



Perry Christian Church

The Crier—January 2017

Volume 9, Issue 1

“Who do people say I am?”

Why does Jesus ask such a question? Why does Jesus care? Jesus never asks a frivolous question, he always has a purpose.

Asking this question makes his disciples think. They have to connect to the crowd to answer the question. They have to investigate who people say Jesus is. And by **investigating Jesus’** question, they learn a very important lesson.

It’s the age-old problem of discipleship. Today we are so busy following Jesus and tending to our own walk with the Lord, that we disciples lose influence with the rest of the world. What do I mean by losing influence? Well, most people believe the circles in which they associate, have the same value sys-

tems and beliefs to which they themselves ascribe. After all, why would a person associate with a crowd with opposite values and beliefs from themselves?

By asking the question, **“Who do people say I Am?”**, Jesus points out the many different understandings of the crowd with regards to Jesus ministry on earth. Some think he is John the Baptist come back to life as Jesus. This is a reincarnation view of life. Reincarnation and the Resurrection are two very different things. Jesus was not reincarnated, Jesus was resurrected.

Some think Jesus is the new Elijah. This viewpoint says some are still looking for a Messiah. The Messiah is the one that will free

Mark 8:27

the people from the tyranny of Rome.

Some think Jesus is a prophet. A voice making wild promises no one expects to come true. They have seen many prophets come and go.

The fact that the disciples have not understood the weight of Jesus question is obvious. They have a complacent attitude toward the crowd’s lack of belief in Jesus’ works and sayings. In fact often in the Bible we see the disciples wishing the crowds would just go away. This Jesus they are following is their Jesus, the crowd can find their own Rabbi to follow.

The disciples have yet to realize it is their job to change the **crowd’s notions of** who Jesus really is

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Special points of interest:

- Project Hope
- Secret Sisters
- Thank You



“Who do people say I am?” Mark 8:27



Each time the disciples gathered together they encouraged each other and their guests with the gospel to build their spirituality.

thereby bringing people into the presence of salvation. After all Jesus has been healing, teaching, and feeding the poor for months. What more can he do to make himself recognized as the savior of the world, raise the dead? Oh wait!, he has raised the dead and still the crowd **doesn't understand, and** neither do the disciples.

Regardless of the place, or time, or institution, the leader can only impart knowledge to so many people. It then becomes the **disciples' responsibility to** lead others into understanding as to the true identity and purpose of **Jesus' incarnation.**

When Jesus raised the **question of, "Who do people say that I am?"** It opened the doors for the disciples to explore four very important evangelistic questions.

1. How do we communicate this good news about Jesus to others?
2. How do we help people connect to Jesus?
3. How do we open doors to discipleship and invite people in?
4. How do we ourselves grow as

disciples?

In the upper room during Pentecost, the disciples finally took responsibility for the 4 evangelistic questions. We see Peter answering **the crowd's accusation** of drunkenness not with a defensive answer, but rather with the truth of who Jesus is. And when the crowd asks what they should do, Peter helps the crowd to be connect to Jesus by repenting and baptism.

When Peter and John encounter a crippled beggar outside the temple, **they don't just walk past the beggar** because they have nothing to give him, rather they dig deep into their **spirituality and say: "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk" (Acts 3:1-8).**

Each time the disciples gathered together they encouraged each other and their guests with the gospel to build their spirituality. After attending temple, they retired to a Christian home to partake of the **Lord's Supper in remem-**

brance of Jesus, solidifying their unity around the foundation Jesus left with them, to make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20).

All these examples are examples of leading others to Jesus. All activities of Worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry and mission must ultimately point to who Jesus is and the making of disciples. The result of Jesus raising his question was the disciples took responsibility in many different ways to communicate and lead others to the Christ.

This is how the church came about, and how the church still grows today. This New Year we at Perry Christian church have another opportunity to communicate to others who Jesus is, and why people should believe and follow Jesus. I pray you will use every opportunity to point this hurting world to Jesus.

May God's blessings rest upon each of your families during this season of Epiphany.

Blessings,

Pastor Janet

FELLOWSHIP

SOUPEr SUNDAY!

January 22 is our annual Souper Sunday fellowship. It is a time to mingle and to enjoy some hospitality from our great cooks. Please see Sherry if you can donate a soup, sandwiches or dessert to share.



MISSION

PROJECT HOPE

We will be meeting on Thursday, January 19th at 6:00 pm to prepare Sloppy Joes and sack lunches for delivery to Project Hope on January 21st at 6:45pm.

Here's what is needed:

- 3lbs of ground beef, already browned
- 2lbs of ground sausage, already browned

- 1 large bottle of catsup
- 5 packages of sandwich buns
- For lunches we will need:
 - 5 Loaves of bread
 - 55 Slices of Turkey
 - 55 Slices of Cheese
 - 2 Bags of 20 Individual Bags of Chips
 - 7 Boxes of Fruit Bars
 - 3 Cases of 24 or more Bottles of water

If you can donate cash for the purchase of fruit, that would be appreciated.

We also need a delivery person on Saturday, January 21st. The sign-up sheet for all these items is on the bulletin board.

Susan Callahan



CWM

SECRET SISTERS

Whether you're having a good day or a bad one, how blessed you will be to know that someone is holding you up in prayer. In return, what a blessing you will

be as you pray for another.

As a Secret Sister, you will surprise someone each month with a card or gift from the heart. Sign up for Secret Sisters will conclude on January 8,

2017. Ladies you have until that day to return your form for either one or both programs. Forms are on the church bulletin board.
Susan Callahan

Secret



Sisters

Sharing the love of Jesus!



JANUARY 2017

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 11:00a Sunday School	2	3	4 9a Community Mission	5 2p Prayer Team	6	7
8 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 11:00a Sunday School	9 7p Trustee Meeting	10	11	12 2p Prayer Team	13	14
15 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 11:00a Sunday School	16	17	18	19 2p Prayer Team 6p Project Hope Food Prep	20	21 6:45p Project Hope Food Delivery
22 9:30a Worship 10:45a Souper Sunday	23	24	25	26 2p Prayer Team	27	28
29 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 11:00a Sunday School	30	31	Pastor is on vacation thru Sun., January 15th If you need a hospital visit, call Earl Johnson 259-3591; for the Prayer Chain, call Mary Hale 639-8833; for an administrative concern, call Carole Martin 259-2257.			



January Service Schedules

	Worship Leaders	Elders	Presiding Elder	All Month
1	Sherry Smith	Joann Rombough Linda Warfield	Earl Johnson	Deacons *Judy Bartlett Frankie Blanchard *Head Deacon
8	Pat Johnson	Carole Martin Vicki Wakelee	Linda Warfield	Sacristan Pat Johnson
15	Tim Johnson	Earl Johnson Rick Bartlett	Linda Warfield	Counters Judy Bartlett Frankie Blanchard
22	Judy Bartlett	Vicki Wakelee Earl Johnson		Hostess Linda Warfield Sherry Smith
29	Don Bartlett	Linda Warfield Carole Martin		

January Birthdays

1 Austin Pierce

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 Glenn Mers

11 Alexander Hale-Braff
Al Daugherty

12 Lee Polzer

13 Dustin Johnson

14 Dave Martin

15

16

17

18

19

20

21 Terry Wakelee

22

23

24 Joan Chapman-Smith
Rob Martin

25

26

27 Lyndsay Rombough

28

29

30 Joseph Rombough

31



THIS & THAT

We extend our sympathy to Brenda Carr and the entire Carr family on the passing of her dad, Frank Carr, on Tuesday, December 27, 2016. Services were held at the Williams-Ducro Funeral Home in Pierpont, Ohio on Saturday, December 31, 2016.



THANK YOU

From Forbes House

Dear Friends of Forbes House:

Two words:

Endless gratitude

That's how your generosity makes me feel!

Thank you so very much for your donation of \$200 in December to the only domestic violence shelter in Lake County. There is no greater gift than an expression of caring. Because of your caring,

you are helping domestic violence survivors in their transition from lives of fear and danger to lives of safety and healing. Thanks to you those in our shelter have hope and comfort. Our hearts are touched because you chose us as the beneficiary of your kindness. Your thoughtfulness demonstrates your faith and support of

our work, and your gift is greatly appreciated by all of us, especially those in our care.

Thank you again for your compassion for survivors of domestic **violence. You're what making a difference looks like.**

All the Best,
Wanda D. Simmons
Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Thank you just doesn't seem to be enough to express my feelings of gratitude toward the PCC Family. You are always so friendly and appreciative of my work. That means so much to me.

Thank you for the Christmas gift which was so generous. Your kindness overflows.

I wish each of you a very happy 2017 and pray God will bless you throughout the new year.

Your friend in Christ,
Deb Kendrick

For more information about Forbes House, its programs & services, go to www.forbeshouse.org Plus you can also keep in touch with Forbes House activities on Facebook.

To my Church Family,
 Glenn and I would like to thank you for all your gifts and kindnesses throughout **Glenn's surgery** and the holidays. It is a joy to serve a congregation that is supportive and loving to all its members and especially to Glenn and myself. We look forward to a New Year and all the hope 2017 brings.
 Blessings,
 Pastor Janet

It is not HAPPY people who are THANKFUL.
It is THANKFUL people who are HAPPY.

From: Bethany Christian Mission Center

November 21, 2016
 Dear Friends,
 Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to look back and reflect on the things for which we are thankful! Here at Bethany, I am thankful for a loving God that is ever faithful and for the many servants who have invested their time, energy, prayers and funds into keeping this mission viable. Now, more than ever before, our country needs faith-based schools. Our children need to know how to pray and how to face

this complex and often cruel world with confidence that God will see them through. I know many of you believe this as well, and that is why you support our school in so many ways. Because of you we were able to offer financial aid to students who otherwise would not have been able to attend Bethany. Because of you we were able to make the necessary repairs and meet our financial obligations. Because of you we have been able to

reach out into our community to feed and witness to those who so need it. Because of you we have had the encouragement and the courage to step out in faith knowing our needs will be met. Because of you, we carry on!
 During the upcoming holiday season, please know how much you mean to our school and our mission. We ask you to pray for us as we pray for you.
 Respectfully,
 Candice Burnette
 Superintendent

From: Project Hope for the Homeless

Dear Friends at the Perry Christian Church,
 As we approach the end of the year we continue to see unprecedented success. Your gracious support has given 404 people, 71 of them children—life-changing support and guidance. We have achieved a record-breaking 86% positive transition rate overall

for our guests moving into a better quality of life than when they arrived. Your gift of \$200 donated in December will **help this month's** guests join those who have already made a positive transition and found a new hope and life through the programs you are providing.

Read what a former guest had to say about **Project Hope**. **"It is the shelter that allowed me and my children to stay together. It goes so much further than Christmas. Thank you for the kindness. It is the kindness that my children remember the most."**
 In Service, Judy Burr
 Executive Director



PERRY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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January 2017 Newsletter



Pastor	Rev. Dr. Janet Mers
Worship	9:30am
Fellowship	10:30am
Sunday School	11:00am
E-Mail	sec@perrychristianchurch.org
Phone	(440) 259-4821
Website	www.perrychristianchurch.org