



# Lighthouse of Iowa

*Keeping in touch with Iowa's Churches of Christ*

May 2022

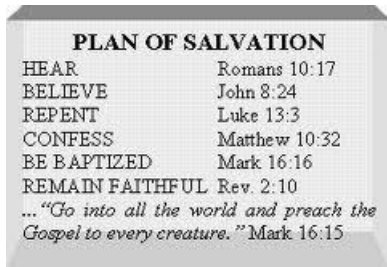
## *The Five Steps Events to Salvation!*

To call the path to salvation a system of “steps” is to turn the journey to eternal life into a list of ‘to-do’ items to check off as each is accomplished.

Salvation and the heart of man runs much deeper than that. Yes, there are certain uncompromisable events that I must engage in with my body *and my mind*.

*And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. ~ Romans 12:-2*

The 5 or 6 step plan the Church of Christ is well known for is of course *the necessity* to Hear the Gospel of Christ, to Believe the Gospel of Christ, Repent and turn to Christ, Confess Jesus Christ, and be Baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The sixth is to Continue your walk in the faith.



*They are essential to salvation* and actually are closer to “events” experienced than an item on a list to check off. But we know the Christian journey through this temporary world is much richer and deeper than a system of steps.

Saul, soon to be Apostle Paul, certainly did not follow a check list of steps in his conversion. Though it was quite an *event* on the road to Damascus when he first HEARD and soon after BELIEVED that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God!

Years later in his letter to the Romans he asks, how can salvation even take place without FIRST hearing and believing?

*“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in*

*whom they have not believed? and how shall they BELIEVE in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they HEAR without a preacher? ~ Romans 10:13-14*

Despite this, I recently had a number of discussions with friends and acquaintances from other faiths of all kinds who discredit this, calling it “Your 5-step man-made system”. And “That came from Walter Scott and Alexander Campbell, not God.”

I begged to differ.

### **Jesus Christ’s teaching on the “5-steps”**

This prompted me to look into what Jesus specifically said regarding the events to salvation. And curiously, not only did I find His thorough teaching on each ‘event’, but also how He put a “blessing and a curse” on each. He taught that a person’s response to all of these ‘steps’ resulted in either salvation or damnation—no middle ground—the consequences of one’s choices are serious.

### **Jesus Christ on HEAR:**

*“Therefore whosoever HEARETH these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.*

*And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.” ~ Matthew 7:24-27*

### **Jesus Christ on BELIEVE:**

*“I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye BELIEVE NOT that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.” Then said Jesus to those Jews which BELIEVED ON HIM, “If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”*

*~ John 8:24, 31-32*

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**Jesus Christ on REPENT:**

There were present at that season some that told him of the Galilaeans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And Jesus answering said unto them, "Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things? *I tell you, Nay: but, except ye REPENT, ye shall all likewise perish.*" ~ Luke 13:1-3

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**Jesus Christ on CONFESS:**

"Whosoever therefore shall *CONFESS* Me before men, *him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.* But whosoever shall *DENY* Me before men, *him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.*" ~ Matthew 10:32-33

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**Jesus Christ on BEING BAPTIZED:**

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. *He that believeth and is BAPTIZED shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.*" ~ Mark 16:15-16

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**Jesus Christ on CONTINUING IN THE FAITH:**

"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, *If ye CONTINUE IN MY WORD, then are ye my disciples indeed.*" ~ John 8:31

**Not "steps" but a way of life**

Daily we are getting closer and closer to the day that we depart to our home above. Until then, as we are on this earth, we still continue to *hear* the Word of God preached, and to *believe* it ever more deeply with comfort and assurance. And by that we are graciously guided to *repentance* to set our heart and mind toward heaven when we as sheep sometimes go astray. We *confess* our sins as well as *confess* our Savior before all men about the freedom of Christ we have from guilt and sin. And until our last day on this earth, we continue to *obey* the voice of our Shepherd who is leading us home.



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## Chariton

**Meeting times:** Sundays: 10:00 a.m. (no evening services)

**Location:** Call for information.

**For information call:** Albert Schreck (641) 535-2381 or Brian Schreck (641) 203-2137

☆ Quiet month at Chariton.



**May Birthdays**

- None

**May Anniversaries**

- None

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## Dean Avenue

**Meeting times:** Sundays: 9:30 a.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** 2907 Dean Ave., Des Moines, Iowa / P.O. Box 57398, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

**For information call:** John McNeece (515) 263-9428

- Roberta Milinski is traveling to Greece.
- Linda Head had a procedure done to crush a large kidney stone. She is doing well.
- Pam Climpson has been ill this month.
- Visitors this month were: Elsie Chapman, Brita, Charlie & Maverick Head, Paxon Boozell, Candy Meek, Shawn Head and Madden Sharp

**May Birthdays:**

- ☆ 20 Emily Dobberke
- ☆ 26 Linda Head

**May Anniversaries :**

- None

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## Fairview

**Meeting times:** Sundays: 10:00 a.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** 1001 S. 22<sup>nd</sup> St, Clarinda, Iowa 51632

**For information call:** Richard Negley (712)542-3728 or Marvin Negley (712)542-2792

- “Another quiet month.”
- Visitors: Mike & Shirley Warner

### May Birthdays

- None

### May Anniversary

- None
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## Martensdale

**Meeting Times:** Sundays: 10:00 a.m. & Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** 10985 44th Lane, Prole, Iowa (1.5 miles east of Martensdale, IA on Hwy. 92)

**For information call:** Duane Proudfit (515) 961-4470 or Mike Penick (515) 681-0279

- We received the estimate for building maintenance. That includes 1.) installing concrete steps and sidewalk at the front of the building. 2.) grinding down concrete on basement floor, filling cracks, and applying slip resistant epoxy coating. 3.) Remove and replace exterior siding on the north and the east side of the building.

- Tom Collier visited his son and family in Florida. He flew back with a little white Morkie named Mia. Tom and Dianne will be ‘foster parents’ to Mia while their son’s house is being built. (Pic taken at Sarasota airport.)



- The next **Men's Saturday Morning Coffee** is coming up on May 14<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 A.M.-ish. Smokey Row Coffee Company  
1910 Cottage Grove, Des Moines, IA  
<https://smokeyrow.com/stores/des-moines>
- **A church picnic is planned on the evening of Friday, May 20th at Moats Park** (across from Hy-

Vee) in Indianola. Moats Park has a covered shelter with picnic tables, a playground for kids, basketball court, big lawn, and restrooms.

- Duane and Mary Proudfit celebrated their 60-year anniversary in April! They were married on April 14, 1962. The congregation had an impromptu coffee and donut celebratory get-together after Wednesday evening class.
- We will have our website public this month. Rodney Ingle spearheaded the effort working with Zack Wheeler, who got the site up and running online, with elders Duane and Mike’s input on content. The new web address will be [martensdalechurchofchrist.com](http://martensdalechurchofchrist.com)

### May Birthdays

- ☆ 06 - Theron Ingle
- ☆ 14 - Jenna Wheeler
- ☆ 27 - Allen Bown

### May Anniversaries

- ☆ Rodney & Alena Ingle – May 9, 2009
  - ☆ Drew & Courtney Teghtmeyer – may 21, 2011
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Copies of the *Lighthouse of Iowa* can be found at the following two Church websites:

**Vandalia Church of Christ:** <https://vandaliacoc.com/lighthouse-of-iowa.html>

**Pleasant Hill Church of Christ:** <http://www.pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org> - Lighthouse of Iowa

## Pleasant Hill

**Meeting Times:** Sundays: 9:30 a.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** 5091 E. University, Pleasant Hill, Iowa

**Website:** pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org

**Contacts:** Mike Warner 515-967-4529 / Marty Williamson 515-556-2394 / Marc Hermon 515- 554-3567

### Save The Date!

May ITBS will be *May 30 between 4-8 p.m., God willing!*

Details will be available soon.



### May Birthdays

- None

### May Anniversaries

- none

## Vandalia

**Meeting Times:** Sunday: 9:45 a.m. and Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** 2.5 miles east of Runnells, Iowa on F70, then 1 mile north on 131st St.

**For information call:** Greg Ingle (515) 994-2824 or Charles Ingle (515) 238-3316

**Website:** <https://vandaliacoc.co>

- On the evening of April 1, we welcomed a new brother in Christ when Easton Klein was baptized with lots of family and church family happily in attendance! Praise be to God!
- Lynnette Dowdy, Justin & Brittney Dowdy and children Carson, Lillian and James & Laura Dowdy and children Cole, Alexander, Adaline attended the visitation and funeral service of Justin and James' grandfather, Albert Dowdy in Lyons, Indiana on April 5.
- The group enjoyed having Joanne Caffey, from Georgia, visiting for a few days—always good to have her back with us!
- Alan Klein's family enjoyed several days away from Iowa weather when they visited Houston, Texas and the Gulf of Mexico.
- Josie Fiorentin had tubes put in her ears and her adenoids taken out on April 4.
- Jason and Staci Miller, Allison & Isaac spent a weekend visiting family in Missouri.
- Kelsey Fiorentin graduated from Mercy College of Health Sciences with her RN degree.
- A reception was held in her honor April 23 at the Runnells Community Center—Congratulations—"the tassel was worth the hassle!"

- Lynnette Dowdy spent a few days in Missouri visiting her daughter, Dawn and family.
- Melody Burkman and her daughter-in-law Morgan are busily working on getting their building renovated so they can open their new business in Prairie City called Coffee and Carnations.
- Visitors this month were: Chelsie Rankin; Ryan Zinnel & Medina Jusufovic; Sue Schreck; Brandy McPhillips and daughter, Maddie; and Joanne Caffey.



### May Birthdays

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|----------------------|---------------------|
| ☆ 8 Easton Klein     | ☆ 15 Lucas Ingle    |
| ☆ 23 Caleb Ingle     | ☆ 25 Charles Ingle  |
| ☆ 25 Micah Heartsill | ☆ 25 Ethan Clark    |
| ☆ 26 Tim Burkman     | ☆ 28 Morgan Burkman |
| ☆ 30 Greg Ingle      | ☆                   |

### May Anniversaries

- ☆ 9 Lucas & Shelby Ingle
- ☆ 13 Justin & Brittney Dowdy
- ☆ 15 Alan & Pam Skinner
- ☆ 16 Jason & Staci Miller
- ☆ 25 Greg & Margaret Ingle
- ☆ 28 Bill & Bonnie Harkins.

# Sola Scriptura

*Was the practice of the early Church centuries before Calvin and Luther*

**Sola Scriptura** (Lat., '**by scripture alone**'). The belief that the truths of Christian faith and practice can and must be established from scripture alone, without additions from, e.g., tradition or development.

*There is, brethren, one God, the knowledge of whom we gain from the Holy Scriptures, and from no other source.* [Full quote: <http://orthodox-apologetics.blogspot.com/2010/06/st-hippolytus-of-rome-sola-scriptura.html>]

~ Hippolytus, A.D. 170 – 236

*What more can I teach you, than what we read in the Apostle? For holy Scripture setteth a rule to our teaching, that we dare not be wise more than it behoveth to be wise.*

~ Augustine, A.D. 354 – 430 (On the Good of Widowhood)

*Let nothing be innovated, says He, nothing maintained, except what has been handed down. Whence is that tradition? Whether does it descend from the authority of the Lord and of the Gospel, or does it come from the commands and the epistles of the Apostles? For that those things which are written must be done.*

~ Cyprian, A.D. 200 – 258

*Let us not hear: This I say, this you say; but, thus says the Lord. Surely it is the books of the Lord on whose authority we both agree and we both believe. There let us seek the church, there let us discuss our case . . . Let those things be removed from our midst which we quote against each other nor from divine canonical books but from elsewhere. Someone may perhaps ask: Why do you want to remove those things from the midst? Because I do not want the holy church proved by human documents but by divine oracles.*

~ Augustine, A.D. 354 – 430 (The Unity of the Church)

*Have thou ever in your mind this seal, which for the present has been lightly touched in my discourse, by way of summary, but shall be stated, should the Lord permit, to the best of my power with the proof from the Scriptures. For concerning the divine and holy mysteries of the Faith, not even a casual statement must be delivered without the Holy Scriptures; nor must we be drawn aside by mere plausibility and artifices of speech. Even to me, who tell you these things, give not absolute credence, unless thou receive the proof of the things which I announce from the Divine Scriptures. For this salvation which we believe depends not on ingenious reasoning, but on demonstration of the Holy Scriptures.*

~ Cyril of Jerusalem, A.D. 315-384 (Catechetical Lecture 4:17)