

***HEAR THIS, ALL PEOPLES; GIVE EAR, ALL INHABITANTS OF THE EARTH, BOTH LOW AND HIGH, RICH AND POOR TOGETHER***



Mike Ferguson, of Williston, ND  
waking up the morning devotion crowd  
2018 Family Camp  
on the grounds of Christ's Church in Bozeman, MT

***“Jesus answered the multitude who found Him on the other side of the Sea, and said, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek Me not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.’ ”***

***John 6:26***

# Oct 14, 2018!

## Christ's Church

Meeting at  
30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman  
Comfort Inn — Butte

### MORNING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 8:45 a.m.

Opening — Matt Wilson, Elliot Ashley

M.C. — Bob Edgar

Prayer meditation — Alan Foor

Communion Meditation — John Adams

Preaching — Davis Ashley

### EVENING SCHEDULE:

Bozeman - 7:00 p.m., **Butte - 7:30 p.m.**

M.C. — Davis Ashley, **George Stone**

Communion Meditation — Jay Shoup, **Tom McDunn**

Preaching — Jason Shanahan, **Nick Jacobs**

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Fasting for Evangelism is October 27-28 followed by Potluck on Lord's Day, October 28th after Assembly

**Spiritual Warriors' Weekend** — Fri., Sat., Nov. 2,3 at Bozeman church building

**Bible Bowl** — Sat. Mar. 16, 2019, at Bozeman on Romans chapters 1-8

**Men's PEAKS** — Thurs. through Sat. July 25-27, 2019

**Family Camp 2019** — Aug. 30 - Sept. 2 at Bozeman church property



Catch us live or archived:

[livestream.com/ccib](http://livestream.com/ccib)

[christchurchonline.com](http://christchurchonline.com)

Also check out the youtube videos on [targetingtruth.com](http://targetingtruth.com)

and audios at [innermanradio.org](http://innermanradio.org)

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**This Wednesday, October 17th –**  
**7:00 p.m. — Teachings from Titus – Phil Sutton**



YOU WILL KEEP IN  
*perfect peace*  
THOSE WHOSE MINDS ARE  
*steadfast,*  
BECAUSE THEY  
*trust in you.*

ISAIAH 26:3, NIV

Question of the week:

How was it that the brethren in Thessalonica, as noted by Paul in the first chapter of his first epistle, became imitators of the apostles and of the Lord?

Last week's question: Even though our righteous deeds by comparison are like a filthy garment, God was willing to accomplish things which the ear had not heard nor the eye seen. Though is in Isaiah, what covenant is he talking about? *Answer: the new covenant (Isaiah 64:4; 1 Corinthians 2:9,10).*

#### ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Bible School – 98  
Morning Assembly – 124  
Evening Assembly – 65

Wednesday Night (10/10) – 85  
Butte Lord's Day – 14  
Great Falls Lord's Day – 43,86

## Openness to the Corinthians

We  
entreat you  
on behalf  
of Christ, be  
**reconciled**  
to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20, NIV

Paul had emphasized that he had no secrets, that he had nothing hidden because of shame. His concern, then, was that the Corinthian brethren were still hiding some of their moral and doctrinal problems from him, and that some had hidden agendas in subtly working against the gospel. "We are ambassadors for Christ," he had stated, and as such issued the appeal, "we beg you, on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." That is an interesting appeal, considering that he is writing to Christians. The goal of God was clearly stated, "that we might become the righteousness of God." The follow up comment was stated thusly, "we urge you not to receive the grace of God in vain." His desire, therefore, was that they open up to him so that he could help them on their journey of faith.

- **Free and open** — The apostle Paul had been the one who started the congregation in Corinth. He had faced ridicule and trial from the Jews, and had immersed the first converts in the city. He had repeatedly indicated how much he cared for the congregation as a whole, and pointed out his intense concern for each soul. At this point in this letter, he has shown his transparency before the brethren, and is therefore positioned to make his appeal. "Our mouth has spoken freely to you, O Corinthians, our heart has opened wide" (2 Corinthians 7:11). The apostle, laboring intensely for their eternal souls, has led the way in openness, attempting to get them to open up to him and therefore beginning to be open before God. Only by being open and honest before God could the saints in Corinth then begin to make progress in laying aside their old selves and putting on their new selves.
- **Source of restraint** — Paul averred that he and the others with him had not given any offense to discredit their ministry; rather, he had a long list showing how they had commended themselves as servants of God to the congregation. "You are not restrained by us," he then points out to the brethren, "but you are restrained in your own affections" (2 Corinthians 7:12). Judging by the things mentioned in this epistle, there are many undercurrents still lurking under the surface waters of this local church. When those things are in operation, the charges are often brought against the visible representatives of God's word (in this case the apostle Paul), charges that they are tyrannical and unfeeling. Paul here points out that the barrier in affections is on their side and not his.
- **The appeal** — In securing the redemption of the world, Jesus took the first step. He offered His life as a demonstration of His love for the lost, and opened the possibility of anyone's desiring reconciliation to be able to participate, on Jesus' terms. In so doing, He also demonstrated how His followers were to work through difficulties in relationships with the lost and with struggling saints—take the first step! Lest there be any confusion, the apostle has patiently listed what he went through in taking the first step of getting the gospel to these Christians, and his willingness to take another step in the way in which he writes this epistle. "Now in a like exchange—I speak as to children," remarks he, "open wide to us" (2 Corinthians 7:13).

The apostle had demonstrated his openness to the "children" in Corinth.

This is very interesting wording: "I speak as to children!" The picture is that of an older person's trying to get a small child to open his mouth for the last bite of vegetables. The person of influence in the situation often opens his mouth in demonstration and encouragement to the child so that the child will open his mouth in like manner (the last bite of vegetables goes "down the hatch," and all is well). In this same manner, in the spiritual realm, the apostle had demonstrated his openness to the "children" in Corinth, that they might really open themselves up to the instruction which the apostle was freely offering them.