

Let us make sure that when we talk we aren't blowing things out of proportion. Indeed, *"the tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things"* (James 3:5).

By Shane Williams

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**Lilbourn Church of Christ**  
**P.O. Box 270**  
**Lilbourn, MO 63862**  
**573-688-2234**

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**Times of Assembly:**

**Sunday:**

Bible Class	9:45am
Morning Worship	10:45am
Evening Worship	5:30pm

**Wednesday:**

Bible Class	7:30pm
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**Website:**

[www.geocities.com/heartland/cabin/8851/](http://www.geocities.com/heartland/cabin/8851/)

**Preacher and Editor:**

**Shane Williams**

**Office: 573-688-2234**

**Home: 573-748-5204**

**[shanewms@sheltonbbs.com](mailto:shanewms@sheltonbbs.com)**

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# The Lilbourn Light



*"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path"* -Psalm 119:105



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## Exaggeration

I heard a story recently of a wrong woman who was talking to her preacher. She said, *"I have a habit that I know is hurting my example—the habit of exaggeration. I start to tell something and I go on and on enlarging the story. People suspect that it's not true, and they lose confidence in me. I'm trying to overcome the problem. Could you help me?"*

He responded, *"Let's talk to the Lord about it."*

She prayed, *"Lord, You know I have this habit of exaggeration . . ."* At this point the preacher interrupted, *"Call it lying and you may get over it!"* The woman was deeply convicted and confessed her

Have you noticed that we often excuse our own sins by giving them more acceptable names? Our bad temper problem, we call *"nerves"*; our lying, *"exaggeration"*; being dishonest is called *"good business"*; gossiping is called the *"latest news."*

If we expect to overcome our sins, we must bring them out in the open, call them honestly what they really are, and sincerely repent!

**Proverbs 28:13**, *"He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy."*

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# The King's Offer

The multitudes ... cried out, saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'" —**Matthew 21:9**

I have often wondered how many of those people who enthusiastically cried, "Hosanna!" on Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem also shouted, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" a short time later. Some were most likely disappointed, even angry, that Christ didn't use His miraculous power to establish an earthly kingdom. Didn't He create a great opportunity to rally support by coming down into Jerusalem and offering Himself as King to the Jews?

Most Jews failed to recognize that Jesus was not about a physical Kingship or a crown of gold. He came to rule spiritually in their lives and in their hearts. Their greatest need was not to be freed from Roman rule but to be released from the chains of pride, self-righteousness, and rebellion against God. They wanted the visible

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kingdom as described in the Old Testament with all its vast wealth and glory. But the Messiah first had to die for the sins of mankind and rise again to establish the basis for His rule. This rule, however, was not a physical kingdom but a spiritual one. When Jesus was on trial before Pilate, He said, *"My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here"* (**John 18:36**).

The concern is the same today. Christ does not offer exemption from life's hardships, a cure for every disease, or the promise of financial success. What the King offered then is what He offers today — Himself as the sacrifice and payment for our sins, and a challenge to serve Him. If we accept His offer, we will not be disappointed, for He offers eternal life to those who obey Him (**Romans 6:22-23; Galatians 6:8; I John 2:25**).

Have you obeyed the Lord (Acts 22:16)?

— Shane Williams

# Brief As A Flower

*"As for man, his days are like grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourishes. For the wind passes over it, and it is gone..."* —**Psalm 103:15-16**

Some years ago, a young boy wandered from case to case in a candy store, trying to decide what to buy. His mother, tired of waiting, called, *"Hurry up and spend your money! We must be going."* To this he replied, *"But Mom, I only have one penny, so I've got to spend it carefully."*

Is this not the case with our life? We only have one life to live, so we must *"spend it carefully!"* I suppose if we had ten lives, perhaps we could "afford" to spend one of them merely on pleasure or in the pursuit of riches.

In emphasizing the brevity of life, the Bible uses many illustrations; among them is that of a flower (**Psalm 103:15-16**). A flower is a creation of elegance. As

a receptacle of nectar, it usually gives forth a pleasing fragrance and performs a necessary function in the production of new seed. What is most striking about a flower, however, is that its beauty is so brief!

Let us be *"a fragrance of Christ to God"* (II Cor. 2:15). Our life should be beautiful in our spiritual service to God. We must also remember that we are allowed to bloom for the purpose of bringing forth new seed (leading others to Christ).

Because our days on earth are so few, we should make the most of our "flowering time." Isaiah wrote, *"...All flesh is grass, and all its loveliness is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass."* — **Isaiah 40:6b-7**

Using your days wisely will make an eternal difference!

— Shane Williams

Tune in on Sunday Morning for 'Bible Talk.'



1400AM KSIM  
9:00 — 9:30AM every