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Lilbourn Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 270  
Lilbourn, MO 63862

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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

**Website:**  
**[www.Lilbourncofc.com](http://www.Lilbourncofc.com)**

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'Lilbourn Light' is published monthly by the Lilbourn Church of Christ. It is mailed free upon request. Send all correspondence or address changes to the address above.



**Website:**

Our website can be found at:  
**<http://www.Lilbourncofc.com>**

**Sermon CD's:**

Would you like a set of CD's from our recent Gospel Meeting? If so, you can e-mail me at the address below. They will also be available soon on our website in Mp3 format.

Would you be interested in a **'FREE' Bible Study** through the mail? If so, please send your name and address to the address on the left. You can also send me an e-mail with your information to:  
**[shanewms@sheltonbbs.com](mailto:shanewms@sheltonbbs.com)**  
There is, of course, no cost or obligation to you!

# The Lilbourn Light



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



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Number 3

## Scattered

If you and I had been among the early Christians forced to leave Jerusalem because of persecution (Acts 8:1), what would we have said to our new neighbors? Would I have talked about how much I missed the church where I used to go? Would I have complained about how hard it was on the kids to start over in a new place? Probably so!

Yet there isn't a hint of complaint among those displaced Christians – only an eagerness to continue talking about Christ. After being *"scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria,"* they *"went everywhere preaching the Word"* (Acts 8:1,4).

What began in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost was not tied to geography, peace, or prosperity. The good news of salvation through Jesus Christ was preached and it spread throughout the world (Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:19-20; Col. 1:23).

When difficult circumstances come in our lives— whether a lost job, some family need, even relocation to another city, state, or country— can we still see the urgent need to be Christians? May each of us be like those early Christians, willing to accept their difficulties and joyfully proclaiming His Word wherever they went.

— Shane Williams

## I WON... Nothing!

Wouldn't it be exciting to win a shopping spree at one of our favorite stores? I remember years ago watching one take place on TV. The winner's were only given a few minutes to accumulate as much merchandise as possible. Whatever they were able to get in that amount of time was theirs to keep. It was all free!

It was obvious that the participants knew exactly what they wanted. They had worked out a strategy. When the clock started, they went right for the most expensive items.

Suppose one of the winners filled up his cart with things of small value; cheap merchandise or things that weren't very desirable. We would say, "He's foolish. Why doesn't he take the valuable items?"

That's the picture shown in the prophet Jeremiah's description of the people of Israel in their relationship to God.

**Jeremiah 2:11**, "My people have changed their Glory for what does not profit."

They spent their days piling up things that were useless and empty. They turned from God, the source of all good things, and instead trusted objects that were worthless.

What about us? As Christians, do we realize that life is a great prize, giving us opportunity to store up valuable treasures in heaven?

Let's not waste our time running around being winners of nothing!

**Matthew 6:19-21**, "*Do no lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*"

— Shane Williams

... life is a great prize, giving us opportunity to store up valuable treasures in heaven.

## Misunderstood

It is easy to be misunderstood. Usually it is because something we say or do is taken by others in a way which we did not intend. Perhaps you heard about the auto repair place who used this phrase in their advertising: "Try us once and you'll never go anywhere again." That's probably not the real impression they intended to leave. When we're misunderstood it is because we haven't communicated properly.

Jesus was misunderstood during His ministry, but unlike many of our troubles, it wasn't His fault. Even the people who lived near Him and observed Him closely didn't understand His mission. In **Mark 6:1-6**, we read of those who failed to see Jesus for who He really was because they knew His physical family. Verse 3 tells us that they took offense at Jesus.

They didn't see that He was the Messiah, sent from God. The question Jesus asked in Mark 8:29 is so essential, when you consider how many failed to see Jesus in the proper light. There He asked His disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" Peter replied, "You are the Christ." He saw Jesus for who He was— the Messiah, the Savior, the Son of God.

Even the people who lived near Him and observed Him closely didn't understand His mission.

When people misunderstand Him today, it isn't because He is unclear concerning who He is and His mission. Do you understand Jesus? His purpose for being here was our redemption! His love for us was so great; He died on the cross to pay the price for our sins. What will you do with that knowledge; ignore Him or serve Him?

We may occasionally misunderstand one another. It may cause us some temporary problems and frustrations but let us never misunderstand Jesus' purpose for

coming here. Coupled with that, let us not forget the need to fix our eyes upon Jesus in our lives, serving Him in love.

— Shane Williams

### God's Plan for Saving Man

- ⇒ Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:17)
- ⇒ Believe the Gospel (Hebrews 11:6; John 20:31)
- ⇒ Repent of Past Sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30)
- ⇒ Confess Faith in Christ (Romans 10:10; Matthew 10:32)
- ⇒ Be Baptized in water (Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:16; Gal. 3:27; I Pet. 3:21)
- ⇒ Live Faithful (Heb. 10:35-39)