

# Love Letter

*"Jesus Wrote In The Sand"*

Weekly Newsletter Published and Distributed By the Agape Church of Christ  
Agape Church of Christ / Adorn Hall 4165 FM 521 Rd, Fresno, TX 77545

Graylon A. Freeman, Minister



AGAPE  
CHURCH OF CHRIST



## From The Pen Of A Free Man

"Listening For God's Voice"

Bro. G. A. Freeman

A Native American and his friend were in downtown New York City, walking near Times Square. It was during the noon lunch hour and the streets were filled with people. Cars were honking their horns, taxicabs were squealing around corners, sirens were wailing, and the sounds of the city were almost deafening. Suddenly, the Native American said, "I hear a cricket." His friend said, "What? You must be crazy. You couldn't possibly hear a cricket in all this noise!" "No, I'm sure of it," the Native American said, "I heard a cricket." "That's crazy," said the friend.

The Native American listened carefully for a moment, and then walked across the street to a big cement planter where some shrubs were growing. He investigated the bushes beneath the branches, and sure enough, there was a small cricket. His friend was utterly amazed. "That's incredible," said his friend. "You must have super-human ears!" "No," said the Native American. "My ears are no different from yours. It all depends on what you're listening for." "But that can't be," said the friend. "I could never hear a cricket in all this noise."

"Yes, you can," came the reply. "Here, let me show you." He reached into his pocket, pulled out a few coins, and discreetly dropped them on the sidewalk. And then, with the noise of the crowded street still blaring in their ears, they noticed that every person's head within twenty feet turned and looked to see if the money that tinkled on the pavement was theirs. "See what I mean?" asked the Native American. "It all depends on what's important to you, and what you're listening for."

What's important to us? What do we listen for? Are there times that we fail to listen to God, because we are focused on other things that are more important to us? Regarding the Jews, Jesus said, "For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, so that I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear." (Matthew 13:15-16; Isaiah 6:9-10; Acts 28:26-27).

Brethren, amid the distractions of the world all around us, may our ears always be open, not only ready to listen for, but to hear and be obedient to God's voice as He speaks to us through His word (1 Samuel 3:9-10; John 8:47; John 10:4; John 10:27; 1 John 4:6).

Till the last amen,  
Freeman

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### Important Dates

\* Welcome Dinner With  
The Freeman's / TBA

\*7/24/22 Installation Ser-  
vice & Program For Bro.  
Freeman

## Plan Of Salvation

In order to obey the Gospel and become a Christian, a member of the Church of Christ, which is the Kingdom of Christ (Col. 1:13) which is the body (Col. 1:18).

God has provided a scheme of redemption. A Plan of Salvation.

All who obey God, through Christ, must:

1. Hear the Gospel.  
Rom. 10:12-17;  
I Cor. 15:1-4
2. Believe in Jesus, as the Christ, the Son of the Living God.  
Jn. 8:24
3. Repent of your Sins.  
Acts 2:38; 17:30,  
Lk. 13:3, 5.
4. Confess Faith In Christ. Rom. 10:9.
5. Be Baptized for the remission of sins.  
Mk. 16:16,  
Acts 2:38; 22:16
6. The Lord will add you to His Body, which is the church.  
Acts 2:47

This is the simple plan of salvation. There are biblical examples of this :  
Acts 8:26-39.

Dear student of the Bible, follow after the Lord in the same fashion , and you too can be saved.

# AGAPE Corners (Evangelism Ministry)



## How Do We Hear The Voice Of God?

We all listen to the voice of someone. As humans this is inescapable. We come into this world listening to the voice of our mother and father. As children we hear the voices of relatives and friends. Growing older, we listen to teachers and coaches, newscasters, and commentators. In adulthood the cacophony of voices that bend our ear can be staggering and in an information society, there is no end of the voices to which we can listen.

There is a point, however, where we must stop listening and start acting. And we should be clear, the voices to which we listen will affect the decisions that we make and the actions that we take in life. The Bible teaches that there is no action taken by man without their first having been a thought in man's heart. Jesus said, "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things" (Matthew 12:35). What we believe will affect how we act. We don't act in any way without first having thought about it. And so our actions reflect the voices to which we have been listening and the voices to which we have been listening become the conventions that shape the decisions of our lives whatever direction our lives take.

If we are honest with ourselves, we will confess that there is no such thing as unconventional thinking and unconventional wisdom. There is no new thinking that can be done that hasn't, in some shape or fashion, been done. Solomon very wisely confessed this before he began his treatise on ethics (Ecclesiastes 1:9-10). Yet, there are only two voices in this world that truly speak: the voice of God and the voice of Satan, the voice of truth and the voice of error, the voice of righteousness and the voice of sin (Matthew 21:25).

Satan speaks with many voices from many places and with many advocates appearing as if he has multiple ideas and multiple choices; this is pluralism and while it appears wise, it is a deception. It is a deception because truth cannot exist in the confluence or the synthesis of multiple thoughts. We must conclude that pluralism is inherently self-contradictory, and that truth can only come from one voice, namely, the voice of God.

So, how do we hear the voice of God? There is only one way to hear the voice of God and thereby know the mind of God, namely, through the revelation of God's mind by His Spirit. If someone can know the mind of God outside of revelation, I'd like for them to explain how. Scripture says that no man knows (independently from revelation) the mind of God except the Spirit of God reveal it to him (1 Corinthians 2:11). Indeed, no man has seen (i.e. understood) God; it is only the Son of God who has declared Him (John 1:18). The only way to know God's mind is if God reveals His mind to man through inspiration (1 Corinthians 2:12). And there is only one inspired source of truth from the mind of God, the Bible.

To whose voice are we listening: the voice of pluralism or the one voice of truth? May God help us to learn that true wisdom comes from listening to and obeying God's truth.

# AGAPE Spot Light (Highlighting Our Members)



Born in Houston, TX our dear sister Sandra Williams has been attending the Agape congregation for 3 1/2 years. Loving the “family atmosphere” of this warm intimate household of faith, provides Sandra the occasion to utilize her gifts and talents in the service of the Lord.

Sis. Williams holds to the teachings of Phil. 4:13, knowing that she can do all things

though Christ, who strengthens her.

She recalls with fond memories working in the summers of her youth along side her brothers, in their Family Garbage Disposal Business - “Johnson & Sons”, where she was literally riding along on the back of the garbage truck!

Sandra and her husband of 23 years are hoping to return to Hawaii one day, as they did during their honeymoon.

God bless you Sandra as we shine the spotlight of Agape love upon you. Till the last amen.

*“Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all” 2 Thess. 3:16*

# AGAPE Considerations (Activity Ministry)



## Our Christian Example

The story is told of a Christian high school senior who was honored as one of the best and brightest in his community because he provided a forceful demonstration of integrity.

When his school team was given the word “auditorium” in a regional spelling bee, he glanced down to ponder his response and noticed that the word was printed on the microphone stand. He called this to the attention of the judges who responded with a more difficult word. The young man did what he knew was right whether others noticed or not.

We don’t know when our actions may become an example to others — we’re always on display. But if we live each day to honor Jesus, our behavior will model His righteous life (Gal. 2:20; 1 John 2:5-6), no matter who is watching.

Uprightness and honor should be goals for Christians of every age. Paul told Timothy:

“Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12 NKJV).

As Christians, one of our goals in life should be to change the world around us for good while never compromising ourselves — one person at a time (Acts 10:38. 2 Timothy 2:1-2; 1 Timothy 4:16).

# AGAPE Salutations

*We, the Church of Christ, that meets at the Adorn Hall in Fresno, TX are delighted that you have received this particular edition of the "Love Letter"; a weekly publication which highlights important events and featured articles by our Minister and staff.*

*When you have the opportunity we would be elated to welcome you to any and all of our services at the congregation.*

*It is our great joy to proclaim the glad tidings of Christ, His Kingdom and His glorious gospel.*

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