

# Love Letter

*"Jesus Wrote In The Sand"*

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Agape Church of Christ / Adorn Hall 4165 FM 521 Rd, Fresno, TX 77545  
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AGAPE  
CHURCH OF CHRIST



## From The Pen Of A Free Man "The Sawdust In Our Spiritual Diet"

Bro. G. A. Freeman

The story is told of a thrifty man who one day decided to save money on donkey feed. Every day, he would add increasing amounts of sawdust into the donkey's feed. Because the process was gradual, the donkey did not notice any difference as he cleaned up his manger. The man's plan was working well, until the donkey suddenly died because of living on 100% sawdust.

Similarly, spiritual food that contains the pure Word of God, once mixed with worldly sawdust [watered-down or social gospel], will eventually **lead to spiritual death** (2 Pet. 2). It is indeed sad to see some members of the church act as though they cannot understand why so many spiritually malnourished Christians die [abandon the Lord's church] even after being members of the church for many years.

The Psalmist tells us that God's word is "lamp" to the feet and a "light" to one's pathway (Psa. 119:105; Pro. 6:23). However, how can members of the Lord's body make application of that "light" in their everyday living, if they remain ignorant of that light? (Heb. 5:12-14). What is the use of chiding weak Christians about their little faith, if spiritually strong Christians do not teach them enough of the pure Word for them to be able to develop strong faith? (Psa. 51:12-13; Rom. 10:17; 2 Tim. 2:1-2).

All of the church pep-rallies, sermons, and lectures about Christian duty, won't do much good for weak-in-the-faith Christians, until they are taught the **pure word of God** (Pro. 30:5; Psa. 19:7-8).

Brethren, if there is any sawdust in our spiritual diet, we need to get rid of it, and start feeding our spiritually weak brethren, the pure "milk" of the Word (1 Pet. 2:2), gradually bringing them up to the "strong meat" of the Word (Heb. 5:14), so they might grow into spiritually mature workers for the Lord and His church (1 Pet. 2:1-2; Eph. 4:11-16; 2 Pet. 3:18; Col. 1:3-10).

Till the last amen,  
Freeman

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### Important Dates

**\*7/31/22 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).

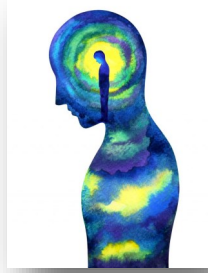
God has provided a scheme of redemption. A Plan of Salvation.

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)

## Are We Losing Our Spiritual Discernment?

Man is to live by every word proceeding out of the mouth of God (Mt. 4:4). Peter said this: “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby” (1 Pet. 2:2). We know, then, how spiritual growth comes. And we have lived to see many, many religious people who speak of “growth. But that growth never comes! Real growth involves becoming knowledgeable concerning the will of God. Thus, the writer of Hebrews speaks of saints who are “dull of hearing,” and he goes on to rebuke them for not wisely using their time in Christ. Time’s passing would have, if things were well with them spiritually, shown them to be capable of teaching others. But they are again in need of milk! The strong meat is for those full grown, and who exercise their spiritual senses, and thus have real spiritual discernment (Heb. 5:11-14).

Spiritual discernment! There must be time given to the word of righteousness (Heb. 5:13) if that discernment is to come. If men choose to ignore real study of the Word of God, they will see a decline in whatever progress they once had made. And their public utterances will be far afield from truth. An example of such:

See the mechanical instrument in Romans 14. Discussions on use of such instruments is indeed in the realm of faith because it involves worship. However, throughout Romans 14 the apostle is dealing with matters of judgment, and even spells it out specifically—the matter of eating meats/herbs and the matter of respect of days. We know that herein we find a principle of God that will always apply, but it is a principle that applies regarding things of judgment and expediency, NOT the things of faith! How one makes the jump from one to the other is beyond us, except that we do positively know that man’s will, and desire is inserted as the chief motivation for some men. What discernment is missing, when men cannot see the difference, here, in what is in judgment and what is in the realm of liberty!

See baptism for a general purpose of “pleasing God” just as scriptural as baptism for remission of sins (Acts 2:38). but can it be so? If one is baptized “to obey God,” and NOT for the remission of sins, then, as would be the case of many, one could be scripturally baptized “to obey God” but believing that he/she was saved at the point of faith, and some weeks before baptism! Indeed, a prominent sectarian manual state that baptism “is not essential to salvation but is essential in order to obey Christ. If spiritual discernment is lost, then see where men will end up in their mishandling of the Word?

The fact remains that the Word is given to guide us, and that Word alone is the Standard, guiding us unto every good work (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Spiritual discernment and growth come as men faithfully and consistently apply that Volume’s contents. Failing to study, and more, turning to value and follow the thinking of men, will cause spiritual discernment to completely vanish. And, when that is done, we’ll see some of the off-the-wall views such as we have just illustrated. Yea, let us STUDY to be approved of God! (2 Tim. 2:15).

# AGAPE Spot Light (Highlighting Our Members)



Our dearly beloved Cynthia Jones knows the meaning of challenges—she has faced them and stared them down with the help of Almighty God.

For example: Not being able to turn her left palm face up, has not stopped her from being active in sports. She played softball (a pitcher) as well as basketball and volleyball.

Cynthia is a people person. Her work as

“Member Experience Senior Lead” affords her to exercise her true passion of helping her fellow workers experience fair treatment in the workplace.

Our good sister aspires to travel around the United States and take in the rich history and see the landmarks of this extensive country. Cynthia is looking to enjoy a Christmas one year in New York ; a ski trip in Aspen and to top it off with a 7 day Alaskan cruise!!

God bless you Cynthia, to bring all that to pass one day and more as we shine the spotlight of Agape love upon you.

Till the last amen.

***“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds” 2 cor. 10:4***

# AGAPE Considerations (Activity Ministry)

## The Power Of Our Silent Influence



On a recent beautiful warm Saturday morning, a Christian friend and I were having breakfast at a

local restaurant. At a nearby table, we noticed a young woman sitting quietly reading her Bible.

She was absorbed in the text, occasionally looking up to consider what she had read. She never said a word, but her heart and priorities were visible to everyone in that restaurant. It was a gentle, positive, and silent influence.

She was not ashamed of Christ nor of His New Testament Word (Heb. 9:11-15). She surely had not attempted to preach a sermon nor sang a song. She was willing to be identified with the Savior, yet she did not need to announce that allegiance.

In our attempts to share the message of Jesus, we must eventually use words, because ultimately words are needed to present the gospel (Jn. 14:23; Acts 2:14; 11:11-14; 16:14, 2 Pet. 3:1-2, Jude 1:17). But we can also learn from the example of this woman.

There are times when the quietness of our everyday actions speaks louder than our words, revealing our love for the Lord (Phil. 1:21-27). In our desire to share Christ with a sinful world, let’s not ignore the power of our silent influence (1 Thess. 1:5-8).

# 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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