

Ministers:
the congregation

Kenny Chumbley
217.493.8905

Sunday:
8:00 AM: WGCY
9:00 AM: Worship

Wednesday:
6:30 PM: Bible Study

[gibsoncitychurchof
Christ.com](http://gibsoncitychurchofChrist.com)

This Past Week:
Worship—29
Wednesday—
Contribution—\$

For meditation:
Ecclesiastes 8.1
What can facial
expressions tell us
about an individual's
disposition or
character?

Radio program:
WGCY FM, 106.3
Sundays at 8 AM

Mammon

- Mammon is not money.
- Mammon is idolatry, a religion that worships gold as God.
- Loving God and loving gold are mutually exclusive (Matt. 6.24).
- Mammon—the love of money—is not a mere negation of the love of God but a positive evil, for it is the source of every degrading, exploitative, tyrannical, envious, murderous darkness found in the soul of man (1 Tim. 6.10).
- Money is morally neutral but can be a powerful good when righteously used.
- Put money into circulation and use it, and it smells as sweet as the rose. But lock it away and hoard it, with no thought but to spend it on self, and it rots and breeds worms (Lk. 12.16–21).
- To get through the difficult times of life, trust God, not the silver and gold He made.
- Send the Lord's money, which He has allowed to come your way, out to do the Lord's work (Gen. 12.2).
- If the Lord needed money from us, we'd gladly give it to Him. But the Lord does need it, for he who spends money on the least of the Lord's brothers, spends it on the Lord (Matt. 25.40).

kenny

Gibson City church of Christ

Highway 47 South, Gibson City, IL

Guy and Sadie have a baby brother!
Hank Thomas Nettles
January 1, 2026, 8 lbs. 12 oz.; 21 inches



Sermon: Hebrews 11.28

The Lamb and the blood

4 January 2026

Jesus saw Himself as King

You say rightly that I am a king.

John 18.37

“From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, ‘Repent, for the *kingdom* of heaven is at hand” (Matt. 4.17). “Tell the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey” (Matt. 21.5).

Possibly no title is more universally recognized and understood than *king*. When Jesus was speaking with the Jews, He used terms that would have been unfamiliar to Gentiles (messiah, Son of Man, “I AM,” etc.). But when before Pilate He accepted the title of king, every Gentile in the room had an idea of what He was claiming. “King” speaks the language of all ages in all times.

In antiquity, the king had supreme authority over a certain area (his *kingdom*). The fate of the kingdom was often bound up with the character of the king. For this reason, what Christ said in the Gospels about His kingship is of great significance. According to Christ, a lasting kingdom must be built on the foundation stones of truth and love.

TRUTH

“For this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to truth” (Jn. 18.37). The kingdoms of earth are ruled by falsehood and fiction. The pronouncements of the father of lies have become the norms of human society. Prevailing ideas of religion, government, pleasure, dignity, and power are at odds with eternal realities. The crime and curse of the nations is that they’re built on pride and evil and are doomed to fall. The only eternal kingdom is the one founded on the truth of God Almighty (Dan. 2.44). “The kingdoms of earth pass away, one by one, but the kingdom of heaven remains.”

LOVE

Every earthly kingdom relies on force for its existence, but the kingdom of Christ owes its origination and continuance to He who is love (1 Jn. 4.7). Love should ever be the chief thought to our intellect, the chief theme of our conversation, the chief end of our design, and the chief object of our desire. All the laws of life should be submitted to the truth of love. “To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen” (Rev. 1.5).

kenny

When grown-up children break your heart

Over my life I’ve acquired many friends—godly, faithful friends—who have suffered greatly from the lovelessness, harshness, and neglect of their children. Just days ago, a friend confessed that what hurts her most about her grown-up daughter was that “she didn’t like her kid.”

In reply, I said something like, “Remember that the story isn’t over yet.”

God’s plan is that parents care for children in their infancy, and children care for parents in their infirmity. But it doesn’t always work that way, and when it doesn’t there is emotional pain in a family of the worst sort.

“For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head” (Mk. 4.28).

Raising children is a lifelong process that requires patience. Kids aren’t magic beans thrown on the ground one day who overnight grow into a vine that reaches the sky. Growth—which can be a very slow process—is the law of this world. We grow without trying, and we wouldn’t grow any faster if we did try. The growth of a soul is subject to many influences that God allows to come our way. In His omniscience and wisdom, He sends some experiences early, some late, some never, but whatever comes our way is always subject to His approval and allowance.

It’s not over till it’s over. Though your child is breaking your heart, don’t stop loving or praying. Commit them to the Lord for discipline and nurture. In places like Psalm 3, 41, 55, et al., find the hope and the peace other tortured parents found. Until they return—there’s always the chance they will—suffer long, be patient, endure, and above all trust in God.

If you have a grown child who checks in regularly, asks what he or she can do to help, and shows love in a dozen ways, you’ve a gift money can’t buy. Don’t let a day go by that you don’t thank God for an attentive, caring, loving child to comfort you when the evil days come.

kenny