

Ministers:
the congregation

Kenny Chumbley
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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—

For meditation:
Ecclesiastes 12.10–11
What was Solomon
still doing at the end
of the book of Prov-
erbs?

Radio program:
WGCY FM, 106.3
Sundays at 8 AM

Christian facts

“Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead. “
2 Timothy 2.8

The gospel Paul preached involved the proclamation of some tremendous facts, three in particular: the *incarnation*, the *atonement*, and the *resurrection*.

Paul’s gospel wasn’t his speculation about religion or his interpretation of his feelings but his announcement of these three truths, apart from which there is no gospel.

The *incarnation* is the fact that in Jesus, God revealed Himself to man. The Christian religion is not the last word of man about God but the word of God revealed to man. Jesus is not some brilliant man making intelligent-sounding guesses about God, Jesus is God speaking to man!

The *atonement* is the fact of the cross, the great mystery (which I’ve not come close to figuring out) whereby the Father and Son arranged for my forgiveness in a way that did not contradict divine justice. How I could be forgiven was worked out between the Father and Son and announced to man; and whatever they decided is fine with me.

The *resurrection* is the proof that provides a basis for believing the doctrines of the incarnation and atonement. On the morning of the third day the grave was found empty and Jesus was seen alive, a proposition no one has ever falsified.

Incarnation, atonement, resurrection—these are the foundation blocks of Christianity, as sure as Euclid’s axioms.

Take them away and whatever you’re left with is not apostolic Christianity.

kenny

Next week: Christian experience, Phil. 3.10

Gibson City church of Christ

Highway 47 South, Gibson City, IL

“To give life, and it more abundantly”

I will do more than belong—I will participate.

I will do more than care—I will help.

I will do more than believe—I will practice.

I will do more than be fair—I will be kind.

I will do more than forgive—I will forget.

I will do more than dream—I will work.

I will do more than teach—I will inspire.

I will do more than earn—I will enrich.

I will do more than give—I will serve.

I will do more than live—I will grow.

I will do more than be friendly—I will be a friend.

Sermon: Matthew 6.16–18

Christian fasting

Today, 30 Aug. 2026, would have been my mother’s 94th birthday

Father forgets

Livingston Larned
American poet and author
People's Home Journal, 1927

Listen, son: I am saying this as you lie asleep, one little paw crumpled under your cheek and the blond curls stickily wet on your damp forehead. I have stolen into your room alone. Just a few minutes ago, as I sat reading my paper in the library, a stifling wave of remorse swept over me. Guiltily, I came to your bedside.

These are the things I was thinking, son: I had been cross to you. I scolded you as you were dressing for school because you gave your face merely a dab with a towel. I took you to task for not cleaning your shoes. I called out angrily when you threw some of your things on the floor.

At breakfast I found fault, too. You spilled things. You gulped down your food. You put your elbows on the table. You spread butter too thick on your bread. And as you started off to play and I made for my train, you turned and waved a hand and called, "Goodbye, Daddy!" and I frowned, and said in reply, "Hold your shoulders back!"

Then it began all over again in the late afternoon. As I came up the road I spied you, down on your knees, playing marbles. There were holes in your stockings. I humiliated you in front of your friends by marching you ahead of me to the house. Stockings were expensive--and if you had to buy them you would be more careful! Imagine that, son, from a father!

Do you remember, later, when I was reading in the library, how you came in timidly, with a sort of hurt look in your eyes? When I glanced up over my paper, impatient at the interruption, you hesitated at the door. "What is it you want?" I snapped.

You said nothing, but ran across in one tempestuous plunge, and threw your arms around my neck and kissed me, and your small arms tightened with an affection that God had set blooming in your heart and which even neglect could not wither. And then you were gone, pattering up the stairs.

Well, son, it was shortly afterwards that my paper slid from my hands and a terrible sickening fear came over me. What has habit been doing to me? The habit of finding fault, of reprimanding--this was my reward to you for being a boy. It was not that I did not love you; it was that I expected too much of youth. I was measuring you by the yardstick of my own years.



And there was so much that was good and fine and true in your character. The little heart of you was as big as the dawn itself over the wide hills. This was shown by your spontaneous impulse to rush in and kiss my good night. Nothing else matters tonight, son. I have come to your bedside in the darkness, and I have knelt there, ashamed!

It is a feeble atonement; I know you would not understand these things if I told them to you during your waking hours. But tomorrow I will be a real daddy! I will chum with you, and suffer when you suffer, and laugh when you laugh. I will bite my tongue when impatient words come. I will keep saying as if it were a ritual: "He is nothing but a boy--a little boy!"

I am afraid I have visualized you as a man. Yet as I see you now, son, crumpled and weary in your cot, I see that you are still a baby. Yesterday you were in your mother's arms, your head on her shoulder. I have asked too much, too much.