

Jamestown Christian Church is Striving To Be.....

...JUST CHRISTIANS

You can be just a Christian! Does this sound strange? With over 300 religious groups in our country it might appear impossible to be a Christian without being a part of a denomination. It is not only possible, but there are actually millions of “Christians only” in this and other nations.

...FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST

Who are these people who seek to be only Christians? Our congregation is a part of a fellowship who are usually known as Christian Churches/Churches of Christ. These terms are not used in a sectarian sense, but are intended to indicate an effort to belong to Christ’s church. The Bible says, “All the churches of Christ greet you”. (Romans 16:16) However, it’s just as correct to describe the church of which we read in the Bible as “the church of God” (I Corinthians 1:2), “the body of Christ” (I Corinthians 12:27), or “the household of faith” (Galatians 6:10). These and similar biblical phrases are not proper names, but descriptive expressions which show how the church is related to Christ and His Father.

Individually, Christ’s followers are known as “Christians” in the Bible. “The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.” (Acts 11:26) “If a man suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God in this name.” (I Peter 4:16) Never does a human name prefix this God-given name. Paul was one of the greatest of all Christians, but he did not want disciples to be called “Paulites” or “Paulite Christians”. (I Corinthians 1:10-17)

...A PEOPLE WITH A DISTINCTIVE PLEA

The Christian Church in Jamestown, Indiana has a distinctive plea. Of course, in many ways we agree with others striving to follow Christ. We believe in the divine inspiration of the entire Bible and that it is sufficient to guide us in all matters of faith; in the death of Jesus Christ and His atonement for our sins; and that after death all men will be rewarded or punished in another life according to their relationship with Christ and the way they have lived in this life. And with all people of real religious conviction we insist that the moral principles of Jesus are absolute truths to be exemplified in the personal righteousness of the child of God.

...FOLLOWERS OF ONLY THE BIBLE AS OUR FINAL STANDARD OF AUTHORITY

However, we not only believe that the scriptures are inspired, but also are convinced that the Bible must be our ONLY guide in religious faith. God’s Word frequently warns us against changing the divine message. (Galatians 1:6-9) We, therefore, have no creed or catechism to present, but we accept Christ as our only creed and the Bible as our only guidebook. In this way we are never prevented by an erroneous creed from accepting any truth which may be learned from God’s Word. We believe that the Bible only will produce Christians only.

...RESTORERS RATHER THAN REFORMERS

It is obvious to the thinking people that the religious world is badly divided. Great Reformation leaders such as Martin Luther and John Calvin sought to correct erroneous teachings and practices. But the reformers often started at different points and thus arrived at different conclusions. Division rather than unity has resulted.

The Christian Church in Jamestown, on the other hand, pleads for the restoration of apostolic Christianity rather than a reformation of existing religious bodies. Since all can agree that the early church was right, we should also be able to agree that we cannot be wrong if we succeed in reproducing that church today in every essential part. While many things have changed in the twentieth century and the beginning of the twenty-first century, the teachings of Jesus and His apostles have not. Truth is absolute and unchangeable. God's Word is truth (John 17:17) and can save today as surely as in the first century if applied in the same way. "The truth will make you free." (John 8:32)

Should you visit the Christian Church in Jamestown you will find that the congregation partakes of the Lord's Supper or communion every Sunday. This is because we are following the example of the early Christians every first day of the week to "break bread". (Acts 20:7) Likewise, in every other way, Christian Churches/Churches of Christ seek to reproduce New Testament Christianity – in organization, in service, and in other areas of teaching.