

# ACTS 31

02.06.2022 · Vol. 33-Is.6

# ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK



We have so far completed studying and appreciating the first paragraph of our Church Covenant.

Today, we will start looking at the second paragraph of our Covenant. It reads in part, "We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love..." Our memory verse aptly puts this part of our covenant.

Here is a clear statement of our obligation -- to walk in the love of Christ. The term walk must be clearly understood. It means "to stir, to be agitated, to rove, to travel, to wander, to roll." Literally, it means to move slowly on the feet or to advance by steps moderately and repeatedly. Spiritually, it means to act on our faith and be continuously be stirred by the Word of God and His work. It is to live and act, behave, or pursue a biblical particular course of life. Hence, it means to walk with God, to live in obedience to His commands, and to have communion with Him.

The Bible teaches a believer to walk in several ways but all to the glory of God. We are taught to walk by faith not by sight, to walk through the fire as in Isaiah 43, and to walk after the Spirit. We are NOT to walk after the flesh, NOT to indulge sensual appetites, and NOT to live in sin. But our memory verse particularly points us TO WALK IN LOVE. Such love is referred to the love of Christ. Man loves in many ways but our Covenant stipulates that we must love how the Saviour loved and how He still loves us.

Here is a direct description of such love -- giving oneself to the one loved. Our Saviour did not only leave heaven but also the service of angels in splendor. He chose to be made into a lowly person just to reach to the lowest individual. He was willing to give His body to the mob and shed His blood for the remission of our sins. Though we were enemies yet He loved us and treated us as friends (John 15:13).

Here further is that love, an offering and sacrifice to God. Love that satisfies the demand of the holiness and perfection of the Almighty God. The nature of God demands a perfect offering and sacrifice. The love of Jesus satisfied such a lofty demand. It is this kind of love each of us must possess and must guide our walk.

The love of Christ did not only satisfy the demands of God but herein described as a "sweetsmelling savour." It means that such love was well pleasing to Him as it is an unblemished sacrifice, complete, full, and adequate to put sin away for ever.

1 Pet. 2:17 again articulates clearly our covenant to walk in love. It reads, "Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king." From this time henceforth, let each of us abound in showing divine affection to each other.

Pastor ARNOLD N. VACLEJO

COME AND  
BE BLESSED!

*Child Dedication  
Sunday*

February 6, 2022  
5:00 PM

## 2022 CHURCH CALENDAR

### February 2022

13	First Fruits Sunday/Foundation Day
20	CBBC-LB's 38th Anniversary: Div. A & C
23-25	CBBC SP Baptist Distinctives Con. CBBCeans Homecoming
27	CBBC-LB's 38th Anniversary: Div. B & D

## BIBLE READING SCHEDULE Day 189-195

Mon	7-FEB	Mark 14:32-72; 1 Kings 9; Hosea 11:1-11
Tue	8-FEB	Mark 15:1-20; 1 Kings 10; Hosea 11:12-12:14
Wed	9-FEB	Mark 15:21-47; 1 Kings 11; Hosea 13
Thu	10-FEB	Mark 16; 1 Kings 12:1-31; Hosea 14
Fri	11-FEB	1 Cor 1:1-17; 1 Kings 12:32-13:34; Joel 1
Sat	12-FEB	1 Corinthians 1:18-31; 1 Kings 14; Joel 2:1-11
Sun	13-FEB	1 Corinthians 2; 1 Kings 15:1-32; Joel 2:12-32

## LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM	420	F&TV	24
Sunday PM	227	Baptism	13
Prayer Mtg	282		

ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK 2022 SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON  
TITLE: ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN OUR ENGAGEMENT TO WALK TOGETHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE  
TEXT: I JOHN 3:1-24  
MEMORY VERSE: EPHESIANS 5:2

I. LET EACH OF US BE ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN OUR \_\_\_\_\_ MOTIVES IN FULFILLING OUR ENGAGEMENT TO WALK TOGETHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE.

- A. Our engagement to walk together in love is a Divine \_\_\_\_\_. Thus, it must have been done with and in our hearts. As the nobles and governors approach their King who looks inside their motives, so does God with this engagement. Jer. 30:21 asks, "...for who is this that engaged his heart to approach unto me? saith the LORD."
- B. We have to realize that our walking in love must be the \_\_\_\_\_ of our individual lives. Such walk must not be superficial. It must be the center of our lives. Our text in verse 1 tells us, "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us..." It is God's love that made us His sons when we accepted Christ in our hearts.
- C. We have to realize further that our walking in love is our \_\_\_\_\_ life in God. It is a declaration that HE MUST INCREASE but I must decrease. It is a declaration that we have determined to live the life we have received in Christ. We are by nature selfish. Our old nature is borne in hatred. But the new man is borne of the love of God. Verse 16 of mentions that "the love of God" is shown when He laid down His life for us. This covenant also means self-denial. It is esteeming others better than ourselves. It is preferring others rather than ourselves.
- D. Moreover, our pledge to walk in love is made with the spirit of "\_\_\_\_\_".
- This is coined mortify in Col. 3:5. The word literally means to make death. This means we must subdue, abase, reduce, and restrain all these unholiness in ourselves.
  - This is our individual duty. We must be determined to do so. In discharging this mortification we ought to understand though that we have the Spirit to aid us (Rom. 8:13).
  - It is also called the "putting off and putting on." Eph 4:22-24 state in part, "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man... And that ye put on the new man..."
- E. Our engagement to walk in love must be understood as our \_\_\_\_\_ to be like Him. Our text in verse 2 reads, "...when he shall appear, we shall be like him..." We understand that God is love and that He loved us so much that He gave His Only Begotten Son. It is therefore necessary that each of must be geared towards this engagement to walk in love because:
- we shall be judged according to our motives as II Cor. 5:10 says we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ.
  - it is our vow to God that must be fulfilled. Ecc. 5:4 says we must not defer to pay it.

II. LET EACH OF US BE ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN OUR \_\_\_\_\_ ON THE SPIRIT AS WE FULFILL OUR ENGAGEMENT TO WALK TOGETHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE.

- A. Our text in verse 24 states that our pledge to walk in love is made possible knowing "...that he abideth in us, by the \_\_\_\_\_ ..." Many trust years of experience, habit, training and many more as regards fulfilling an agreement. But to a child of God and a member of the Church it is one's dependence on the Spirit that matters most and herein each must perpetually grow.
- B. Nature tells us that man must be taught to walk by himself. In other words, a man becomes independent as he grows. But this is not the case as regarding our Christian walk. Walking in the love of Christ is always in the Spirit. Growth in this area does not mean independence from the Spirit. Rather, it is becoming more and more \_\_\_\_\_ upon His inward work in us. We must recall that it is the Spirit who gave us freedom to do what is right. To continue to be so, we must be in His presence (II Cor. 3:17). We know also that sin has enslaved us but thank God we are given now the power to be a partaker of a divine work. II Pet. 1:4 further declares that this divine nature came from the Holy Spirit of God.
- C. The \_\_\_\_\_ to obey God's word also comes from God Himself. This is the sense of verse 9 of our text. As long as we are BORN OF GOD, meaning carried in His bosom and His seed remains, we are secured and has power over all. I John 4:4 further tells us that because we are of God we "...have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." I John 5:4 also says the same.
- D. Believers today must yield to the Holy Spirit in order for them to enjoy fulfilling the \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 6:13, 16). The term yield must be clearly grasped.
- Yield means to allow or give way. We must allow then the Holy Spirit to continue His inward work in us.
  - Yield further means to concede, surrender, comply or give up one's claim of some substance. Thus, we must surrender to the will of the Holy Spirit and give up our own will.
  - Yield also means to admit to be true. The Holy Spirit is real. He is God. He is actively involved in our lives now. He convicts us. He calls us. He warns us. By following His conviction and His calling and warnings we show our yieldedness to Him.
  - Yield means to give, as claimed of right as to yield due honors and due praise. We must then as believers render Him due honor and praise by following His leadership.

III. LET EACH OF US BE ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN OUR \_\_\_\_\_ TO FULFILL OUR ENGAGEMENT TO WALK TOGETHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE.

A. We have said that CHRISTIAN LOVE is the love of Christ to man. The Bible is filled with accounts declaring such \_\_\_\_\_.

- Such love is everlasting (John 13:1; Jer. 31:3).
- Such love is the love of the Father (John 15:9)
- Such love is shown in preaching the Word (John 17:26).
- Such love is directed to those who were His enemies (John 15:13-14).
- Such love is conquering (Rom. 8:37).
- Such love is showered in the Church (Eph. 5:25).
- Such love is an initiating love (John 4:19).
- Such love is a forgiving love (Rev. 1:5).

B. As this love is strange to the natural man and that every believer still has this nature, it is our duty indeed to keep reminding ourselves about such. Our engagement to walk in this kind of love then must be \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ be preached, taught, sung, and talked about. Our text in verses 12-17 aptly put this truth.
- Verse 11 states that this is the message is "from the beginning." The apostle reminded the believers about such command.
- Verses 12 and 15 mention that the love of the natural man could turn to hate and could slew a brother BUT verse 16 says that the love of God drives one to lay one's life for his brethren.
- Verse 13 declares the condition of the world -- it abides in hatred of righteousness. We are still in the world hence we are in constant battle against hatred.

C. The love of Christ is filled with action and \_\_\_\_\_ . But the natural man is lazy and selfish. Thus, each of us must constantly act upon every challenge to topple hatred, selfishness, and apathy. Verse 17 of our text encourages each of us to respond quickly to our brethren's needs especially if we have the power to do it. Verse 18 even says that "let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." Every need of the Church and member of the Church is an opportunity to walk in this love.

D. Moreover, as we are still in our flesh and in this troubled world, we shall be confronted with \_\_\_\_\_. Even our Master acknowledges this in John 14:1 when He said that our hearts must not be troubled. But when this happens, verse 19 of our text commands us that we have to keep assuring our hearts of this truth. Verse 20 further states that "...if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart..." Likewise, when things go dark and we faith starts to falter, we must strive harder to strengthen our knowledge of the God we believe in. Verse 21 of our text reveals that "...if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God." Why and how? -- because we are persuaded that with God nothing is impossible.

E. Moreover, we must abound in answered \_\_\_\_\_ . Answered prayers indicate we are walking in love. Verse 22 of our text says, "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments..." When husband and wife relationship is right, the Bible says that God will answer our prayers. Otherwise, our prayers are hindered.

## THE LOVE OF GOD

The love of God is greater far; Than tongue or pen can ever tell; It goes beyond the highest star, And reaches to the lowest hell; The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win; His erring child He reconciled, And pardoned from his sin.

**Oh, love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong! It shall forevermore endure—The saints' and angels' song.**

When years of time shall pass away, And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall, When men who here refuse to pray, On rocks and hills and mountains call, God's love so sure, will still endure, All measureless and strong; Redeeming grace to Adam's race— The saints' and angels' song.

Could we with ink the ocean fill, And were the skies of parchment made, Were every stalk on earth a quill, And every man a scribe by trade; To write the love of God above Would drain the ocean dry; Nor could the scroll contain the whole, Tho' stretched from sky to sky.

## CBBC-LB COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; we do now in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this New Testament Baptist Church in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel to all nations; as well as to follow and support the leadership of God through His chosen man.

We also engage to maintain family and personal devotions, to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage; to abstain from membership in lodges and secret organizations and to avoid taking secret oaths which are contrary to Scripture; and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the work of the Saviour.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love, to remember each other in prayer, to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the laws of our Saviour, to secure it without delay.

We, moreover, engage that when we move from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other New Testament Baptist Church of like faith and practice where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

# Know our Church Ministries

## Children's Sunday School



The Children's Sunday School program is conducted every Sunday. The overarching goal of the ministry is to impart God's Word to the children. The Sunday School Children's ministers are the ones who prepare and teach the Sunday School lessons; pray for the children by name; and handle classroom management and interactions with parents.

By God's grace, the Children's Sunday School ministry is constantly growing at an average of **150 attendance every week**. It is also blessed with **25 Sunday School teachers and 6 apprentices**.

CBBA is an educational institution established in 1988, which provides courses of study in pre-elementary, elementary, secondary, tertiary, technical vocational educational training and specialized courses, to the members of the church. It employs individualized learning through the use of Bible-oriented self-instructional learning materials and follows the K-12 curriculum. It further hopes to see her graduates truly surrendered to and equipped in the service of God in whatever vocation God has called them to perform.

At present, CBBA caters to the learning needs of **84 students** through the help of **27 teachers and staff**.



## Christian Bible Baptist Academy (CBBA)



**KEEPERS OF HIS HEART FOUNDATION**  
Providing a Brand New Life in Christ (Proverbs 19:17)

KOHFI is a SEC registered non-stock, non-profit corporation since 2018. It aims to provide temporary shelter and other basic needs of the poor and needy, and all other people needing emergency and medical assistance; strengthen them through Bible education and immerse them in day-to-day real life situations until they have the capacity to decide and live a life of their choosing; and to ultimately be able to contribute to the development of their community.

Currently, KOHFI is accommodating **10 underprivileged kids and 3 elderly women**. They are housed and mixed with the workers of the church.

The Sceptre College is established in 2012 with a mission is to train God-called men and women of local Bible-believing Baptist Churches to be aggressive soulwinners and effective disciplers here and to distant places; to train Sunday school teachers, musicians, and others who will be involved in the ministries of local Baptist churches; to build students' doctrinal stand, instill the Baptist Heritage, impart basic practical skills necessary in the ministry, and expose them to missions and other church-related works.

Presently, the college is training **22 Bible students** with the support of **13 teachers and staff**.



## Sceptre College