

**Crossville Church  
of Christ**  
P.O. Box 211  
Crossville, TN 38557  
Phone:  
484-5297 or 484-2960  
Live audio streaming  
866-883-9291

# COMPASS

**Using God's Word to Chart The Course  
Of A Congregation**

For live video streaming see Website  
[www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org)  
Email: [Office@crossvillechurchofchrist.org](mailto:Office@crossvillechurchofchrist.org)  
[Elders@crossvillechurchofchrist.org](mailto:Elders@crossvillechurchofchrist.org)



**Elders:**

Frank Bohannon  
Jonathan Loveday  
Larry McDuffee  
Brian McLaughlin  
Jon Tatum

**Deacons:**

Jim Bell  
Charles Evans  
Kyle Fairman  
Dale Hennessee  
Mike Isaacson  
Doug Loveday  
Don Napier  
Tom Parham  
Mark Roberts  
Jason Wyatt  
Jerry Wood

**Ministers:**

Alan Judd  
Ken Mears

**Missionaries:** (India)

Don Iverson  
Jim Waldron

**Service Times**

Sunday Bible Study	9 AM
Sunday Worship	10 AM 6 PM
Wednesday	6 PM

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:**

<b>Ladies Bible Class</b>	
Tuesdays	11 AM
<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	
Tuesdays	10 AM
<b>Joyful Generation</b> (Youth Devotional & fellowship)	
1st Sunday	7 PM

**POLISHING THE PULPIT**

(PTP) 365 Audio/Visual Library  
available at:  
<https://365.polishingthepulpit.com>  
Username:  
Crossville church of Christ  
Password:  
crossvilleptp2018

**October 7, 2018**

You Are Invited To Attend Our Annual  
**FALL GOSPEL MEETING**  
Gospel Theme: "Questions Asked of Jesus"

**MEETING DATES**

Sunday, October 14 – Wednesday October 17

**SCHEDULED SERVICE TIMES:**

Sunday, 9a.m., 10a.m., and 6p.m.

(Potluck fellowship immediately following morning worship)

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday @ 6P.M.

Guest Speaker: Wade Webster



**Topics:**

1. How many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Mt. 18:21
2. Who do you say I am? Mt. 16:15
3. What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him? Mk. 4:41
4. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Mk. 8:36
5. Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life? Lk. 18:18
6. Who art thou, Lord? Acts 9:5



## PLAY YOUR PART

Adrian Judd

I have the blessing of being in a homeschool support group called PAJCH. PAJCH in many ways is like a family. We exist to help and support one another, whether students or parents. We do fun stuff like go on field trips, have holiday parties, and sometimes we just hang out at a nearby park. With all of that aside, the biggest thing to do in PAJCH, is be part of our annual theatrical production. We have for the last few years performed a musical each Spring at the Cookeville Performing Arts Center. There are a lot of awesome people that help make it possible for this to happen and to keep it going for years to come. I cannot begin to tell you how grateful I am for all of these people. There is a piece of advice that applies to every actor in any theatrical production. Those of us who participate in the production, usually hear this advice in some form or another every year. The piece of advice is this, “become your character.” To do your best you must try to think like your character, talk like your character, and sing like your character.

What does acting in a play or performing in a musical have to do with your spiritual life? Some people claim to be Christians when in fact they are only acting like Christians. I am not merely talking about our religious neighbors in the denominational world. Some Christians are acting. What do I mean by that? Partly, I mean they act one way on Sunday and act a different way Monday through Saturday. They act a certain way depending on their audience. In the theatre you have to be your character the entire time for every audience at every performance. Otherwise, people can see right through you, and that returns them to reality instead of keeping them inside the story. Some Christians are really good actors. They “play” the part of a Christian really well on Sunday, but if you look at their lives Monday through Saturday they are playing a completely different part. Brethren, God does not want you to act like a Christian on Sunday, and then live your life anyway you want during the rest of the week. God wants us to be on fire for Him or against Him as Jesus stated in Revelation 3:15-16. Lukewarm in this passage might be considered as just “playing the part” of a Christian some of the time instead of being faithful all of the time. God wants us to be Christians every day as Jesus made clear in Luke 9:23: “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross **DAILY**, and follow Me.” Notice the word I gave emphasis to in that verse. We all have a “part” to play in God’s plan and we need to play this part **EVERYDAY!**

Admittedly, there are times when it is hard to play your character in the play or musical. You may have to talk louder, stand a different way, and use bigger facial expressions than you normally would. It often requires getting out of your comfort zone. God wants us as Christians to be different than the norms of the world as Paul made clear in Romans 12:2. That means we have to talk, think, dress, and treat others as Christ would. If you play your character in a performance well, you will stand out and be praised by the audience and director. If you are a faithful Christian you will shine your light to the world as Jesus taught in Matthew 5:16 and the praise will be given to your Heavenly Father. Make no mistake, God will also reward those who are faithful to Him and play their part well according to Revelation 2:10.

We sometimes mess up when we perform in the theatre. We may skip a line, sing the wrong note, or have our backs to the audience, but we learn from our mistakes and try to get better at playing our character. Christians, our adversary will not make playing our part easy and even wants to eat us up according to 1 Peter 5:8. We will sin from time to time and fall short of the glory of God--Romans 3:23. However, God is willing to forgive us when we confess our sins to Him and strive to do better—I John 1:9. Let us not simply act like Christians on Sunday. Instead let us play the part God has given us, and strive to be better Christians for Him each day as Paul made this his goal--Philippians 3:14. If we play the part God has given us to play, then He will reward us with an eternal home with Him and that will be better than any standing ovation we might get in this life.

# YOU HAVE BROUGHT ME THIS FAR

Alan Judd

In 2 Samuel 7, King David offers a prayer of thanksgiving to God that includes this line recorded in verse 18: “Who am I, O Lord God? And what is my house, that You have brought me this far?” David gave credit for his successes and accomplishments to God, which is where it belongs. Take the time to read the entire prayer recorded in verses 18 through 29 in order to get the full context of the wonderful words of the humble king.

Appreciating and understanding the role that God plays in our lives is a key component to serving Him properly. One of the reasons many refuse to submit to the Creator is their own foolish and ignorant reasoning. When asked to consider everything the Lord has done for them, some simply dismiss it by remarking: “God has never done anything for me.” Such a statement indicates supreme arrogance on the part of the one who makes it and reflects pride in the heart that leaves no room for the Lord. Additionally, this mindset makes gratitude impossible on the part of an individual unwilling to acknowledge the role God has played in their life. Not surprisingly, this attitude leads to other disastrous consequences as Paul described in Romans 1 and our young men preached about last Sunday evening. This thinking is irrational and forces one to defy what is common sense and devolves into man making himself the object of his worship as verses 21 through 23 describe: *“although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.”*

Most reading this article will protest they are not guilty of the reprimand offered by Paul in this section of Scripture, but could it be we are more blameworthy than we realize? Let me explain. Certainly, Christians are susceptible of allowing our wealth or status engender a sense of superiority and might even tempt us from giving spiritual matters the priority in our lives God expects. However, there is another danger I wish to highlight.

Knowing God and His Word are blessings of immeasurable worth, but Satan is not going to sit idly by as we serve God happily. Instead, he will entice us to use our knowledge of Scripture and adherence to the commands of God as a pedestal of pride elevating us above our fellow creatures. Don't believe me? Allow me to insert this account from the lips of Jesus about one guilty of this very thing found in Luke 18:10-12: *“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’”*

You remember how the story ends and it is not with the Pharisee being commended by Jesus. Do we forget that it is only by the grace of God that we are able to stand as Paul declared in 1 Corinthians 15:10. The former persecutor probably very often reflected on his previous exploits and was driven to his knees at the thought of God's great mercy—“This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life” (1 Timothy 1:15-16).

I join with David and Paul in amazement at how God has brought me this far. For what reason? It can only be His great love, mercy, and grace; but it must also be so that I might teach and share this good news with others! God has brought you far, who will you bring near to Him?