

**Crossville Church
of Christ**
P.O. Box 211
Crossville, TN 38557
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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
Email: Office@crossvillechurchofchrist.org
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:

Ladies Bible Class

Tuesdays 11 AM

Prayer Meeting

Tuesdays 10 AM

Joyful Generation

(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 21, 2018

*“ All things were made through Him,
and without Him nothing was made
that was made.” John 1:3 NKJV*



SEASONED WITH SALT

Alan Judd

In Colossians 4:6 we read this instruction: *“Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.”*

Anyone who has cooked more than toast knows that salt is an indispensable ingredient to flavor food. Substitutes are suggested for those who have health difficulties aggravated by sodium intake, but there is nothing that can adequately replace the wonderful taste that salt gives to our food. From a tomato fresh from the garden to the most expensive cut of steak, we are able to discern with the first bite if the morsel has been properly seasoned with salt.

What does Paul mean when he commands that our speech is to be flavored or seasoned with salt? The ancient world valued salt even more highly than we do. The old adage that such a person is “not worth his salt” arose due to the fact that Rome paid their military troops with salt or a salary. If a soldier did not perform his duties in a satisfactory manner, he was denied this payment and was “not worth his salt.”

The apostle is not advocating that we should be witty in conversation because not everyone is gifted in this and many are awkward in social settings. I do not think he is trying to force us to act with pretense as we try to engage according to norms of etiquette in various public gatherings.

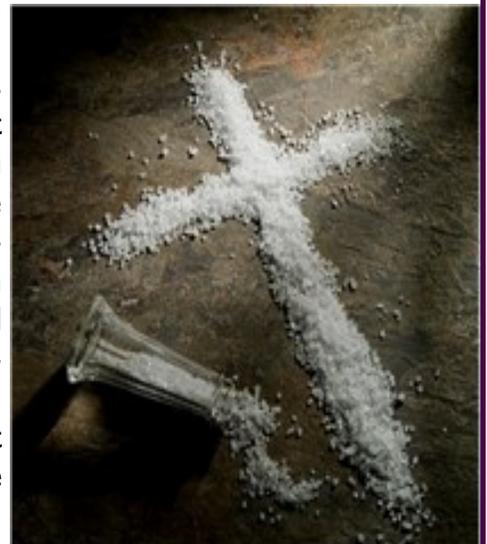
Instead, he likely means that we use our speech to demonstrate the influence that Christ Jesus has over our lives. We demonstrate by our speech our loyalty to the Lord and the conviction of our experience in living the Christian life will ring with an air of reality that far excels the shallow words of those who use spiritual jargon in an effort to try and impress others who hear them.

Additionally, the apostle teaches that our words be words of grace and they should be offered in a gracious way. Many who had converted to Christianity were probably very eager to rebuke their pagan neighbors and family members for the wicked and foolish way they were living, but Paul urges them to use kindness instead of crude aggressiveness when advocating the way of Christ.

Unfortunately, we all can probably recall a time when either we or another Christian answered harshly and judgmentally the question or curiosity of an unbeliever and instead of helping them see the Christ, we most likely pushed them farther away from Him. We must speak the truth and should never attempt to “water down” or “sugar-coat” the will of the Lord, but our speaking must be characterized by love as Paul also taught in Ephesians 4:15.

Perhaps, Paul is urging us to use what we refer to today as tact. Henry Van Dyke observed: “Tact is the unsaid part of what you think; it’s opposite, the unthought part of what you say.” You might have to read that quote a couple of times to really let the wisdom of the statement sink in. I believe his observation is absolutely correct and I know that tact is sometimes sorely lacking in our speaking with others. What you have to say, if it is what God would have you say, is important, but how you say it is equally important!

Salt makes our food taste better, no matter the dish. Salt will make our words taste better to those who hear them if we will remember this instruction from Colossians 4:6.



THE JOYFUL SOUND

Anderson Judd

Have you ever given thought to the sounds that make you happy? Maybe it is the sound of birds singing in the woods. It might be the sound of a well-tuned engine in your favorite automobile. Grandparents would probably say the laughing of their grandchildren causes them to be happy. It might be a favorite song that you associate with a happy place like hearing Rocky Top in Neyland Stadium, which is something that makes me happy as I watch games with my family.

There is an old hymn written by Priscilla Jane Owens entitled We Have Heard the Joyful Sound. We sang it a lot when I was a little kid at the Allons Church of Christ in Overton County. It was number 227 in the books there, and this is how the first verse reads:

*We have heard the joyful sound: Jesus saves! Jesus saves! Spread the tidings all around: Jesus Saves! Jesus Saves!
Bear the news to every land; Climb the steepes and cross the waves; Onward – 'tis our Lord's Command;
Jesus Saves, Jesus saves!*

The other three verses express similar truths around the marvelous theme – Jesus Saves! As people who have sin in our lives, and all of us do according to Romans 3:23 Open in Logos Bible Software (if available), the greatest sound should be hearing that Jesus saves. This is why the word Gospel literally means good news. There is no better news than this. In the Gospel, we can partially understand how much God loves us and what a great price Jesus paid to save us from our sins.

The first thing we must realize is that Jesus is the only one who can save us. I cannot save myself, and you cannot save yourself on your own. Parents cannot save their children, and children cannot save their parents. No matter how much you may love someone else, the fact remains that only Jesus can save.

Do you remember when you first realized you had sin in your life? I do, it was both the worst and best feeling in the world. It was the worst because I knew I was lost and separated from God, but it was the best because I knew that Jesus could save me if I obeyed Him.

Once you realize there is sin in your life, then you need to understand and follow the plan of salvation in order to be saved. You have probably heard this plan, but in case you have not then let's go over it now.

First, you must hear the word of God as Romans 10:17 Open in Logos Bible Software (if available) says, "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." Second, you must believe as Mark 16:16 Open in Logos Bible Software (if available) says, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." Third, you must repent as Acts 2:38 Open in Logos Bible Software (if available) states, "And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" Fourth, you must confess the name of Jesus with your mouth as Romans 10:9 Open in Logos Bible Software (if available) tells us, "Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Fifth, you must be baptized for the remission of your sins as Acts 2:38 Open in Logos Bible Software (if available) and Mark 16:16 Open in Logos Bible Software (if available) teach as listed above. Then, you must live a faithful Christian life to God until you die. That is how Jesus saves, and that is the only way to be saved.

The beautiful thing about Jesus saving us is that if we as Christians slip up, which we inevitably will, He will continue to forgive us if we ask and pray and repent according to 1 John 1:9 Open in Logos Bible Software (if available).

I am very thankful that I had those who loved me who shared with me this joyful sound about how Jesus saves. Now, I have the duty, and so does every Christian, to tell this wonderful news to others that Jesus saves.

"This our song of victory – Jesus saves! Jesus saves!"