

# view

May 8, 2005

## This Week's Agenda

May 8, 2005

### The Lord's Day

8:30AM & 10:15AM

Sermon: David Posey

5pm Sermon: "Amazing Grace," David Posey

5:30pm: Classes for all ages from 18 months and up

#### Adult Classes

- Auditorium: Sunday - Randy Clark, James
- Room 6: Bible Essentials - Dennis Wade
- Room 11-12: Young Adults, Marriage - David Posey

### Wednesday

10 AM Wednesday: OT History, 10 AM here.

7:30 PM - Classes for all ages 18 months and up.

#### Adult Classes

- Auditorium: Dennis Reagan, Current Issues
- Room 6: Bible Essentials - Dennis Wade
- Room 11-12: Young Adults, Marriage - David Posey

## News and Prayer Needs

### Prayer Concerns

Keep Anna in your prayers. See Dana Carrozza for details, if you're not aware of the situation.

Dewey Marrs has gotten very ill from a parasite that has attached to her liver. She should recover, but it can take a long time. Pray for her quick recovery.

Continue to pray for those who have lost their mothers recently: Richard Harvey and Sharon Jones. Today is especially hard, I know.

Eleanor McAdams was with us last Sunday and it was great to see her. Others to pray for: Tim Dickey; Carly Cain; James Eckert; Kathy Wilson (Parkinson's disease) and Hank; Jamie Cole, Kristen Sanderson's sister; Jason Songer (friend of Justin Ivie). Those who fighting cancer: Justin Ivie's mother; Dave Fulton's mother, Monica (Monroe, WA); Tom Royston; Ken McClelland; Margaret Everett; Cheryl Wilson; Laurie Ann Reagan; Oliver Sasse.

Others to keep in your prayers: Karen Gorden; Sharon Jones; Becky Woolpert. Continue prayers for all the new children born recently and for the remaining expectant moms: Sally Deschler, Melissa Fields, Michelle Caisse, Janelle Thorp and Amber Karlsson.

### Christians Serving in Iraq

Jeremy Allen, Philip Cain, Steve Reis, Titus Cain, Philip Cain. Keep these good men in your prayers each day.



### Bible Reading This Week

Sunday - Romans 9-11; Proverbs 21:17-31

Monday - Romans 12-13; Proverbs 22:1-16

Tuesday - Romans 14-16; Proverbs 22:17-29

Wednesday - Ruth; Proverbs 23:1-18

Thursday - Ephesians 1-3; Proverbs 23:19-35

Friday - Ephesians 4-6; Proverbs 24:1-22

Saturday - Reflection

### Out of Town

Wally and Sherrill may be in Southern California visiting Matt and Jessica. They were unable to go last week.

### Other Classes

We have suspended the class on Old Testament History for now and will resume in late summer.

The young mom's class meets again on May 19th. Please see Christie Posey or Angie Cain for information.

See "A Note from the Elders" on the next page for additional information about upcoming classes and plans.

### Elders and Deacons

We want to remind you that the search for deacons and elders is an on-going process and it is the responsibility of the congregation to select men. If you have names you would like to submit for either role, please let us know.

### Congregation Singings

Once a month on the Lord's Day, those who are interested will be able to meet here at 4 PM to participate in singing. Also, once each quarter, we will devote the entire Sunday evening service to singing (there will be no classes that night). Steve Thompson is organizing these, so please see him if you have any questions. We will try to make sure they are announced in the View and on the overhead well in advance.

dp

# Our Plans to Reach the Lost

**E**ach week, David, Randy, Dan or Ken will write an article in this space about something pertinent to the church here at Folsom Point. Our aim is to use this as another means to communicate and inform you about the direction of the congregation. We hope you will feel free to make comments and ask questions about any aspect of the work here. We will do our best to address your concerns, either publicly, if appropriate, or privately, if that suits the case better.

As we approach the middle of the year, there are many exciting ideas that we are implementing in the next few months. Some of these ideas have come from discussions and feedback that we have received during our first round of group meetings. Our perception is that most of you feel they have been very successful.

To review, the aim of the group meetings is four-fold:

1. To encourage and enhance fellowship (joint participation) among the members.
2. To become aware of the needs of members of the church that may be otherwise overlooked.
3. To provide an opportunity for new members to become acquainted with other members of the church, including those outside their peer group.
4. To discuss particular topics and ideas as directed by the elders (for example, “how can we best reach the community with the gospel?”).

As we enter into the second round of meetings, the focus of our discussion will be on helping others get to heaven. We need a constant reminder of the importance of this enterprise. Everyone we meet — in-

deed, everyone we see — is on his way to heaven or to hell. There is no exception. If we cannot say that our friend, neighbor or relative is going to heaven, then we must seek a way to help them learn about the hope that Christ offers.

Evangelism (preaching the gospel to the lost) is everybody’s business. But it is difficult and we do not all have the same abilities and opportunities. The elders want to grow in our own ability to reach the lost.

**“Paul told Timothy, in II Timothy 2:2, “The things you have heard from me among many witnesses, these commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” We’re looking for those “faithful men” (and women).”**

Likewise, we want to help each individual Christian here discover and develop their individual abilities and talents. We can be a formidable army for good here in Folsom, if enough of us have a heart for it.

To this end, our first step is to put together a team of those who would like to help organize our efforts to teach the lost. Paul told Timothy, in II Timothy 2:2, “The things you have heard from me among many witnesses, these commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” We’re looking for those “faithful men” (and women).

The only requirement for being on this team is your desire to help others get to heaven and the commitment of some time to the task. From this group, we expect to find some men who have done some special study in this area and who have some special ability to transfer these skills to others. They are the ones who will teach classes as the opportunity arises (of course we have some men in mind already, and you’ll be hearing from us personally). Others on the team (male or female) may have the ability to talk to strangers, but feel less confident about teaching a personal

class or even answering questions. Their goal will be to bring people to the teachers. Still others may be able to put material together or mail information to those who inquire about who we are and what we believe. We want you to find what you do best and give you an opportunity to do it. We need all of you!

After assembling this team, we plan to begin on-going weekly home Bible studies that will feature topics appropriate for non-members. The class will be open to any of our members who would like to attend. The aim is to have an on-going discussion group to which you can invite your friend or neighbor. We recognize that is not only easier but also often preferable to invite a friend to a class instead of to a regularly scheduled service at the building. Should you find yourself engaged in a conversation about the spiritual things, you can simply say, "We have a class where we are discussing \_\_\_\_ on Tuesday nights; would you like to come?" Even now, several young moms are attending a class about the challenges of motherhood, taught by some of our older women. It is a perfect opportunity to introduce someone in that place in life to the wisdom of the Bible.

I don't know the exact statistics, but the number of those who have been converted merely through attendance at assemblies of the local church pales in comparison to those who have been taught through small classes. We feel it is our duty to make this opportunity available to the church, so you can capitalize on any opportunity you may have.

We also are in the process of creating an on-going training workshop for evangelism. The workshop will be broken up into segments that will last a few weeks each. For instance, many of you have indicated that the biggest obstacle to approaching others about the gospel is your fear of rejection (or some other fear). One of our first training classes will be on how to overcome that fear. These classes will feature "hands on" training, role play, "answers to objections," with lots of practical information. They will be in "workshop" form – little lecture, mostly discussion and practice. Each workshop will last from 4-8 weeks, depending on the topic, and they will be held at the building at the same time each week. Anyone who would like to participate is welcome. There are several men at Folsom Point who have special knowledge and skill in evangelism and we will be utilizing their talent to lead these classes. We hope this will expand into some "mentoring" opportunities. For example, if you

are teaching a class with a non-member, we hope that you will take someone less experienced with you, so they can learn.

We want to emphasize that this is not a temporary "project" but the very work Christ has given His church. In the past, we have left the responsibility of evangelism up to individuals. It is an individual responsibility and we still strongly believe that most of those who are converted will be people who are befriended by caring Christians and come to know the gospel through that relationship. However, as overseers here we also believe it is our responsibility to help you develop the skills, the tools and the confidence to be effective evangelists for Christ. Stay tuned.

David Posey

Published by  
**The church of Christ**

900 E. Natoma  
PO Box 492  
Folsom, CA 95630  
916/608-4866

**Elders**

Randy Clark: 916/984-4788  
Dan Hamilton: 916/984-9617  
Kenneth Marrs: 916/851-9158  
David Posey: 530/676-9514

**Deacons**

Brent Agee: 916/786-0436  
Forrest Brown: 530/295-9230  
David Byrd: 916/985-6564  
Michael Caisse: 530/672-2902  
Steve Dickey: 916/983-1071  
Rich Ladd: 916/774-9048  
David Main: 916/363-9580  
Terry Raposa: 916/782-1140  
Dane Scott: 916/631-7221  
Russ Tarrant: 530/672-1748  
Steve Thompson: 916/983-4170  
Doug Wells: 530/672-1877

**Evangelist/Editor**

David Posey: 530/676-9514  
david@folsomchurch.com

**Services**

Sunday Morning Assembly  
8:30AM & 10:15AM  
Sunday Evening: 5:00 PM  
Wednesday Bible Study  
7:30 PM  
Classes for all ages.  
*Private classes arranged at your  
convenience.*

For more information,  
visit our web site at:

**[www.folsomchurch.com](http://www.folsomchurch.com)**

## A Glossary for Reading Romans, Part II

### **grace**

Sometimes, the Greek word means “thanks.” Most often, however, it has to do with the kind acts God has done on our behalf, even though we don’t deserve it (see “Justification”). It is more than a mere “attitude” — it is the action of mercy and love that flows from heaven and is witnessed in the cross of Christ. Grace produced the opportunity for us to exercise saving faith.

### **faith**

Faith has three components: 1. acceptance of Scripture: mental assent (Rom. 10:17). 2. change of self-view: humility (Rom. 3:18-20, 23). 3. change of allegiance: trust in God. Obedience is not the same as faith, but faith always produces obedience (cf. Rom. 1:5).

Faith is the disposition of heart and mind that listens to God, on His terms, adjusts the view of ourselves accordingly, placing ourselves completely at God's disposal. From a practical standpoint, faith requires *trusting God in every circumstance*. That is difficult because it requires a giving up of the selfish interests that so often cause us to choose against God. Self-denial is the key that unlocks the door of faith.

### **redemption**

Taken from “slave” terminology, it means to “buy back.” A slave who was placed into bondage could be set free by paying a price to the owner of the slave. We can only surmise how wonderful it would have been to be “Free, at last!” after years of hard labor. Our redemption has been secured by Christ’s blood and we have been set free to serve Him instead of the old master, sin and self.



### **propitiation**

This term means “satisfaction of wrath.” The Greeks felt that when their gods were angry, they had to appease them with a sacrifice of some kind; when the sacrifice was made, the wrath of the gods was satisfied or appeased, for awhile. Paul takes over this language in Romans to show how Christ satisfies the wrath of God — His righteousness demands satisfaction; it is against God’s nature to let the guilty go free and just set aside His wrath without the penalty being paid (see Proverbs 17:15). Paul tells us that Christ has become the “propitiation” for our sins and thus the wrath of God has been satisfied — once for all — for those who believe.

### **blood**

Blood is “blood” — that red (or is it blue?) stuff that courses through our veins. But, long before scientists figured it out, Moses wrote that the “life is in the blood” (Leviticus 17:11, 14). The reference to Christ’s blood is primarily a way of referring to His death on the cross — the giving up of His life for us. The shedding of blood itself, however, is important from an Old Testament perspective, since the sacrificial system required that the worshipper take an unblemished animal from his livestock and kill it before handing it over to the priest for sacrifice. The process was to remind the worshipper of his “bloodguiltiness.”