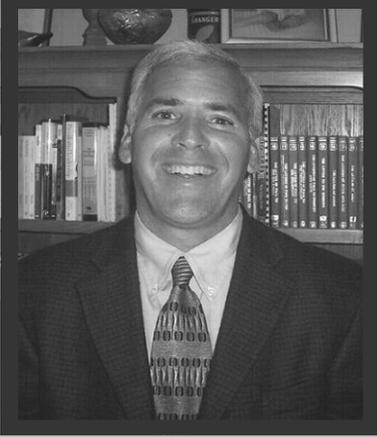


The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ
Vol. XXXIV October 14, 2018 No. 39



You're Invited!!

2018

Fall Gospel

Meeting

October

14-17

Speaker:

Mel Futrell

Elizabethtown Church of Christ

SUNDAY

9:30 a.m.

Why Open the Scriptures?

10:30 a.m.

The Principle of Together

6:00 p.m.

In His Name

MONDAY

7:00 p.m.

**The Church We
Ought to Be**

TUESDAY

7:00 p.m.

Our Standard of Authority

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m.

What Is Love?

1211 North Dixie Avenue, Elizabethtown, KY 42701
Phone—270-765-6446 / Web—www.etowncofc.org

ABC

I do not know that I would trade what I have with my girls today, but that does not mean that I do not also remember very fondly the times when they were small children learning new things everyday! The wonderment of a small child... I see the little ones here at the congregation in Elizabethtown... looking around...taking things in! I see posts on Facebook of nephews, great nephews and nieces, and posts from those I know from various camps, and the little ones are so precious in the various ways they are growing! Though our girls are becoming young women, I still think fondly of the days when the new things they learned everyday were so basic.

I guess in one way this is a reason I love so much to teach and ponder on the basics of Christianity. Oh don't get me wrong, I love to dig deep into Scripture and consider truths that can impact my life, and the lives of others (if I live out those truths for others to see). But it is those basic elements, themselves so very deep, that are beautiful to consider!

Think first of the love of Deity for mankind! It is truly a love that is unable to be comprehended by us as humans. Scripture describes the love of Deity as the greatest love. "God so loved the world" and "God first loved us" is shown in many ways. Before the creation of the world and mankind, God loved us enough to create us. He knew we would reject Him and that rejection would necessitate the sending of His Son to die on our behalf. Is that not amazing to contemplate?

Think about the Church as well! Included in the plan to redeem mankind is the Church! God had a plan in place, again before creation, whereby those who would choose to follow Him could have support and encouragement as they lived **together** in a world full of sin and hatred. **Together** Christians could help one another as they journey to their real home—heaven! God chose to set us apart through the truth of His Word (John 17:17). As one is obedient to the will of God (Matthew 7:21ff) they are added by Christ to the Church, the saved body of believers. The Church is akin to the ark of Noah's day in that like the ark, the Church is the place where those who are being saved are located. Praise God for His plan.

And then there is the amazing plan of salvation! It was not a random plan, and though it is simplistic to understand, it is intricate throughout its development since the commencement of the world. From the first hint of the plan (Genesis 3:15) to the creation of creatures that would be used as continual sacrifices, to the revealing of a plan that would foreshadow the ultimate sacrifice of Christ, this marvelous plan is woven throughout the pages of Scripture! It is amazing to me that though God's part is so meticulously planned and completed, man is simply asked to listen to God's message He has revealed, to believe that Jesus is Who He claims to be, to cause that belief to lead to repentance and confession, as well as submission to an immersion in water so that one's sins might be washed away. Without a plan, there would be no hope!

Above are only a few of the ABC's of our faith. What is written above does not begin to bring honor to Deity and the great plan. Yet I hope in some way it helps us to pause and ponder upon the simple, yet deep things of God! May we be humbled and encouraged.

*John F. Board
Elizabethtown, KY*