

# THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

September 24

2023

## Some Appropriate Four Letter Words

Sadly, there are many today who are frequently using inappropriate four letter words as a way to express themselves. However, as I pondered this, I got to thinking about some appropriate four letter words that are found in the Bible. Beginning with...

### Love

One of the most powerful of all four letter words is the word “love.” You see, love is an action word, and when it is demonstrated it is a great expression of one’s deep affection for another (Ref. John 15:13; Romans 5:8; 1 John 3:16). Therefore, let’s abide in love, and let’s keep in mind these inspired words of Paul, *“And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these three is love”* (1 Corinthians 13:13).

### Obey

A four letter word of most importance found in the Bible is the word “obey.” You see, the Bible informs us that Jesus Christ is the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him (Hebrews 5:9). Therefore, we need to trust and obey our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. For, those who neglect to obey the gospel of Jesus Christ, will be punished with everlasting destruction (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9).

### Pray

The four letter word “pray” is vital to every Christian. You see, prayer is the avenue that we take to communicate with God (Philippians 4:6-7). Therefore, let’s make proper application of this instruction given by the apostle Paul, *“...pray without ceasing...”* (1 Thessalonians 5:17), and remember, *“men ought to always pray and not lose heart”* (Luke 18:1).

### Work

As a Christian, we need to be diligent in our service to the Lord, and an appropriate four letter word found in the Bible to describe this is the word “work.” Knowing that, *“...be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord”* (1 Corinthians 15:58). Brethren, take heed to those inspired words, and always abound in the work of the Lord.

### Give

We also find the four letter word “give” in the Bible. You see, Christians are instructed to give back to the Lord, as they have been prospered (1 Corinthians 16:1-2), and Paul likewise declared that God loves a cheerful giver when he wrote, *“So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver”* (2 Corinthians 9:7).

### Holy

Another appropriate four letter word found in the Bible is “holy.” Speaking to children of God, Peter said, *“...as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct...”* (1 Peter 1:15). You see, God is holy, and as God’s children we likewise need to conduct ourselves in a manner that is holy (Romans 12:1).

### Hope

One more appropriate four letter word found in the Bible to share with you on this thought is the word “hope.” You see, the hope of every Christian is eternal life (Titus 1:2), and Paul while writing to the Romans concerning hope said, *“Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us”* (Romans 5:5). Indeed as Paul says, a Christian’s hope does not disappoint.

These are just a few appropriate four letter words that are found mentioned in the Bible. Now the question is, how do you express these four letter words?

✍️ Brad Phillips

# ATTENDANCE

Attendance at the services of the church is the best index of interest in one's own spiritual growth, and is a certain indication of one's own interest in the Lord's church.

One of the purposes for which God gave the church is that we might be edified as a member of the body (Eph. 4:16). The edification of the body as a whole depends upon each member contributing his individual part thereto. This is the object of worship and fellowship in the church. We need this strength for life's problems and temptations, and we cannot successfully live the Christian life and render an acceptable service to God without it. Every one of us should be determined, therefore, to obtain it by attending every service that it is possible for us to attend. The services of the church are designed for this very purpose. They can be a blessing for our souls and make us stronger Christians. We must attend them, however, with the right attitude if we are to receive a blessing from them. No service can do us any good without our being present, no matter how much truth is preached. Every service will benefit us unless we come to it with an improper attitude unteachable, and prejudiced in heart. We rob ourselves of the strength we need if we fail to attend with the right disposition of soul.

In these services, through study and instruction, and the worship ordained of God, we receive admonition and exhortation, and therefore strength. No member of the church can be the strong Christian that he should be without attending every service possible. It is entirely impossible for us to be Christians that we must be in order to please God, and grow as we should, if we habitually miss the services held for the very purpose of helping us. Neither is it possible for us to please God, and grow as we should, be merely attending on Sunday morning. Sunday morning Christianity is half-hearted Christianity, and the person who has it needs a whole-hearted conversion to the Lord.

When our services on Sunday evening present only about 60% of our attendance on Sunday morning; when, on Wednesday night, we have only about half of those present for the breaking of bread on Sunday morning; when attendance at the Bible classes is less than the membership of the congregation; and when more than half of the membership of a congregation do not attend and support a series of gospel meetings to preach the gospel; something is seriously wrong with the church. Such half-hearted devotion to duty and the interests of the kingdom can only be a reproach to the church, and be disappointing to the Lord. Where do you, as an individual, fit into the picture? If you have been attending only a part of the services, won't you become a full-time Christian?

✍ Roy E. Cogdill

## **Gospel Meeting: *October 8-13*** **Preacher: *Brandon Hathaway***

### Belleville church of Christ

5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258

[www.bellevillechurch.net](http://www.bellevillechurch.net)

#### **Schedule of Services**

Sunday Bible Study .....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship .....	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship .....	4:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study .....	7:00 p.m.

#### **Evangelist**

Brad Phillips ..... (765) 720-2816