

*Come Join Us for*  
***Resurrection Sunday***

**SONrise Service 7:00**

**Breakfast 8:00**

**Bible Classes 9:30**

**Worship 10:30**



**MARK 16:6**

WESTPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

# WESTPORT WITNESS

[www.westportchristianchurch.com](http://www.westportchristianchurch.com)

April, 2007

## **Mike's Message...**

As we continue our discussion about Christianity in America, I would like to share with you some of the difference between "American Christianity" and "Biblical Christianity."

American Christianity goes something like this. Do you go to church anywhere? Yes, I go on Easter and Christmas. Do you give money to charities? Yes, I give money to the Boys and Girls club or the United Way once a year. Do you consider yourself a Christian? Of course, after all I have a Bible. You see, an American Christian is the person who thinks because they were born in America, they're Christian.

These are the ones who think that if the government legalizes something then it's okay to do. Or if society changes and states that this or that is now acceptable, then it must be okay because society has now accepted it as the norm.

There is also another line of thinking on this. It is "cultural Christianity." In an article published by *Modern Reformation Magazine*<sup>1</sup>, J. I. Packer said, "There is such a thing as cultural Christianity, a Christianity that only goes skin deep and is taken in because it is part of the culture of your home or the group to which you belong. What you receive in this case, you receive by osmosis, rather than by any sort of thinking. When the time comes and the tough questions are asked your mind begins to wake up and you realize that all you've got is the veneer of a "Christian lifestyle" without any deeply rooted convictions at all. Culture Christianity is always a problem at this point. Those who have received it think that they are Christians because of the way that they have been conditioned."

Now, before I even go any farther, I must say that I feel very strongly that it is the church's fault this has happened. There was a big swing from the preaching of "hell fire" to "God is love;" the truth of the matter is we must have both. There must be an understanding that God is love, but He is also the coming Judge.

*Continued inside. . .*

*Mike's Message continued...*

Biblical Christianity is not based upon the practices or beliefs of society. It is not based upon what the government says is okay or not okay, but it is based upon the Bible! Biblical Christianity teaches that we are to be different from the world in our talk, our dress, our passions, our marriages, our relationship to others, (Christians as well as non-Christians). Did you know that the divorce rate among those who call themselves Christian is higher than those outside of the church? Did you know that there are many who dress a certain way to catch the eye of a church leader? Did you know that the financial strain is greater for those in the church because of the **false** teaching of health, wealth, and prosperity?

Biblical Christianity is a lifestyle. It is not saying the right words at the right time. It is not wearing your best on Sunday morning, then behaving your worst the rest of the week. It is living a Christ-like life.

It involves a daily surrendering of your life to Christ. It is studying God's word for your personal growth, as well as preparing to witness to others. It is putting God's word in your heart so that you will not sin against Him. It is being actively involved in a local congregation to reach the lost. It is truly about giving your **all** to the Master. I pray that all of us will be the example of "Biblical Christianity."

In His Service,  
Mike

(1. Modern Reformation Magazine, 1993, Sept/Oct Issue Vol. 2.3)

## ALL Church Praise Service

April 22

Start preparing now as we join together to praise our Lord!

Ladies,

What are you going to be when you grow up? This is one of our favorite questions to ask kids and one I thought I would have answered for myself by now. However, this persistent question keep rearing its ugly head.

Gone are the years when people stayed in the same job or career all their lives. It is normal for most people to have several jobs and often more than one career before they retire. I ask you again-what are you going to be when you grow up?

Whether we are looking at our vacation or our spiritual life, we need to honor God, help others, and have a passion for what we do. God has wondrous things in store for you-things that will give you satisfaction and purpose.

Be what God wants you to be!

See you Sunday!

### Up Coming Events At A Glance

1st Ministry Outreach	Skybird Manor	3:00
3rd Women's meeting	Church	7:00
9th Elder/Deacon		7:00
10th Board Meeting		7:00
13th T.G.I.F.		6-8
14th Men's Breakfast		6:30
15th All Church Pitch-In	Following Worship	
22nd ALL church praise service		6:00
22nd & 29th Ministry Outreach	Morning Breeze	2:30



## CALLING ALL YOUTH

NOW HEAR THIS! Since Christopher has made the decision to help us on Sunday morning and Sunday night, the decision has been made to cancel our Thursday night youth night. We are going to plan an outing or special activity every other month. If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

Now, I don't know about you, but I had a great time at the glow in-the-dark putt-putt. In order to do well, you had to pay a lot of attention to the location of the hole, as well as the location of the ball. There were several uncertainties that you could not see until you encountered them.

That's a lot like life. We think we know where we are, but many times there are surprises along the way. There are bumps, dips, and other obstacles that are often in front of us and we can't see them. All of you will be faced with those situations in your life. Things such as smoking or drinking, sex before marriage, or drugs. You will perhaps have some friends that don't agree with the same standards that you live by, and you will have to make a difficult decision. Do you stay with them and face the peer pressure, or walk away and do what's right?

Understanding where our destination is located is very important. As a Christian, our destination is Heaven with Christ and our fellow Christians. Psalm 119:105 says, "*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*" God's word leads and guides us to keep us on the greens of life.

Yes, there will be bumps and obstacles along the way, but if we keep our focus on our destination then we will achieve our hole-in-one!

Later

## From The Kitchen

### Chessy Chicken & Rice Casserole

#### Ingredients Needed

1 Can Cream of Chicken

1 Bag uncooked rice

1 1/3 cups of water

2 cups of your favorite vegetables

½ tsp. Onion powder

4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves

½ cup shredded Cheddar cheese

Stir the soup, water, rice, vegetables and onion powder in a 12" x 8" shallow baking dish.

Top with chicken. Season chicken as desired. Cover.

Bake at 375° F, for 45 min. or until done. Top with cheese.

Makes four servings. Enjoy!

Westport Christian Church

Biblical Ed class 9:30

Worship 10:30

Sunday night & Youth Group 6:00

Wednesday night 7:00

# April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Palm Sunday Ministry Outreach Skybird Manor 3:00	2	3 Women's meeting Church 7:00	4 Bible Study 7:00	5	6	7
8 Resurrection Sunday!!!	9 Elders/Deacons 7:00	10 Board Meeting 7:00	11 Bible Study 7:00	12	13 T.G.I.F. 6-8	14 Men's Breakfast 6:30
15 All Church Pitch-In	16	17	18 Bible Study 7:00	19	20	21
22 Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze 2:30 ALL Church praise service 6:00	23	24 Men's meeting Garden City C.C.	25 Prayer meeting 6:15 Bible Study 7:00	26	27	28
29 Ministry Outreach Morning Breeze 2:30	30					

**BIRTHDAYS**

5th John Combs  
10th Tori Grider  
24th Jenny Hardebeck  
25th Bill Peele