



# THE TRUMPET

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Voice of the LORD  
Ministries

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*And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.*

*Matthew 1:21 - 23*



*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given and the government shall be upon his shoulders; and his name shall be called wonderful, counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6*

As December 25th approaches and we exchange gifts with our loved ones, and celebrate the birthday of Jesus. I am reminded of a song titled 'I GIVE YOU JESUS' So if you are facing the holidays and feel like there is no hope for you.. I GIVE YOU JESUS, If you have no peace and need peace....I give you the PRINCE OF PEACE...If you are sad I give you Jesus. He is our joy. If you are lonely....I give you Jesus...he is love. In Acts 3:6 Peter said Silver and Gold have I none, But such as I have, I give unto thee..... so I may not have material gifts to give you ....But I give you Jesus.

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## Under The Fathers Wings

Beloved of the Lord, I hope what I share with you will be an encouragement. I have chickens here on the mountain, and I enjoy gathering eggs daily. As I observed the mother hen with one little chick, I was reminded of my heavenly Father's love. Psalm 91:4 says, "He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge." I watched this mother hen, always aware of where her little chick was. It would be outside of the nest on a cool day, and when it got cold it would chirp loudly, and the mother hen would run to her chick, then she would spread her wings and the baby chick would nestle securely under her feathers. Sometimes it would peep out from under her feathers where it was warm and secure. Mother hen's sole existence was caring for her offspring. One day soon, baby chick will need mother hen no more, and she will forget. Isaiah 49:15 says, "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you." And, in Joshua 1:5, the Lord says, "I will never leave you or forsake you." Precious one, when you are out in the cold, run to the shelter of the Father's wings where there is peace and safety. Has someone you have leaned on and trusted rejected you? Maybe you are old now and those you have raised and loved never come around you anymore, even when you need them. Backslider, you have wandered away – it is cold and storms are raging. Why die in that stormy world you are now in? I am reminded of what Jesus said in Luke 13:34: "...how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing." Jesus is calling you: come home, come home, you who are weary come home. Run to the shelter of His wings, where there is peace, wonderful peace. Thank you, Lord!

Until Next Time, His Handmaiden, Betty Jean Robinson  
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## THE TRUMPET

### Church of the Covered Dish



### Cousin Leroy

Ole Leroy was sitting on the front porch swapping stories with his best friend Bubba when he began to tell of the first time he met his father in law. "You know Bubba, I had to sit her folks straight right off...I had to show them that their daughter wasn't marrying no pushover mindless rascal with no smarts." That night her ole Pappy looked at me and said, "Listen here feller, can you support a family?" That's when I squared my shoulders, cleared my throat and looked him strait in the eye and said, "Well, no sir. I was just planning to support your daughter. The rest of you folks gonna have to fend for yourselves."



### The Man of the House

There were three guys talking at break time. Two of them were talking about the amount of control they have over their wives, while the third remained quiet. After a while one of the first two turned to the third and says, "Well, what about you, what sort of control do you have over your wife?" The third fellow said, "I'll tell you. Just the other night my wife came to me on her hands and knees." The first two guys were amazed. "Wow! What happened then?" they asked. The third man took a healthy swallow of his cup of coffee, sighed and said, "She said, 'Get out from under the bed and fight like a man!'"

### Adam & Eve

Adam was talking to God one day, and asked, "why did you make Eve so pretty?" God replied, "So you would love her". Adam then asked, "why did you make her such a good cook?". God replied, "So that you would love her". Adam asked, "Why does she have such a heavenly smile?". God said "So you would love her". Finally, Adam asked "Why did you make her so dumb?" God replied, "So that she would love you!".

### "The Pastors Refreshing Sermon"

The minister gave his Sunday morning service, as usual, but this particular Sunday, it was considerably longer than normal. Later, at the door, shaking hands with parishioners as they moved out, one man said, "Your sermon, Pastor, was simply wonderful -so invigorating and inspiring and refreshing." The minister of course, broke out in a big smile, only to hear the man add, "I felt like a new man when I woke up!"



### **"Wake Up Before You Fall Out The Window"**

*And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together. And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead. And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing him said, Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him. When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed. And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted. Acts 20:7-12*

In our above text, we read the account of Eutychus, the man who fell asleep and fell from the window sill while Paul was preaching. The drowsiness and fall of Eutychus is a mirror of our fading affection for God which cause our fall into deep troubles. In the following verses from the book of Revelation, the Apostle John describes the church with a very commendable outward qualification. But on the later part, God also declared an unexpected but tough rebuke. *Revelation 2:2-4 - I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: 3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.* Now, here is the stern rebuke: *4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.* The church of Ephesus is a picture of many Christians today. Godly on the outside but empty on the inside. The fervor and passion has dried away, the excitement and zeal of our first love for God has been forsaken. This same spiritual condition made Eutychus sleep while one of the most gifted and anointed teacher of the word of God is speaking. This also reveals Eutychus' heart: He doesn't love the word of God truly enough to enjoy it and he doesn't care for his brother that much to stay awake with Paul while he ministered. His love for God and men is rather lukewarm and dying. The Church today has become spiritually drowsy. We have compromised the right for the wrong. We've allowed things into our lives that we have no business allowing in. We are sitting in the window of sin and if we don't wake up, like Eutychus, we'll fall out the window. If we are going to renew our love for God and decide to experience revival and spiritual awakening, then, complacency should be changed to compassion and ministry designed to save and reach the lost. When you are hearing the preaching of the word, the window is not a good place to be: The window is many different things for Christians. 1. The window of divided attention 2. The window of compromise3. The window of exploring the world 4. The window of temptation Those who sit on the window of compromise and continually explore the entertainment of the devil while hearing the word of God will be endangered of falling into sin. Those who profess they are Christian and yet there is no real hunger for the word of God can be considered backslidden in their heart. They need spiritual awakening through the Spirit of God less they fall back into sin. Some of you may be still hanging on the window sill while some has already fallen. But what ever your situation maybe, God is still willing to give you the second chance and a second life. Will you come to him, repent from your sin of apathy and complacency and renew your love for God today. It is not too late to repent and be forgiven. *Revelation 2:5 - Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.* In The Masters Service, Evangelist Michael W. Heltsley

Preaching The Truth Ministries - P.O. Box 4101 - Hopkinsville, KY. 42241 - [www.preachingthetruth.net](http://www.preachingthetruth.net)

### **And His Name Shall Be Called JESUS...**

More than 2000 years ago there was a Man born contrary to the laws of life. This Man lived in poverty and was reared in obscurity....Only once did He cross the boundary of the country in which He lived, that was during His exile in childhood....In infancy He startled a king; in childhood He puzzled the doctors; in manhood He ruled the course of Nature, walked upon the billows as if on pavement, and hushed the sea to sleep.....He never wrote a book, and yet all of the libraries of the country could not hold the books that have been written about Him...He never wrote a song, and yet He has furnished the theme for more songs than all the song writers combined.....He never founded a college, but all the schools put together cannot boast of having as many students...The names of the past proved statesmen of Greece and Rome have come and gone. The names of the past scientists philosophers and theologians have come and gone; but the name of this Man abounds more and more.....Though time has spread many years between the people of this generation and the scene of His crucifixion, yet He still lives. Herod could not destroy Him, and the grave could not hold Him...he stands forth upon the highest pinnacle of Heavenly glory, proclaimed of God, acknowledged by angels, adored by saints, and feared by devils, as the living, personal **Christ, our Lord, our Savior and our God.**

*Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14*



## REESIE'S RECIPES



### Cherry Almond Fudge

1 bag (12 oz) white vanilla baking chips  
1 container (1 lb) Betty Crocker® Rich & Creamy cherry frosting  
1/2 cup chopped red candied cherries (4 oz)  
1/2 cup slivered almonds, toasted  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
Dash salt

Line 9-inch square pan with foil; spray foil with cooking spray. In large microwavable bowl, microwave baking chips uncovered on High 1 minute to 1 minute 30 seconds, stirring every 15 seconds, until melted. Stir frosting into melted chips. Fold in remaining ingredients. Pour and spread into pan. Refrigerate 20 minutes or until set. Using foil, lift fudge out of pan; remove foil. Cut into 6 rows by 6 rows. Store tightly covered.

### Peanut Butter Pie

1 (9 inch) prepared graham cracker crust  
1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened  
1/2 cup creamy peanut butter  
1/2 cup confectioners' sugar  
1 (16 ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed  
15 miniature chocolate covered peanut butter cups, unwrapped

Mix the cream cheese, confectioners' sugar and peanut butter together until smooth. Fold in 1/2 of the whipped topping. Spoon the mixture into the graham cracker crust. Place the remaining whipped topping over the top of the peanut butter mixture and garnish with the peanut butter cups. Chill for at least 2 hours or overnight before serving.

### Sweet & Sour Meatballs

1 lb. ground beef  
1 egg  
1/2 c. bread crumbs  
1/2 c. milk  
1/4 c. finely chopped onion  
2 tsp. parsley flakes  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/8 tsp. ground allspice  
1/8 tsp. pepper

#### SWEET AND SOUR SAUCE:

1/2 c. packed brown sugar  
1 tbsp. cornstarch  
1 can (13 1/4 oz.) crushed pineapple, in syrup  
1/3 c. vinegar  
1 tbsp. soy sauce

Mix all the ingredients for the meatballs. Roll into 1 inch balls. Cook in oven for 30 minutes or until done. Drain fat. **Sauce:** Mix brown sugar and cornstarch in skillet. Stir in pineapple (with syrup), vinegar and soy sauce. Heat to boiling, stirring constantly; reduce heat. Add meatballs. Cover; simmering, stirring occasionally, 15 minutes.

### Green Bean Casserole

3 cans (15 oz), Green Beans, drained  
3 tablespoons butter  
8 ounces sliced mushrooms  
1/4 cup finely chopped onion  
2 tablespoons flour  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper  
1 1/2 cups milk  
2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese  
2 tablespoons sour cream  
1 cup soft bread crumbs  
1 tablespoon melted butter

Heat oven to 350°. Grease a 2-quart baking dish. In a large saucepan, melt butter over medium-low heat. Add mushrooms and onion; saute, stirring, until mushrooms are browned and onions are tender. Stir in flour, salt, and pepper, stirring until flour is mixed into the fat. Gradually stir in the milk. Continue cooking, stirring, until slightly thickened. Stir in cheese, sour cream, and drained green beans. Spoon into the prepared baking dish. Combine bread crumbs and melted butter. Sprinkle over the casserole. Bake for 30 minutes, until bubbly and browned.



# NOEL

## Peppermint Cake

1 box white cake mix  
2 1/4 tsp. peppermint extract  
Red food coloring  
1 can white frosting  
Peppermint candy, crushed

Mix the cake mix according to cake directions. Before putting into pan(s) add 2 teaspoons peppermint extract and 4 drops red food coloring. Bake as directed. Cool. Mix white frosting with 1/4 teaspoon peppermint extract. Frost. Then garnish with crushed peppermint candy.

## Christmas Cake

1/2 cup water  
4 ounces vanilla chips  
1 cup margarine, softened  
2 cups sugar  
4 eggs, separated  
1 tablespoon vanilla extract  
2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1 cup buttermilk  
1 cup flaked coconut  
1 cup chopped pecans

### FROSTING:

1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened  
1/2 cup margarine, softened  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
3 3/4 cups confectioners' sugar  
1 tablespoon milk

In a saucepan, bring the water to a boil. Remove from the heat; stir in vanilla chips until melted. Cool for 20 minutes. Meanwhile, in a mixing bowl, cream butter and sugar. Add egg yolks; mix well. Beat in chips and vanilla. Combine flour and baking soda; add to creamed mixture alternately with buttermilk. Mix well. Stir in the coconut and pecans. Beat egg whites until stiff peaks form; fold into the batter.

Pour into three greased and floured 8-in. square baking pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes or until cake tests done. Cool in pans 10 minutes; remove to wire rack to cool completely. Combine frosting ingredients in a mixing bowl; beat well. Frost tops of two layers; stack on serving plate with plain layer on top. Frost top and sides of cake.



Celebrating the **CHRIST**  
of Christmas

Pastor Billy R Douglas

Almost every Christmas someone will ask me in one form or another..."Do you celebrate Christmas?" and my answer to that has always been and is the same today "Yes we do celebrate Christmas". Or maybe a better way to say it is that "*We celebrate the Christ of Christmas*". There are many who do not celebrate the holiday and we certainly respect that. More times than not the number one reason for most of them is that they believe it to be "pagan" and not Christian. The truth is (and I wish it wasn't) but in our society today it is impossible to get completely away from things that are pagan. Did you know that the names of the days of our week are pagan? The names of our 12 months are pagan...celebrating your own birthday is pagan and that doesn't even scratch the surface...many things in our society today...right down to the socks on your feet...yes they were created by pagans as well. So yes there are things, traditions within the celebration of Christmas that can be traced back to pagan celebrations. Some of the traditions such as Christmas tree's we simply do not know for sure when, why or who started them. *But as for the true Spirit of Christmas, the REAL Reason to celebrate Christmas that for certain can be traced back to the giving of Gods only begotten son when he was born of a virgin in a stable in Bethlehem some 2000 years ago. This was such a celebrated event that the angels were sent to announce and shouted from the Heavens "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."* Luke 2:11-14. This event was so miraculous that God would create and hang a NEW star in the heavens to guide wise men from the east to reveal to them and to all of the world where TRUE wisdom could be found. It was so marvelous that it would be spoken of by the prophets of old hundreds of years before it would come to pass. Is it wrong to celebrate Christmas? I will leave you and your convictions to answer that for you and your family. As for me...other than his victory on the Cross I cant think of greater reason to celebrate than to celebrate the fact that Jesus Christ...God in the flesh came into this world to bring Life, Hope and Peace to a lost and dying world. What ever your stand on Christmas may be it is our prayer that you are blessed during this time and always and that most of all you will always be found Celebrating the CHRIST of Christmas...God bless you!



### Twas The Day After Christmas

Twas the day after Christmas, our house filled with joy, the trash-cans were full, from unwrapping each toy.

We loved both our children, little Brandi and Rick, So glad they were happy, with the gifts from St. Nick.

I sat in my chair and stared out the window, as my wife and the children, took turns with Nintendo.

I was deeply troubled for some strange reason, something was lacking, in this Holiday Season.

Then the answer came, I knew what was wrong, We've lied to our children, for God knows how long.

As I thought more about it, I couldn't help crying, they believed in a Santa Claus, we created by lying.

We've told our children, every since I can remember, that Christmas means toys and they come in December.

If they're good all year and get right to bed, then Santa will come, with his reindeer and sled.

When all along we should have taught them to pray, to thank the LORD JESUS, being born on that day.

To teach them that Christmas, was a time meant for giving, to share with the needy and be thankful for living.

To give from within, then receiving will please us, share the best gift of all and give the LORD JESUS.

Caught up in themes, we went along with the rest. but the time had now come to take the parenthood test.

I told the children, what I just told you, then they responded like this, when I was finally through.

"Thank you Daddy, for telling us this." Wrapped their arms tight around me and gave me a kiss.

"We've known for a while, that Santa was fake, but we swore not to tell it, for your and Mom's sake.

We didn't want Christmas, to be a big flop, and the fun that we have every year to just stop."

"And Yes we know Jesus, but thanks just the same, every night when we pray, we call on his name."

"And remember last Christmas, when we lost all our toys? We gave them to the orphanage, for the girls & the boys."

"And we wrote on each package, each one we would send, Merry Christmas, I Love You, from Jesus your friend."

"Is that what you meant, what giving's about? "Sharing with others who are doing without."

Yes I told them and patted their heads, gave them a hug and put them in bed.

Our talk was now over but I have to admit, they acted so grown, that it scared me a bit.

But from this day forward, the truth it shall be, cause God gave me children, who are smarter than me.

*Written by.. Timothy Jon Barrett - submitted by Carolyn Ralph of Luna Pier, Michigan*



Our featured DVD this month is a **DOUBLE** Sermon DVD

**"Winter Has Passed...And The Staff Remains"** by Pastor Billy R. Douglas

**and "The Spirit of Thanksgiving"** by Evangelist Bill Willis

this DVD is available for a Love Gift of Any Size!



## Prayer List



Ruth & Betty Slinker  
Willard Walls  
Rodney & Marie Howell  
Jerry & Mary King  
Dessie Sheriff  
Larry & Ellie Johnson  
Ann Hinton  
Jamey Howell  
Keith Payton & family  
Harvey & Betty Willis  
Bill Johnson  
Suder Ave. Baptist Church  
Ed Fleming  
Carolyn Ralph & family  
Bill & Nancy Willis  
Samantha Ashby & family  
Curtis Dykes  
Jeff Dickenson  
Lyndall Shocklee & family  
Barry Furgerson  
Billy & Judy Frizzell  
Letha Baize & family  
Betty Butterworth  
Bruce Taylor  
Larry Weedman  
Rev. Bobby Grove  
Winfred Burden & family  
Jimmy & Sue Dukes  
Ray & Mary Owens  
Carolyn Baker & family  
Red Dukes  
Joni Wolfe & family  
Wanda & Oscar Walls  
James Coates & family  
Billy Evitts & family  
Roy & Sue Johnson  
America & our leaders  
George W. Bush  
Israel  
Jeremy Payton  
Ruby Willis  
Yvonne St.Clair  
Roger Goostree  
Teresa Parker  
Myrtle Douglas  
Rev. & Mrs. Paul Beasley  
Wayne Carter & family  
Chet Daugherty & family  
Louise Johnson  
Curtis Morris  
David & Joyce Howard  
Sandy Archibald  
Ken & Janice Widener  
Glenda Dewey  
Charles McLaughlin  
Barak Obama  
Keisha Thurman  
Etsil K. Hughes  
Isaac Woodruff

Johnny Ford  
Danny & Janet Willis  
Larry & Vicki Douglas  
Mary Ford  
Terry & Phyllis Dickenson  
Nathan Walls  
Billy & Reesie Douglas  
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Scott Sheriff  
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Jack Butterworth Sr.  
Jack Butterworth Jr.  
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Shane Sheriff  
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Colin Allred  
Willy Douglas & family  
Amy Dunn  
Ella Earl  
Brad Litherland  
David Fentress  
Vickie Gipp  
Andre Gipp  
Daniel & Gary Terry  
Deanna Linkugel  
Tim Gilbert  
Ed Young  
Larry Garza  
Marcie Eidsmoe  
Estellene Shaver  
Randy & Maggie Southern  
Randy Rash & family  
Linda Dunning  
Jason Ford  
Whitney Ford  
Wayne & Osella Clabaugh  
Misty Graham  
Samuel Anderson  
Kyle English  
Lana Albin  
Bill Chancellor  
Charles & Sandy Davis  
Deborah Reick  
Annie Gentry  
Joe & Ella Weatherford  
Pam Mullins-Tackett  
Wendell Chambers family  
Jason Chambers  
Tyler, Hannah, Isaac Willis  
Jim Bliss  
Leroy & Nancy Scaff

Becky Hendrix & family  
Loretta Murphy & family  
Judy Hillard  
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Pennie & Logan Heltsley  
Rachel Brown  
Eufaula McElroy & family  
Timmy Ford  
Irene Baker  
Anthony Stevens & family  
David Peters  
Inez Rickard  
Christine Vaughn  
Larry Mayfield  
Deborah Sweeney & family  
Gary Rose  
Estel Cronin  
Brian Druin  
Don & Elaine Denton  
Jessie Groves  
Jill Steffes  
Linda & Bubby Smith  
Betty Embry  
Diane Rogier  
Eddie Dame  
Barbara Dame  
Bill Krambeer  
Barbara Allgood  
Art Coker  
William & Denise Casey  
Joe Johnson  
Larry Demer & family  
Adrian Demer  
Isaac Mbatha  
Lula Chancellor  
Gwendella Powell  
Elsie Mc Manaway  
Larry Richards  
Juanita Shroader  
Barbara Henderson  
Alice Taylor & family  
Cassie Dickenson  
Debra Graham  
Amy Davis & family  
Marsha Miller  
Larry Patton  
Sheila Bruce  
Roger Fella  
Judy Masterson  
Jean Litherland  
Nicole Watson  
Vicky Jarvis  
Karson Hammond  
Jarrod Scarboro



### SALVATION CORNER

We have set aside this corner of THE TRUMPET to show God's Plan of Salvation. If you are unsure where you will go when you die, please listen to what God has said in His Word:

**FIRST . . . GOD LOVES YOU!** "For God so loved the world that he gave His only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have Everlasting Life" Jn. 3:16

**SECOND . . . MAN IS A SINNER, AND SIN HAS SEPARATED HIM FROM GOD!**  
"For there is not a just man upon Earth, that doeth good and sinneth not" Eccl. 7:20. "For all have sinned and come short of the Glory of God" Rom. 3:23.

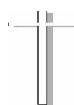
**THIRD . . . JESUS CHRIST IS THE ONLY REMEDY FOR SIN!** "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God . . ." I Pet. 3:18 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" Acts 4:12

**FOURTH . . . YOU MUST RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR PERSONAL LORD AND SAVIOUR.** Jesus calls this experience the "new birth." He told Nicodemus: ". . . Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God" Jn. 3:3.

We invite you now to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. "But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name" Jn. 1:12.

**Pray this prayer and mean it with all of your heart:** Dear Lord Jesus, I now realize that I am a sinner. I accept the fact that You died for me on the rugged Cross of Calvary. I now open my heart's door and receive You as Saviour and Lord of my life. Please take Full control of me and help me to be the kind of Christian You want me to be. Amen.

If you prayed this prayer in all sincerity, you are now a Child of God! So that we might rejoice with you, please write, call or email us today and we will send you some material to help you with your new walk with the LORD!





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## **Feeling Numb This Christmas?**

Pastor Wayne Clabaugh - In The Garden

Do yourself a favor and take a big bite of pie: Apple Pie; Pumpkin Pie... does that make you feel any better? How 'bout some egg-nog or some chocolate truffles? YUM-YUM? Still need a pick-me-up? Let's see... you know that money you were saving for your nephews and nieces this Christmas? FORGET THEM! Go buy YOURSELF something nice for Christmas.... you deserve it! You never get yourself anything anymore. Well, if you even thought about doing any of those things to make yourself "feel better" I think I know what's wrong. But you won't like it. In fact, you'll be so ashamed of yourself you'll probably never want to read any thing I write ever again. People often transfer their guilt on the bearer of truth - but here goes....If you're feeling numb for Christmas, it could be that you are backslidden? WHAT? What are you talking about preacher? Well if all of those other "things" I mentioned to you made you feel good... possibly you're living in the flesh. People specialize in that every Christmas. Don't believe me? Just try taking the last ON SALE item in a store on Black Friday and see if you make it to the parking lot in one piece. Forget that... just try getting to the store and getting a parking place - and you better not get in anyone's way if you don't want to get a good Horn tootin' and some finger gestures that always make you burn inside. The truth is... this is prophetic: for you to feel numb at Christmas time when you don't have your priorities in order. The Apostle Paul talks about it in 2Thessalonians 2:7, 8 (KJV) *"For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed;"* That verse is speaking about the church in prayer and being the Salt and Light of The WORLD! That "he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way..." speaks of the Church being the church and NOT buying into the WORLD's Need for THINGS! It speaks of a Church like the church of Philadelphia which was considered to be the church of the OPEN DOOR... which is Jesus Christ The Lord. Still feeling numb? Why not bow you're head right now and remind yourself what Christmas is really about. The Door is Open and bidding you to come home.

Father: As I look all around me and see the chaos and the strife on every hand - I have the perfect example of why Jesus came. Forgive me for my self-centered ways and be LORD of My Life this Christmas and ALL YEAR LONG! In Jesus' Name. Amen

In The Garden Ministries - [www.inthegarden.us](http://www.inthegarden.us)

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