



## Worship Services & Bible Study

SUNDAYS	10:00 AM	Bible Class
SUNDAYS	11:00 AM	Worship
SUNDAYS	6:00 PM	Worship
WEDNESDAYS	7:00 PM	Bible Study

425 Saint Andrews Rd / Columbia, SC, 29210  
803-772-0102

**YouTube:** Church of Christ St Andrews Rd

### The Curious Case of Matthew

There are a few times in Scripture when we read of Jesus approaching a certain person and saying the words, "Follow me." That person then drops what he is doing, and makes the commitment to follow Jesus to become his disciple. How was Jesus able to get folks to do this? For example, the beloved physician Luke writes about the time that Jesus calls Matthew to be his disciple. **After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he left all, rose up, and followed Him (Luke 5:27-28, NKJV).** If someone just read that passage and was not all that familiar with the Bible, he might think that it was impossible to say "no" to Jesus. But that's not true. Many rejected the teachings and pleas of our Lord. The apostle John records such an occasion: **From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more (John 6:66).** We also cannot forget about the rich, young ruler who approached Jesus with the question of what he must do to inherit eternal life (Luke 18:18). When Jesus told him of the one thing he needed to do, Matthew's account says, **But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions (Matthew 19:22).** The most obvious rejection of Jesus was by the Jewish leaders when they had him crucified. Jesus told his disciples that this rejection would happen. **And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again (Mark 8:31).** Certainly, many said "no" to Jesus.

So what about this curious case of Matthew? We know that Matthew's tax office was in Capernaum of Galilee as Mark records Jesus' deeds in that area (Mark 2:1, 13-14). Reports about Jesus went all around that region (Luke 5:15), and many came to hear him, not only from Galilee, but also Judea and Jerusalem (5:17). It is likely then, that Matthew had heard about Jesus, and perhaps even witnessed his miraculous works of cleansing lepers and healing those who were paralyzed (cf. Luke 5:12-26). It is also probable that he heard Jesus preach in the local synagogue (Luke 4:31-37). Based on what he heard, and perhaps seen, he was evidently convinced that Jesus was the long awaited Messiah, of whom many had been anticipating (Luke 2:25,38). So when Jesus called him, he gladly followed.



Do you think there might be some people like Matthew among your friends and acquaintances? Perhaps there is someone who is seeking something real to hold onto in this life? I think we might be pleasantly surprised of how many "Matthews" are around us, and how many are ready to leave the world behind to follow Jesus. A simple invitation to come to a certain night of our gospel meeting might readily be accepted. You might just catch someone at the right time, when he's been studying his Bible, but like the Ethiopian eunuch, he needs someone to guide him to Jesus (Acts 8:31). How much more effort might we put into the "Great Commission" (Matthew 28:18-20) if we look at others as a potential "Matthew?" What better time to start than now when we are holding a gospel meeting?

**Brotherly,  
Jamie**

# Gospel Meeting with BJ Clarke

*September 17 - 20*

**Monday 7 PM**

“The Safest Place in The World”

**Tuesday 7 PM**

“How To Be Just a New Testament Christian”

**Wednesday 7 PM**

“Where Will You Be When You Get Where You Are Going?”

## **Fellowship Luncheon**

**TODAY**

Everyone, especially visitors, please join us for lunch.

## **Men's & Preachers Meeting**

Tuesday, September 19  
10:00 AM

**Speaker: BJ Clarke**

Training Men to Lead

## **Youth Girls Baking Day**

Saturday, September 23  
3 – 5 PM

@ home of Wo Family

## **Youth Game Night**

Friday, September 29  
6 – 11 PM

## **Fall Festival**

October 21 5:00 PM  
Mark Your Calendar

### **HOW TO LISTEN TO A SERMON**

(In Lieu Of Our Gospel Meeting  
And During Our Own Services)

**A Jot From John,**

**Do not** be a criticizing listener. The minister makes mistakes as well as you; if he were perfect, he would not be here.

**Do not** be a sermon fitter, trying to fit the sermon to someone else. If the sermon does not fit you, let your neighbor fit it to himself.

**Do not** be a sermon taster. The sermon is not intended to be pleasing to your aesthetic nature or your hobbies, but to leave you a better person.

**Listen** with a mind prepared by prayer and expectation.

**Listen** with a humble mind. Let the searching light of the gospel reveal the need in your heart.

**Listen** with an open mind. You may disagree with the sermon but remember one of the functions of a true sermon is to disturb your complacency.

**Listen** with a prayerful attitude. A sermon conceived in prayer, meeting upon sympathetic, humble, cooperative minds, will be used as seeds sown upon soil watered by the “Truth”, springing up into life many-fold!

**Onward Rejoicing,  
John B. Daniels, Associate Minister**

## **Missionary**

Joey Treat  
September 24  
Sunday Bible Study & AM Worship Service