

COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 11:00 AM
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



Vol. 54 No. 36

The Correspondent

September 6, 2026

Living in the Now Jimmy Hodges

As a child, we are familiar with longing for the next age. When I was 15, I couldn't wait to be 16 and drive. When I was 17, I couldn't wait till 18. Then, I could vote and go off to college. As a parent, it's a similar view. If we can just get to that next stage, when she sleeps through the night, or he is out of diapers. Now, the stages are getting a child trained through high school, getting another child through college, and continuing to be a source of encouragement for one whose schooling is completed! If I am not careful, I can still look forward to the next stage view. As a Christian, I need to learn to live in the now.

This is a complaint against Christians. We tend to look back or look ahead and miss what is right before our eyes. Honestly, the same complaint could be leveled at all people. As Christians, we look back to the cross. We look forward to heaven. Those are great blessings and should not be taken for granted. Keep in mind, there are many blessings right before our very eyes.

Here are some passages that come to mind. "Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (Matthew 6:34 NIV). When I worry, I am borrowing tomorrow's troubles today. "A man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work. This too, I see, is from the hand of God." (Ecclesiastes 2:24 NIV). Be thankful for your food. Enjoy it. Hopefully, you find satisfaction in your work. I have always felt for people who did not find pleasure in their profession. A person has to work, but it is really a chore when you don't gain satisfaction from a job well done.

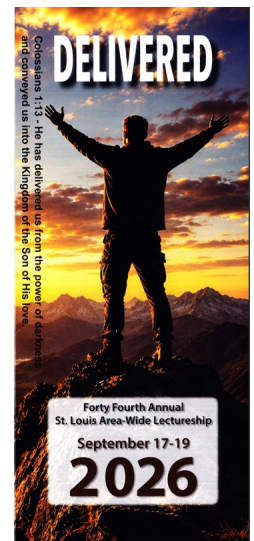
Throughout the gospel of John, Jesus says, "I am the door," "I am the gate," "I am the bread of life," and "I am the good shepherd," just to name a few. Notice, he does not state it, "I was," or "I will be." He always uses the present tense. In our hymns we sing, "Bow before the Great I Am." "The Great I Was," or "The Great I Will Be" doesn't have the same ring to it. As Christians, we should reflect on the past of Christ on the cross. We should look forward to eternity in heaven. God has also blessed us to enjoy the present. As the old saying goes, "Time flies when you're having fun." Whether it's gathering for worship, an evening with friends, a family get together, working on a project, reading a good book, taking a hike in the park, fishing at the lake or watching a ball game; time flies and you are taking in the now. Be thankful to God for it!

- <https://bulletingoldextra.blogspot.com/2026/08/living-in-now.html>

September 17-19, 2026

44th Annual
St. Louis Area-Wide
Lectureship

St. Peters
church of Christ
7430 Mexico Rd.,
St. Peters, MO



For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth. 1 Thessalonians 1:8

THE QUALIFICATIONS OF DEACONS PART 2

1 Timothy 3:10-13

- I. Let Them Be Tested- v. 10,2,6
- II. Their Wives- v. 11, Romans 1:30
- III. Husband of One Wife- v. 12, 2, Matthew 19:1-9, Romans 7:1-3
- IV. Managing Household Well- v. 12, 4-5, Ephesians 6:4
- V. Gain a Good Standing- v. 13, Matthew 5:13-16, 1 Corinthians 16:13

Worship Service**Announcements**

Song: 866 I Will Call upon the Lord

Song: 833 Ring Out the Message

Prayer

Song: 482 O Listen to Our Wondrous Story

Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 350 Jesus, Hold My Hand

Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 3:10-13**Sermon**

Song: 674 There's a Great Day Coming

Song: 546 Ready to Suffer (Vs. 1)

Prayer**1 Timothy 3:10-13**

T S L R H V G N D S L T O E G
 S D R C S A S T S L L U H T N
 A L O D I R S D E T S E T J I
 F O A I I N H W L E N E I E D
 L H G N I L U R L H W N T R N
 U E U T D I S U S E J E E I A
 F S B R T E E F O U N D A O T
 H U O S E E R G T B J T C D S
 T O L N W L M E O D B N H N I
 I H D E S E E P R O S F O E R
 A D N S F W S A E S D I S R H
 F H E N D F U G V R N H D D C
 E T S O F N R R E E A S R L B
 I I S C T L T W R S B T L I D
 N A N A E O I N E S S D E H L
 L F N E N V S R N V U O O C E
 D A R D E H V V T T H B I I U
 U O M S S E L E M A L B O E R

TESTED
 SERVE
 DEACONS
 FOUND
 BLAMELESS
 WIVES
 REVERENT
 SLANDERERS
 TEMPERATE
 FAITHFUL
 HUSBANDS
 RULING
 CHILDREN
 HOUSEHOLD
 WELL
 OBTAIN
 GOOD
 STANDING
 BOLDNESS
 FAITH
 CHRIST
 JESUS

1 Timothy 3:10-13 (NKJV)

- ¹⁰ But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being *found* blameless.
- ¹¹ Likewise, *their* wives *must be* reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things.
- ¹² Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling *their* children and their own households well.
- ¹³ For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Why Worship?

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. John 4:23