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# OCTOBER 2017

## PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

### Disciples Who Are Called Christian

*“The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch”*  
~Acts 11:26

In the 1700s John and Charles Wesley, when they attended Oxford University, started a holy club that maintained spiritual disciplines that each member agreed to abide by. They were seen as so methodical in everything they did, that they were teased and given a negative, derogatory nickname of Methodist. As they walked by on the campus grounds, others would say, *there go those Methodists*. Well, as you know, the name stuck and later became a Christian movement of spiritual revival and a Church denomination.

Have you ever had a nickname? In Acts 11 the disciples find themselves receiving a nickname ‘Christian’. What was it that ascribed the title ‘Christian’ to the disciples? I believe this question is of most importance in our culture today. We have come so far from the true identity behind the name Christian. The true identity behind Methodist was John and Charles commitment to spiritual disciplines. The true identity behind Christian is a disciple of Jesus Christ.

The disciples picked up this nickname because of three things: They believed in Christ, they behaved like Christ, and they belonged to Christ. In Luke 14 Jesus taught a large crowd that if we wanted to follow him we had to sit down and count the cost. If Jesus challenges us to count the cost, that should really make us think about the effort of being a disciple? If it were simple there would be no need to count the cost! The disciples sacrificed a lot to eventually get the nickname Christian. Jesus goes on to say in Luke 14 “those who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.”

It’s impossible to be a disciple or a follower of someone and not end up like that person. Jesus said, “A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher” (Luke 6:40). That’s the whole point of being a disciple of Jesus: we imitate Him, carry on His ministry, and become like Him in the process. Yet somehow many have come to believe that a person can be a “Christian” without being like Christ. A “follower” who doesn’t follow. How does that make any sense? Many people in the church have decided to take on the name of Christ and nothing else. This would be like Jesus walking up to those first disciples and saying, “Hey, would you guys mind identifying yourselves with me in some way? Don’t worry, I don’t actually care if you do anything I do or change your lifestyle at all. I’m just looking for people who are willing to say they believe in me and call themselves Christians.”

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No one can really believe that this is all it means to be a Christian. But then why do so many people live this way? It appears that we've lost sight of what it means to be a follower of Jesus. The concept of being a disciple isn't difficult to understand, but it affects everything. Dallas Willard writes in his book *The Great Omission: Reclaiming Jesus's Essential Teachings on Discipleship*, "The disciple is one who, intent upon becoming Christ-like and so dwelling in his "faith and practice", systematically and progressively rearranges his affairs to that end."

So if we take into account what Jesus said, then everyone who calls themselves a Christian should look like a disciple of Jesus. It is time for Christians to start living according to the nickname they received at Antioch.

Our problem today is not a shortage of Christians but a shortage of disciples. It's interesting when you examine healthy churches ones that God finds doing a quality job at winning, nurturing, equipping, and sending out new disciples He sends those churches plenty of raw material. If God sees a church that doesn't know what to do when new material comes in why would he continue to send new prospects? We are reminded of Jesus words in Matthew 21:43, "the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to people who will produce its fruit."

Where is the quality of a church found? **In its disciple-making!!**

Christians need to be followers or imitators of Jesus. Christians need to heed the Great Commission and produce disciples. Remember in John 15 Jesus said we are the branches and branches produce fruit. This fruit is not for the branch to eat but for others to eat of. Our fruit is helping others become mature followers of Jesus Christ. If we are not pumping out results of true manifestations of disciples then we are just having a religious program with no authority.

Let's remember what it truly means to be called 'Christian' because the world desperately depends on it. Here is a final thought to ponder on as we live out our true identity as Christians:

**If Satan can produce disciples to bring destruction (John 8:44)  
why can't the king of kings and Lord of Lords produce disciples to bring transformation?**

With Love in Christ,  
Pastor Jamie

<p><b>SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES</b>  <b>Breakfast</b> ..... 9:00 a.m.  <b>Sunday School</b> ..... 9:30 a.m.  <b>Morning Worship</b> ..... 10:35 a.m.</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY SERVICES</b>  <b>Family Bible Study</b>..... 6:30 p.m.  <b>Youth Group</b>..... 6:30 p.m.</p>
<p><b>SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES</b>  <b>Evening Worship</b> ..... 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>MISSIONARY SERVICE</b>  <b>Sunday, October 22</b>.....6:00 p.m.</p>

**Check out our Website and Facebook Page at [www.annanaz.com](http://www.annanaz.com)**



# Nazarene Missions INTERNATIONAL

Missions at Anna Naz has been exciting this year! If you haven't had the opportunity to attend one of our meetings, please make plans to do so soon!

The September meeting we were blessed to have a special speaker - Joanne Blakley was there to share some inspirational information about her JOYFUL time spent in Africa and some plans she has in the works with Southern Illinois Missions Alliance!

We have some exciting events coming up in the next few months that you, too can be part of. So don't delay - take this opportunity to become a missionary right here at home!

Here's a preview of coming attractions: October our NYI will be hosting the dinner, so there's no need to cook a thing! Just bring yourself, your family, and invite your friends to a night at Anna Naz. We are still taking donations of food items for our "Meals on Wheels Soup Kitchen" that will happen the Saturday prior to Thanksgiving. If you know of a shut-in, an elderly family in need, or someone who lives alone that you would like to help out this Thanksgiving season by having a delicious meal delivered right to their door - just leave their name and address in the office with Verna or give it to me. We plan on feeding 15 families. December will be a weekend you will NOT want to miss! I am encouraging EVERYONE to become part of something great - Feed My Starving Children. This takes place in Cape Girardeau, Missouri the first weekend of December. Start saving your change for this! Do you realize that just 22¢ a day helps to send meals to starving children in Africa. Just one bag contains 6 meals with enough nutrients to sustain a child for an entire day. As the time draws closer, I will be sending more information home.

There's a job for everyone, so please don't think you aren't needed. We can ALL do SOMETHING!

Tammy Vicenzi,  
NMI President



### **MURPHYSBORO ZONE MISSIONARY RALLY AT ROYALTON-7 PM**

Our missionary Andy and Judy Bennett are involved with the hospital in Papua New Guinea. They are asking us to bring to the rally some items needed for the "Operation Warm Baby". Everything a baby needs to start life. They deliver over 1700 babies each year in their hospital. Many times because of poverty, the mother comes with very little for her newborn. This is a gift you can give in the name of Jesus.

#### **Items needed for a gallon zip lock which is on the foyer table includes:**

- 1 onesie,
- 1 sleeper,
- 1 hat,
- 1 pair of socks,
- 2 cloth diapers and 2 pins
- 2 pair of plastic pants (if you can find them)
- 1 bar of baby soap & 1 washcloth.



**ANNA NAZARENE  
Presents  
Church in the Park**

**OCTOBER 15<sup>th</sup>  
ANNA CITY PARK  
Lunch @ 12 PM**

**Worship  
Concert  
Featuring**

**JOE MILLER  
2 PM**



**FREE  
ALL WELCOME**

October 15 has been set for the Church in the park.

We will have Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. at the church first and then go to the park.

Lunch will be at 12:00 p. m. with music by Joe Miller at 2:00 p.m. and games to follow.

There will be a love offering taken for the afternoon concert.

Everyone is asked to bring a side dish.

Donations accepted to purchase hot dogs, hamburgers and buns

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 AT 6:00 P.M.**

**KID'S NIGHT OUT**

**Hot Dog Roast**



**FELLOWSHIP + CONNECT**

**Pumpkin Decorating Contest**

**FUN & GAMES**



**Come join us as we put the emphasis on the children of our church and community**

# OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

## MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS OCTOBER 1

Special Music: A.M. Betty Odum P.M. Jack & Nina Shepard  
 Greeters: A.M. Kathy Papa/Lottie Smith P.M. Terry Wiseman Sr.  
 Projection: A.M. Jessica Elkins/Carla Ramage P.M. Jason Elkins  
 Sound: A.M. Brad Clayborne P.M. Stanley Elkins  
 Video: A.M. Clayton Ramage P.M. Marshall Ramage  
 Ushers: Robert Smith, Matt Macy, Noah Wiseman, Terry Wiseman Sr.  
 Nursery Volunteers: Kathy Cook/Lea Ann Wright  
 Finance Team: Stanley & Marilyn Elkins, Dorris Johnson

## MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS OCTOBER 8

Special Music: A.M. Jessica Elkins P.M. Stanley & Marilyn Elkins  
 Greeters: A.M. Richard & Yvonne Graham P.M. Leonard & Connie Sadler  
 Projection: A.M. Verna Fuller P.M. Verna Fuller  
 Sound: A.M. Brad Clayborne P.M. Jason Elkins  
 Video: A.M. Jason Elkins P.M. Clayton Ramage  
 Ushers: Curly Ralls, Jacob Wright, T.J. Macy, Mark Smith  
 Sunday School Nursery Volunteers: Madison Wright & Mary Clayborne  
 Church Nursery Volunteers: Robert & Nancy Smith  
 Finance Team: Stanley & Marilyn Elkins, Leonard Sadler

## MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS OCTOBER 15

Ushers: Robert Smith, Matt Macy, Noah Wiseman, Terry Wiseman Sr.  
 Sunday School Nursery Volunteers: Kathy Cook & Lea Ann Wright  
 Finance Team: Stanley & Marilyn Elkins, Dorris Johnson

## MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS OCTOBER 22

Special Music: A.M. Harley & Madison Schnaare P.M. Missionary Service  
 Greeters: A.M. Terry Wiseman Sr. P.M. Missionary Service  
 Projection: A.M. Verna Fuller P.M. Missionary Service  
 Sound: A.M. Brad Clayborne P.M. Missionary Service  
 Video: A.M. Clayton Ramage P.M. Missionary Service  
 Ushers: Curly Ralls, Jacob Wright, T.J. Macy, Mark Smith  
 Sunday School Nursery Volunteers: Madison Wright & Mary Clayborne  
 Church Nursery Volunteers: Robert & Nancy Smith  
 Finance Team: Stanley & Marilyn Elkins, Leonard Sadler

## MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS OCTOBER 29

Special Music: A.M. Abby Barlow P.M. Fellowship Connect  
 Greeters: A.M. Richard & Yvonne Graham P.M. Fellowship Connect  
 Projection: A.M. Verna Fuller P.M. Fellowship Connect  
 Sound: A.M. Brad Clayborne P.M. Fellowship Connect  
 Video: A.M. Clayton Ramage P.M. Fellowship Connect  
 Ushers: Robert Smith, Matt Macy, Noah Wiseman, Terry Wiseman Sr.  
 Nursery Volunteers: Kathy Cook/Lea Ann Wright  
 Finance Team: Stanley & Marilyn Elkins, Dorris Johnson



# ANNA NAZ



LOVING AS JESUS LOVED. GIVING AS JESUS GAVE.

EPHESIANS 5:25

**REAL...RELEVANT...RELATIONAL**

## Anna First Church of the Nazarene October 2017 Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion AM Service	2	3	4 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	5	6	7 Missionary Rally at Royalton 7 PM
8	9 COLUMBUS DAY Church Office Closed	10	11 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	12 Board Meetings Sunday School Board 6:15 pm Church 7:00 pm	13	14
15 S.S 9:30 a.m. Church In The Park 12 PM - Lunch 2 PM - Joe Miller Concert	16	17	18 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	19	20	21
22 Missionary Service NYI Spaghetti Dinner 6 PM	23	24	25 Family Bible Study 6:30 pm	26	27	28
29 AM Service Prison Ministry Guest Speaker  PM Service Fellowship Connect	30	31				