

The Lord Jesus has enabled us to serve in the following capacity:

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EVERYTHING THAT GLITTERS ISN'T GOLD

In Southern Mexico, there is a place called “*Cave of the Lighted House.*” The path to the cave is through a tropical forest adorned by diverse kinds of birds. The cave is fed by twenty underground springs of water where many colorful fish live. The cave shows its’ spectators beautiful rock formations and ponds of water. The environment is so precious that, with only a glance, you feel invited to come in. However, if you accept the invitation, you will be dead in no time. Why? The answer is because the air in the “*Cave of the Lighted House*” is contaminated with poisonous gases. This reminds me of the saying: “everything that glitters isn’t gold.” That is how sin works as well. It presents itself as something attractive and beneficial, but, in reality, it is poisonous and lethal for our body and soul.

That is why Paul reminds us in **Romans 6:23** that “*the wages of sin is death.*” The Bible even gives us insight regarding the way that sin works, in **James 1:13-15**, “*When tempted, no one should say, ‘God is tempting me.’ For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.*” We have all, at one point, been deceived by the temptation of sin. That is why God sent His only Son to pay the penalty of death that we incurred as a result of our sin. He not only is our Savior, but also our example to resist the temptation of sin, as it says in **Hebrews 4:15**, “*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin.*” That same power that enabled Jesus to resist sin is at work in us as well. Be confident that you are able to submit to God and “*resist the devil*” (**James 4:7**).

God has given us the tools necessary for fighting against sin and temptation, knowing that we sometimes can fall prey to sin’s deceitfulness. Not only did He give us His powerful Spirit to help us in our weaknesses (**Romans 8:26**), but He also provided us with Spirit filled disciples to help us recognize sin in our lives, when our decisions are guided by our hearts and not by the Spirit of God. The Bible teaches us, in **Hebrews 3:12-13**, “*See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.*” We have a responsibility to make sure that our brothers and sisters are walking in the light. That means that we need to be around each other. Our lives need to be open books, so that our souls can be protected from the devil’s schemes. True fellowship is not just a gathering between Christians; it is also designed to protect us from the evil one. It is part of God’s plan to protect us from sin.

Remember that the devil is a liar and will not get tired of trying to deceive you. Sin will sometimes look attractive, but we must be guided by the Spirit, growing in our knowledge of the Word of God, and taking advantage of the wisdom of mature Christians around us, so that we can be able to distinguish good from evil. Finally, do not forget to bring everything to God in prayer. It is He who has finally opened our eyes to see the truth behind everything that surrounds us. May the wisdom and power of God enable you to overcome the temptation and deceitfulness of sin!

Charlie Gómez

“Speaking about what we have seen and heard...” *Mark 5:19 Family Matters*

- Get ready for the Fifteenth Biennial **Women's Day**, May 19th. This year's theme is "Cultivating your Faith." Prepare your minds to learn from awesome lessons that can benefit you in your walk with the Lord. Registration will take place beginning April 1st through April 22nd.
- **Men's Retreat at Shelter Island** - Hosted by the East End Church of Christ (Jim Condon Minister) from April 13-15, 2007.

Excel In Your Skill

By Robert Young Jr.

1 Chronicles 15:22 Says that Kenaniah the head Levite was in charge of the singing; that was his responsibility because he was skillful at it.

In reading this passage of scripture I began to think about our congregation. Have you ever stop to think that those who are put in charge or appointed to carry out particular tasks in the church have been put in those positions because that is their skill. Or maybe conversely viewed the reason why you are not in a particular job is because you are not skillful at it. We can be absolutely sure that God has blessed each one of us with at least one talent/ skill (**Romans 12:3-8**). If you are not sure of what your skill or talent is in the church pray that God makes it clear to you. Also seek counsel from your mentor as well. Once you have pin pointed your talent excel in putting it to good use. In the past I have had a worldly mindset and thought some jobs in the church were more important than others, but God tells us differently. God tells us that, “there are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.” It does not matter if you are ministering from the pulpit or behind a closed door God is going to use the talent(s)/ skill(s) He has blessed you with to bring Glory to His name. Allow God to use you in your “area of expertise” without looking at some other brother or sister excelling in their talent thinking “I want to do that.” Glorify God with the skill(s) he has given you and excel in it. AMEN!

“The Lord added to their number...” *Acts 2:47 Baptisms*

DATE	NAME	TOWN
02/10/07	Kerry Robinson.....	Queens
02/19/07	Nadia Tintera	Central Islip
02/20/07	Judy Martin.....	Central Islip

“They first gave themselves to the Lord...” *2 Corinthians 8:5*

Weekly Budget: \$ 8,000

DATE	ATTENDANCE	CONTRIBUTION
02/04/07	282	\$ 9,426
02/11/07	301	\$ 7,358
02/18/07	272	\$ 8,529
02/25/07	245	\$ 7,770

The Great Commission Mission

Cindy Camberis

My most recent mission trip was, once again, a reminder that there are a lot of people out there who are hurting and who haven't heard yet about the Good News of a Savior, who loves and adores them **and** even has great plans for them! No, I didn't go to India, China, or Africa. I didn't even board a plane for this mission trip...no! This trip was 20 minutes from my home and I make it there every Monday through Friday - it's my workplace. The reality is, as disciples of Christ, we're all on a mission trip. This is a lifetime mission trip because wherever we go, or more literally "as we go", we are commanded to "*make disciples*" according to **Matthew 28:18**.

The Bible teaches us that, as disciples, we become "*fishers of (wo)men*" (**Matthew 4:19**) and the same way that a fisherman's first step is to "lure" in a fish, our job is to "lure" in or attract others interests towards God and His Word. A lure is something that creates a desire for, distracts, and attracts something to it. **We** are the lure that God uses to attract others! **You** specifically are being called to attract those around you to the Gospel of Christ, through your words, your actions, and through using your particular opportunities, gifts, and talents.

My recent re-entry into the workforce has been a great reminder of the precious gifts that I've been given in Christ and how powerfully they impact those around me. Basic principles of Godly teachings sufficiently equip us towards highly impacting others. Simple gestures, such as kind words, a positive attitude, concern for others, and generosity are powerful, especially amongst people in the world around us. **Matthew 5:16** says "*In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.*" "*Good deeds*" are **not** what people are accustomed to seeing, or being the beneficiary of, so it really gets their attention!

Naturally, people may praise you for your kindnesses and they may say things like "you're such a nice person", "you're so thoughtful!" etc... That's your opportunity to let them know that it's God who's made all the difference in you...**there's** the attraction to Christ **through you**. Just be careful not to let the praises be to your Glory and allow them be to God's glory. Use each circumstance to plant a seed, to "lure" or attract people closer to Christ than to you. Be sure to strive to be consistent in these things. "*Good deeds*" are not going to help others give glory to God, if they're done inconsistently or if they appear hypocritical to the rest of your behavior. In **1Timothy 4:16**, we're reminded that knowing the right Doctrine (the Word), **AND** living it out, is going to have such a powerful impact on others around us to the point where we will help them be saved...how? By attracting them to the only One who can completely save them - God alone!

What a great responsibility we have. What a joy it is to know that we get to share the love of Christ with those around us. As true disciples' of Christ, our impact on those around us is powerful!!! Wherever we are and whoever we're coming into contact with is another opportunity for us to attract others into knowing Christ, through our words, actions, and teachings. Where's your next mission trip...the supermarket, the neighborhood, a school meeting, your workplace, a family gathering? Be sure that, wherever it is, you keep in mind that it is **your** mission field. Go make a difference everyday, in every circumstance available, and you will truly be blessed to "*make disciples*", as you go!

“For the building up of the Body...”

Ephesians 4:12

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 📖 We will not meet for Wednesday night Bible class on March 14th (Long Island and City).
- 📖 Devotional Services: March 9th and March 23rd @ 8:00 PM, here in the chapel. Please come early to fellowship and to encourage one another.
- 📖 If you would like to order a cassette tape of a past sermon or seminar, please see Rob Dixon.
- 📖 If you would like to send a Church bulletin or a Bible study to an interested relative/friend on a regular basis, please contact our brother Jack Peisel.
- 📖 All announcements should be submitted to Derek Peterson. Address/telephone changes can be e-mailed to directory@licoc.org.
- 📖 **Parking reminder** - Public Safety has issued a statement requesting that all church members and visitors **refrain** from parking on any **grass areas** beyond the parking lots surrounding the chapel. Thank you for your cooperation.

MISSIONARY SUPPORT

- ✝ Apologetics PressInternational
- ✝ We Care Ministries.....West Monroe, Louisiana
- ✝ Ron Clayton.....India
- ✝ Oswaldo Sanchez.....El Salvador, Central America

“Your faith toward God has gone forth...”

1 Thessalonians 1:8

COMMUNITY BIBLE CLASS MINISTRIES

Long Island Ministry.....(Wednesday 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.).....Robert Carr.....(631) 348-7322
New York Institute of Technology Chapel, Carleton Avenue, Central Islip, N.Y.

City Ministry.....(Wednesday 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.).....Pedro Gelabert(347) 392-4339
Individual House Churches

Spanish Ministry.....(Tuesday 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.).....Charlie Gómez.....(631) 772-2889
New York Institute of Technology Chapel, Carleton Avenue, Central Islip, N.Y.

UPCOMING KINGDOM EVENTS

For anyone wanting to use his/her vacation in a fruitful way, take a vacation to help bring souls to Jesus. :) Join a “We Care Ministry” soul winning team and help bring people to the Lord. Learn the techniques of the “We Care Ministry” team leaders: Larry West, Willie Tolison, and Bill Oden. Room and board will be provided. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Bob Carr.

We Care Campaign Itinerary

2007	Location
March 21-April 1	Smithville, TX
April 18-April 29	Fremont, CA
May 30-June 10	Waynesboro, VA