

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

It's that time of year! Know what I am talking about? It's time for football. Earlier this month Thom Rainer, President of Lifeway Christian Resources wrote an interesting article in which he listed 11 differences between a college football fan and a church member. I wanted to share it with you and if you can't say "amen" at least say "ouch".

Warning: The article below is a bit of sarcastic humor. I am speaking in hyperbole to make a point. The football fan noted represents a very rabid football fan. The church member represents some, but certainly not all, church members.

1. A college football fan loves to win. The typical church member never wins someone to Christ.
2. A college football fan gets excited if a game goes into overtime. A church member gets mad if the pastor preaches one minute past the allocated time.
3. A college football fan is loyal to his or her team no matter what. A church member stops attending if things are not going well.
4. A college football fan is easily recognized by his or her sportswear, bumper stickers, and team flags. Many church members cannot even be recognized as Christians by people with whom they associate.
5. A college football fan pays huge dollars for tickets, travel, and refreshments for games. A church member may or may not give to his or her church.
6. A college football fan reads about his or her football team every day. A church member rarely reads the Bible once in the course of a week.
7. A college football fan attends the game no matter how bad the weather is. A church member stays home if there is a 20 percent chance of rain.
8. A college football fan invites others to watch the game every week. A church member rarely invites someone to church.
9. A college football fan is known for his or her passion for the football team. A church member is rarely known for his or her passion for the gospel.
10. A college football fan will adjust gladly to changes in kickoff time. A church member gets mad if his or her service time is changed by just a few minutes.
11. A college football fan is loyal even if he or she never gets to meet the coach. A church member gets mad if the pastor does not visit for every possible occasion.

Yes, I admit I do enjoy college football. But we should love Christ's church even more. We need to demonstrate that reality more readily. Do we?

Until next time,

Joe

SENIOR CRIER

SEPTEMBER



PLEASE JOIN US
SEPTEMBER 16TH
"SAVE OUR SENIORS"
WATCH FOR MORE INFO
AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE

FROM BRO. TIM:

Hello everyone. This month I wanted to share with you one of my devotionals that I read lately by Chuck Swindoll...so here it is:

Idols by Charles R. Swindoll
[Genesis 35:1-4](#)

We can make an idol out of anything or anyone in life. A church building can become an idol to us, when all the while it is simply a place to meet and worship our Lord—nothing more. Your child can become your idol . . . in subtle ways you can so adore that little one that your whole life revolves around the child. Your mate or date can be given first place in your life and literally idolized. Your work can easily become your god . . . as can some pursuit in life. A house, a lawn, an antique, a car, a letter in sports, an education, a trip abroad, an achievement, and even that goal of "retirement" can so grip your heart that it becomes your Nehushtan.

Don't miss my point. There's nothing necessarily wrong with any of these good things. To possess them—any or all of them—is not sinful. But it is sinful when they possess us! Therein lies the difference. It's that sort of thing that turns a golden dream into a hollow chunk of bronze.

Honestly now . . . can you testify to the fact that you've destroyed the idols? Can you really say you are free from bronze anchors? That Christ reigns without a rival? Or would you have to admit to a personal shrine in your inner temple where you privately burn incense?

"Where your treasure is," says the Lord, "there your heart will be also" ([Luke 12:34](#)), and "out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks" ([Matthew 12:34 NIV](#)). What does that actually mean? What you invest your time and treasure in, what you talk about, what you keep returning to in your mind reveals what's really on your heart. It's just that simple.

Your Lord and Savior wants to occupy first place. [Matthew 6:33](#) says that when He has it, everything else "will be added to you." How long has it been since you've enlisted your Lord's help in a private, personal temple-cleansing session? It's so easy to get attached to idols—good things, inappropriately adored. But when you have Jesus in the center of the room, everything else only junks up the decor.

"He is also head of the body, the church," wrote Paul, "and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything"

([Colossians 1:18](#)).
Did you get that? First place in everything. Everything.

Excerpted from *Come Before Winter and Share My Hope*, Copyright © 1985, 1988, 1994 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights reserved worldwide. Used by permission

Blessings, Pastor Tim

Jer. 29:11 NIV

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- [SEPT. 1ST](#) - Tom & Donna Evans
- [2ND](#) - Chris & Kay Deason
- [4TH](#) - Wilton & Tommie Thomas

- [SEPT. 9TH](#) - Bill & Wynona Trevarthan
- [11TH](#) - Larry & Nancy Skaggs
- [13TH](#) - Mike & Shoran Potter
- [14TH](#) - Gary & Wanda Wilson
- [15TH](#) - Dick & Debbie Coburn
- [17TH](#) - Ron & Linda Yates
- [18TH](#) - Pat & Mae Patterson
- [19TH](#) - Randall & Lisa Stevenson
- [20TH](#) - Greg & Susan Illig
- [24TH](#) - Elmo & Penelope Douglas
- [27TH](#) - Ronald & Lori Clark
- [29TH](#) - George & Cathy Lastinger
- [30TH](#) - Barbara Thompson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- [SEPT. 1ST](#) - Marilyn Carmichael
- [4TH](#) - Linda Willcox
- [6TH](#) - John Siebler
- [6TH](#) - Pat Tipton
- [6TH](#) - Karen Tusing
- [7TH](#) - Donald McGovern
- [7TH](#) - Jeannie Preston
- [8TH](#) - Betty Bloodsworth
- [8TH](#) - Mike Ellis
- [8TH](#) - Linda Yates
- [10TH](#) - Leann King
- [10TH](#) - Wynona Trevarthan
- [12TH](#) - James Thomas
- [14TH](#) - Jean Marshall
- [14TH](#) - Bill Newcomb
- [14TH](#) - Don Piper
- [15TH](#) - Ana Betancourt
- [15TH](#) - Cathy Lastinger
- [16TH](#) - Voncile Johnsey

- [SEPT. 18TH](#) - Bob White
- [19TH](#) - Gene Carter
- [20TH](#) - Randy Allen
- [21ST](#) - Marshall Carlton
- [23RD](#) - Jeff Powell
- [24TH](#) - Verdellia Elbon
- [25TH](#) - Kathy Bloodsworth
- [25TH](#) - Juanita Bradley
- [25TH](#) - Jerry Hines
- [25TH](#) - Rose Powell
- [26TH](#) - Debbie Baucom
- [26TH](#) - Lollie Friar
- [26TH](#) - Mellie Morris
- [29TH](#) - Darlene Galbraith
- [30TH](#) - Kellie Rendek

DATES TO REMEMBER

[SEPT. 16TH](#) - "Save Our Seniors"
9:00 AM – 11:00 PM
There will be several speakers on topics relating to Senior Adults. No costs. There will be a break and refreshments. Watch for more Details.

[OCT. 26TH – 30TH](#) - Annual Trip
Pigeon Forge, TN
Bal. due Sept. 4th

CHRISTIAN LOVE & SYMPATHY

Peggy & Wade Thomas & Family in the death of her sister, Marie.
Inez Keen & Family in the death of her sister.