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## What is Valley Station Church?

It is a group of Christians determined to be pleasing to God. How do they do this? They do all in their power to follow the teaching of Jesus Christ with no changes, additions, subtractions or alterations.

It is a group of Christians that claim no human denominational affiliation — just Christians working and worshipping together at the Lord's word teaches. If you need Christ as your Lord and Savior, we believe you will find him among the Christians at Valley Station.

**Come and see.**

The **VALLEY TIDINGS** is published monthly by the church of Christ, meeting at 1803 Dixie Garden Drive, Valley Station, Kentucky 40272

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#### Assemblies

Sunday Bible Class 9:30 A.M.  
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.  
Wednesday Bible Classes 7:30 P.M.  
Ladies Class, Thursday 10:00 A.M.

Visit Valley at [www.vscoc.org](http://www.vscoc.org)

Dudley Ross Spears, Editor and Evangelist

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# Valley Tidings

## Set For The Defense of the Glad Tidings

Volume X, January 2009, Number 1

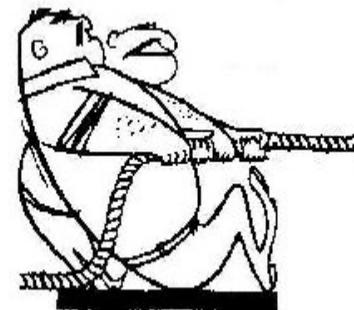
Sir Edmund Burke wrote: "When bad men combine, the good must associate, else they will fail, one by one, an unpitied sacrifice in a contemptible struggle."

The world today is no better than it was when this man lived and the need for more and stronger association by good people is as important now as ever in our lifetime. But this is the "do it my way," "leave me alone" generation.

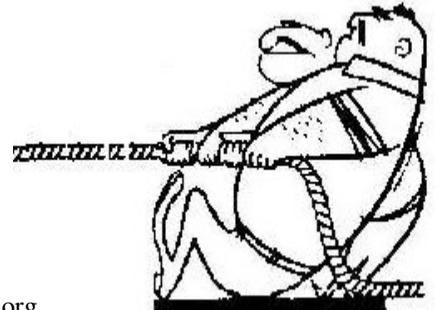
Long ago the fallible nature of humans was noted by a prophet. He said, "I know, O Lord, that a man's way is not in himself; nor is it in a man who walks to direct his steps" (Jer. 10:23). He immediately turned to the Lord and said, "Correct me, O Lord, but with justice; not with thine anger, lest thou bring me to nothing."

We can learn from the ancient prophet's words, if we will. It is always easier to accomplish anything with help. The help we need is from on high and if we are willing to pull together in life for what is good and right, we will please the Lord and overcome the bad.

Let the Lord in His word direct us all, and let us all work together. This congregation is set to follow the Lord's word without addition, subtraction, or alteration. We hope this appeals to those of you who still receive this paper. If so, come visit us. If you are interested in a further study of the Bible on a more individual basis, give us a call or drop us a note. Our number is 502 937-2822. Our address is P.O. Box 72380, Louisville, KY



**Pulling Together is Better**



Visit our Web Site—[www.vscoc.org](http://www.vscoc.org)

# HOW TO MAKE A CONGREGATION GROW

Aside from all the hoop-la and promotion of entertainment, congregations can grow by remaining true to scriptural guidelines. There is an old adage, "If you convert folks by hamburgers and cokes, you have to keep them converted with hamburgers and cokes." Here are a few suggestions that will help us grow.

1. Speak to people before and after Bible study and worship. Not just to those you seem to gravitate to -- seek out new faces and spend some time presenting yourself to them. Let them get to know you as a person interested in them.

2. Call people by name. One of the friendliest gestures in the world is conversation beginning with someone's name. That means you have to get acquainted.

3. Show sincere interest in new people who visit us. If they have children, offer to help them find the class they would be best suited for.

4. Find out where people live, work, or attend school. You may be surprised to find they live, work, or attend school near you.

5. Plan an outing with new comers or plan to have them to your home for a social visit

6. Offer to provide whatever service may be needed which you can do. It may be that you could car pool to worship or pick up their children for Bible study.

7. Show that you are interested in the cause of Christ. That will mean for some of us regular attendance at all services. It will also mean showing a keen interest in the Bible classes and worship.

Do we want to grow? I sincerely hope so -- but all of us have to show that we do. Growing congregations is not like growing weeds but like growing a tender plant. Maybe that's why denominational organizations grow so rapidly and we don't. They don't plant the pure gospel seed of the kingdom and we do and must.

It takes very little spiritual care to make spiritual weeds grow but the church of Christ is not a weed - it that which God planted (Matt. 15: 13). Paul planted a church in Corinth; Apollos watered it; God made it grow (1 Cor. 3:6-8). That can happen right here at Valley Station --DRS



# TRASH IT!

The religion of Christ is designed to bring people together in one body and change their lives. The fact that Christianity is so designed implies that there are differences that must be removed and changes that must be made. Neither of these come easy.

Religious differences can rise to the crescendo of sarcasm, innuendo, and malice, rather than rational study of truth. There is a sure cure for religious difference -- revealed truth, pure and unadulterated. Those determined to allow truth to settle every dispute hardly need to resort to low level verbal assaults.

To the contrary, when one has no foundation of truth on which to build faith he may indeed resort to bitterness and sarcasm. Neither has any place in approved Christian conduct. The best place for those ungodly things is in the trash. Here are some things to trash.

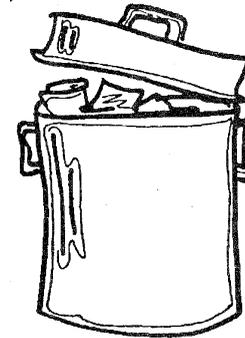
*"Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers"* (Eph 4:29). Trash ugly talk!

*"Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you"* (Eph 4:31-32). Trash malice!

*"But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth"* (Col 3:8). Trash anger!

*"Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds"* (Col 3:9). Trash lies!

Joseph Parker said, "Never throw mud. You may miss your mark, but you will have dirty hands." It is always right to be truthful; it is never right to be abusive and cruel. We all need a good trash can. -- DRS



An angry man opens his mouth and shuts up his eyes.



**A soft answer turneth away wrath; But a grievous word stirreth up anger—Prov. 15:1**