

# CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## IN COLONIAL VILLAGE

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September 24, 2008

Dear Brother or Sister in Christ:

This Sunday (September 28<sup>th</sup>) we will start our Sunday School Explosion. This Saturday (September 27<sup>th</sup>) we will be having "Sundae's on Saturday", a meet your teacher day and ice cream social. We hope you will be able to join us between 1 to 4 p.m. but if not we certainly look forward with great anticipation to your participation in our Sunday School Explosion at Colonial Village.

You are receiving this correspondence because you have been identified as a recent convert at Colonial Village and I will be teaching very special "Basic Concepts" classes on Sunday mornings for people who like yourself have recently been added to our church family. This class will be open to everyone because some long-time members who may have missed Lester's teaching on this subject the past few years may want a refresher course. We will be meeting in the Nursery on Sunday mornings (Continental Breakfast 8:30 a.m., Devotion 9 a.m., Class Sessions 9:20 a.m. to 10 a.m., Share session afterwards).

This purpose for this particular class or small group will be to help guide new Christians in spiritual growth and help them find and use their talents in the work of the church. Some specific goals we have will be to:

1. Begin additional Bible instruction on the fundamentals of our faith and discipleship following baptism (Matthew 28:20).
2. Encourage recent converts to attend Bible classes and to participate in ministry work as they discover their S.H.A.P.E. (Ephesians 4:1-16, 1 Corinthians 16:13-24)
3. Encourage mature Christians to form close associations with recent converts ("Yokefellows", Philippians 4:3).

Nothing is more important to the newly added Christian than the knowledge of God's word. God once said of the Jews, "*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I will reject you...*" (Hosea 4:6). Just as the lack of knowledge of God's word destroyed those people, it will destroy Christians also.

Paul told Timothy, "*Be diligent (study) to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing (handling aright) the word of truth*" (2 Timothy 2:15). As members of the Lord's church we must rightly divide or properly

" the churches of Christ salute you" Romans 16:16

handle the word of truth. It is easy to study the Bible improperly. It was proper knowledge that showed you how to become a Christian. It told you how to worship God. It will also tell you how to live for God, how to serve God, and how to work for God. Proper understanding of scripture will teach you everything you need to know to be saved (II Timothy 3:16-17).

We know that you will enjoy studying God's word with us. This Sunday we will begin with a basic overview of what the class will be about, the materials and tools that will be used in our study sessions, and interactive ideas about how we can expand and further refine our studies. I am thankful for the opportunity to begin this walk of faith with you, and in the words of the apostle Peter:

*"Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious" (1 Peter 2:1-3).*

We look forward to your attendance, participation, and fellowship in our joy of faith. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

In His Service,

Kennya F. Durr  
*Assistant Minister*

Cc: *Lester Carter*  
*Eugene Carter*