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#### Service Times

##### Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.  
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.  
Sonshiners: 4:45pm

##### Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

##### Preacher:

Russ Earl

##### AM Sermon:

Fulfillment in Christ (Col 2:8-12)

##### PM Sermon

Paul Praschnik

##### Sunday AM Bible Class:

Living on the Lord's side – R. Earl

##### Wednesday Bible Class:

Praschnik

##### The Gospel of Christ TV Program

on Saturday @ 7:30am on Channel 53

##### BibleWayMediaMedia.org

Daily podcasts available on our website  
& mobile app

The Oologah church of Christ only uses  
the **KJV, NKJV or ASV** translation of  
the Bible in classes & sermons.

## The Oologah Informer

May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### GOD'S PLAN FOR EDIFYING THE CHURCH (#1)

By Jesse Dickison

The church is alive and is made up of thinking, feeling people. Each congregation has a distinct personality and character which is determined by the combined attitudes and actions of the members. A church will either grow or die-- there is no sitting still. To sit still is to go backward. Many churches of our Lord have committed spiritual suicide by inactivity. The church was designed by God and was never intended to die (Eph. 3:10-11). God has a plan for church edification. It is found in Ephesians 4:1-16

1. The church must work for unity (Eph. 4:1-3). Religious division, in or out of the church, is a hindrance to spirituality. Jesus prayed for unity that the world might believe (John 17:20-21). The teaching of the Holy Spirit, when followed, produces unity (Eph. 4:3). Unity is not an accident looking for a congregation where it can happen. Each member must share the responsibility for “keeping the unity of the Spirit.” *Unity must also be desired (Psa. 133). Unity results from common belief. It cannot be legislated into existence. An agreement to disagree obviously does not promote unity. Unity must be achieved on the congregational level.*

2. The church must speak the truth (Eph. 4:15). Teaching is necessary to the establishing of a congregation. On the day of Pentecost people gladly received the word and were baptized. Thus the Lord added them to the church (Acts 2:40-41, 47). The church in Antioch (of Syria) was the result of God's Word preached, believed and obeyed (Acts 11:19- 21). The church cannot survive if it ceases to preach and teach the truth-- God's Word! The church cannot belong to Christ if it exists on the foundation of the idea that “all things are relative and there is no absolute truth.” Read John 8:31-32.