

Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2026.10.25

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Sermon recordings

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Speaker-AM: Josh Vinyard

Title: Envy

Recording:



Speaker-PM: Donovan Bale

Title: Righteousness

Recording:



**A HEART AT PEACE
GIVES LIFE TO THE
BODY, BUT ENVY
ROTS THE BONES.**

- PROVERBS 14:30 -

The heavens declare his
righteousness, And all the
people see his glory.

Psalm 97:6

Articles

To the Gentiles Also, 10/23/2026 by Edwin Crozier

When Peter returned to Jerusalem after baptizing Cornelius and his family in Caesarea, some Jewish Christians were furious. How could Peter, a faithful Jew, eat with uncircumcised men? So Peter explained the whole story.

He told about the vision of unclean animals. He told about the message Cornelius received from the angel. He told about the incredible events when he started preaching to the Gentiles.

And for all the negative things we often say about “the circumcision party,” in this case, they did exactly what they should have done. “When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, ‘Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life’” (Acts 11:18 ESV).

That statement gives me goosebumps. “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted the repentance that leads to life.” Praise the Lord! I’m a Gentile. He has granted me the ability to repent and find life.

Recall that in Luke 24:47, Jesus had said: “repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations” (ESV). Jesus really meant that. He didn’t just mean go find the Jews in every nation and teach them to repent. He meant tell people of every nationality. We are all free to repent and find salvation in King Jesus.

Since I think most of the people reading this article are Gentiles, I thought today would be a good day to remind us of this great news. Today would be a good day to thank God for giving His promises not only to the seed of Abraham, but also to us. Praise the Lord!

Singing With Purpose, 6/29/2025 By Sam Bunyard

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord” (Col. 3:16). “...be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” (Eph. 5:18-19).

The point is often made about what the text does NOT say – there is no reference to instrumental music as a part of Christian worship. But what should we learn from what the text does say?

1. The purpose of our singing. We are “speaking” to one another, which implies that the sounds we make must make sense (cf. I Cor. 14:15)! We should understand the message of the song, or our singing will not be effective! We are “teaching”. The words we sing must have an instructive goal. And we are “admonishing” one another – warning each other through song.

2. The audience of our singing. The primary audience to our singing we usually consider to be God (both texts say “to the Lord”). This means our singing should be full of reverence and consideration of God’s great name. But in function, we are also singing to one another — so we must sing loudly enough for each other to hear! It’s not about how good we sound, but whether we are able to fulfill the purpose of our singing (point 1, above).

3. The content of our singing. If our singing is for these purposes and to these audiences, then the content of our songs really matters! We should think critically about the songs we sing and if they really help us to fulfill our goals in worship. Are the words profitable for teaching (cf. II Tim. 3:16) and glorifying God (cf I Pe. 4:11)? Which is to say, are they founded in scripture? If so, then let’s sing!