

OCTOBER 2026

- 3 1st Saturday Prayer, Zoom
Meeting ID: 825 3345 6625;
Passcode: GCCPRAYS
- DRC2 Jurisdictional Meeting (follows prayer)
- 4 1st Sunday: Holy Communion and
Dedication of Choir Robes
- 9 Bishop's Ball Celebration (*filled*)
- 11 Pastoral Appreciation Service with Special
Guest Speaker, Bishop Roderick Hennings
- 12 Columbus Day
- 17 Grief Chat @ 7:00pm
Zoom: 825 8130 6861 / PW: GriefChat
- 18 Kingdom Kafe
- 19 Elevate Bible Study
- 25 Clergy Appreciation Lunch (*tentative*)

THIS MONTH'S SERVICES & PRAYER

Sunday Services: 8:00am & 11:00am

In-person / YouTube

Sunday School: 9:45am (Hybrid)

Wednesday @ 7:00pm - WOW - YouTube

PRAYER:

Monday - Friday: 7:00-7:15am (via Phone)

Sunrise Devotion Prayer

667-770-1536; Playback 667-770-1535

Access code, 315531

9:00am (onsite)

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Monday's @ 6:30pm

Prayer & Bible Band (via Phone)

717-908-1985, code 358237



7 STEPS TO THE KINGDOM

1. **Greeting:** "Hello, may I have one minute of your time?"
2. **State:** "Did you know that Jesus Christ is Lord? Well, He is and wants to be your Lord and Savior. He loves you. A lot of people want to be saved but don't know how."
3. **Say:** "Romans 10:9 says; if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."
4. **Ask:** "Can you say Lord Jesus?"
5. **Pray:** "Lord Jesus, Forgive me of all my sins. I believe You died on the cross, were buried and rose on the third day. Right now, I open the door of my hart to You and receive You as my personal Lord and Savior."
6. **Question:** According to the prayer you just prayed...where is the Lord? **Answer:** "in my heart".
7. **Confirmation:** (when the correct answer is given share 1 John 4:4) Greater is He that is within you than he that is in the world.

- **Welcome them to the family of God**
- **Encourage them to join a bible teaching and believing church**
- **Invite them to service with you!**

FAITH FOCUS

OCTOBER 2026

CLERGY *Appreciation* MONTH

Honoring those who
help us become
who God has called
us to be.

Greater Community
Church of God in Christ
406 Roswell Street NE
Marietta, GA 30060
770.590.8510 www.gccogic.org
Bishop Matthew L. Brown, Pastor-Teacher

Welcome and God bless you!

Holiness does not mean the absence of struggle, it means we no longer have to surrender to it. Every believer encounters the tension between flesh and Spirit, temptation and transformation, conviction and compromise. But we are not fighting alone! Through prayer, disciplined living, freedom in Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit, we can live lives that please God. This month, we pursue holiness, not through human perfection, but through daily surrender to the Spirit.

Holiness is not pretending there is no struggle. Holiness is choosing who will rule us **in the struggle**. The flesh says surrender; the Spirit says overcome. Sin says bondage; Christ declares freedom. Shame says hide; conviction calls us home. Prayer keeps us connected, discipline keeps us focused, the Word keeps us grounded, and the Holy Spirit gives us power to live differently.

As we celebrate Clergy Appreciation Month, let us also thank God for pastors, elders, ministers, missionaries, teachers, and spiritual leaders who preach the Word, pray for God's people, model holiness, and labor faithfully for the Kingdom.

Honor those who help us become who God has called us to be.

I am called to holiness. I am not condemned, I am being transformed.

Sin will not have dominion over me.

I discipline my flesh, renew my mind, and guard my heart.

I choose prayer over panic, conviction over compromise, and obedience over appetite.

I am free in Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

I will walk in the Spirit, bear the fruit of the Spirit, and honor those who faithfully serve God's people.

I am holy in the struggle, free through Christ, and victorious through the Spirit!

Stay in His face and journey well!
+Bishop Matthew L. Brown, Th.D.

Daily Scriptures: Meditate in Context of Choosing Hoiness in the Midst of the Struggle

WEEK 1: CALLED TO HOLINESS

October 1 – 1 Peter 1:15-16

Holiness is not merely what we avoid; it is becoming more like the God who called us.

October 2 – Romans 12:1-2

Transformation requires surrendering our bodies and renewing our minds.

October 3 – Hebrews 12:14

Pursue peace and holiness intentionally.

October 4 – 2 Corinthians 7:1

God calls us to continually cleanse our lives from what contaminates spirit and flesh.

October 5 – Psalm 51:10

A holy life begins with a clean heart, a renewed spirit.

October 6 – Matthew 5:8

Purity of heart changes how clearly we see God.

October 7 – 1 Thessalonians 4:3-4

Sanctification teaches us to govern ourselves in ways that honor God.

WEEK 2: UNDERSTANDING THE STRUGGLE

October 8 – Romans 7:18-19

Spiritual maturity begins by admitting that good intentions alone cannot conquer the flesh.

October 9 – Romans 7:24-25

Our struggle is real, but Jesus Christ is our deliverance.

October 10 – Romans 8:1-2

In Christ, conviction can lead to transformation without condemnation.

October 11 – Galatians 5:16-17

Walking in the Spirit gives us power to resist the desires of the flesh.

October 12 – James 1:14-15

Recognizing temptation early helps prevent destructive choices later.

October 13 – 1 Corinthians 10:13

God always provides grace and a way of escape in temptation.

October 14 – Ephesians 6:12

Some battles require spiritual weapons because the struggle is deeper than what we can see.

WEEK 3: PRAYER & DISCIPLINE OF SELF

October 15 – Matthew 26:41

Watchfulness and prayer strengthen us when the flesh is weak.

October 16 – 1 Corinthians 9:27

Discipleship requires disciplining our desires rather

than allowing our desires to discipline us.

October 17 – Luke 9:23

Following Jesus requires daily self-denial.

October 18 – Psalm 119:11

God's Word hidden in our hearts strengthens our resistance to sin.

October 19 – Philippians 4:6-7

Prayer replaces anxious reactions with God's guarding peace.

October 20 – Colossians 3:5

Some things cannot be managed—they must be put to death.

October 21 – 2 Timothy 1:7

The Holy Spirit produces power, love, and self-discipline.

WEEK 4: FREEDOM IN CHRIST

October 22 – John 8:36

Freedom in Christ is not theoretical—whom the Son sets free is free indeed.

October 23 – Romans 6:6-7

Our old identity no longer has authority over our new life in Christ.

October 24 – Romans 6:12-14

Grace does not give sin permission; grace gives us power to resist its dominion.

October 25 – Galatians 2:20

The surrendered life allows Christ to live through us.

October 26 – Galatians 5:1

Christ freed us to live free—do not voluntarily return to former bondage.

October 27 – 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty and continuing transformation.

WEEK 5: VICTORY THROUGH THE SPIRIT & HONORING THOSE WHO SERVE

October 28 – Romans 8:13-14

Through the Spirit, we put sinful practices to death and learn to live as God's children.

October 29 – Galatians 5:22-25

Victory becomes visible when the fruit of the Spirit becomes our lifestyle.

October 30 – Hebrews 13:7, 17

Remember, respect, and pray for spiritual leaders who faithfully watch over God's people.

October 31 – 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

Appreciate those who labor among you, care for you in the Lord, and faithfully serve God's people.