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# The Messenger



“... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15

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A Weekly Publication of the Christians Meeting at  
2291 Highway Z, Wentzville, Missouri  
Dedicated to the Proclamation of the Truth in the Spirit of Love (Ephesians 4:15)

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Listen to PROVE ALL THINGS on 730 AM WKRE, Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 8:30		

## The Christian's View of Death vs. The World

*by Dempsey Collins*

1. The world thinks of death as the end.  
A Christian sees death as the beginning (Luke 16:22; Luke 7:59).
2. The world sees death as final.  
A servant of the Lord recognizes death as a departure (I Tim. 4:6).
3. The world views death as a burial.  
A child of God understands that death is the separation of the spirit from the body (James 2:26; Eccl. 12:7).
4. The world sees death as an end of associations.  
A saint of God knows at death there is fellowship with the Lord (Phil. 1:23) continued in a better place (Rom. 14:8).
5. Loss – Gain (Phil. 1:21)
6. Curse – Blessing (Rev. 14:13)
7. A cross – A crown (II Tim. 4:7)
8. Final arrival – “Departure” (II Tim. 4:6)
9. Unfortunate – Precious in the sight of God (Psalm 116:15)
10. Defeat – Victory (I Cor. 15:57)
11. Time to leave home – Time to go home (Heb. 11:10)
12. Losing wealth – Gaining the riches (I Tim. 6:18-19)

13. End of the road – Embarking on a new journey (II Tim. 4:6)
14. Termination of life – Termination of earthly life (Eccl. 12:1-7, 13, 14)
15. Time of leaving – A happy union and reunion (Luke 16:22; Gen. 25:8)



## Wii GOSPEL

by Al Diestelkamp

Nintendo's Wii video game system allows those of us who have abandoned most forms of exercise to "pretend" to go bowling in our living rooms, in a virtual reality setting. Instead of lifting a heavy ball the "bowler" uses a hand-held controller the size of a TV remote and goes through the motions as if bowling a real ball. It can be very satisfying when you end up with a better score than you ever get at the bowling alley.

The idea is that this is better for you than other video games in that you're at least supposed to get up out of your easy chair to play the game. I was buying into that concept until one of my friends beat me without ever getting out of his chair. It's beside the point, but I was also beat by a child who wasn't big enough to lift a real bowling ball.

This convinced me that someone whose only bowling experience was with this video game would surely be disappointed if they ever tried *real* bowling.

It occurred to me that many churches have developed an appealing alternative to the *real* gospel of Christ – sort of a *virtual gospel* (Gal. 1:6-7). With it no heavy lifting of obedience is required. Instead of a Bible, their "controller" is a handy "statement of faith" written by men. Those who "play Wii church" are entertained, and at the same time impressed with their ability to master what they *think* is "spirituality."

After being spoiled by the hype and convenience of "Wii gospel," those who have never been exposed to the real gospel of Christ, as revealed in the New Testament, are likely to be disappointed if they ever get around to giving it a hearing.

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### **News and Notes:**

Reminder: Bible Study – Every Tuesday @ 10 a.m. (Old Testament) and @ 7 p.m. (Romans)

Remember to check the prayer list for those with ongoing spiritual weaknesses and physical illnesses.

“...Pray for one another...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”  
James 5:16