

## **If I Be Lifted Up**

Years ago in Northern India, a Methodist Bishop was preaching to a group of natives, all seated on the ground. He told how the Christ who loved the whole world and who came to serve others was abused by men. Jesus was mocked and spat upon. He was taken before Pilate and condemned to death at Calvary. He described the sufferings of Jesus on the way to the cross and on the cross. He told how his friends deserted him. Finally, he told how Jesus, in the midst of his agony, cried out: "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do!"

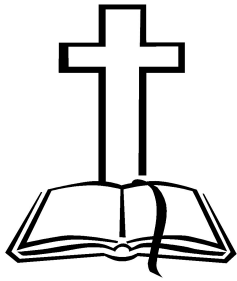
When the preacher reached this point in his sermon, an old Hindu priest could stand it no longer. He rushed forward, threw himself at the preacher's feet and said, over and over again: "We want you to leave India. We want you to leave India." The old priest was asked: "Why do you want me to leave India?" "Because we have no story like this," he replied. "We have no Savior who lived a sinless life, who died for his enemies and prayed for the forgiveness of those who took his life. If you keep telling this story to our people, they will forsake our temples and follow your Savior."

Jesus predicted: "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." The apostle John adds: "He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die" (Jn. 12:32-33). In Christianity the shedding of blood is done by God the Son for the sake of mankind. This is unique in all the religions of the world. It is such a foolish notion, by the world's standards, that it must be true (1 Cor. 1:18-3:23). Let us forever keep the cross of Christ at the center of our proclamation (1 Cor. 2:1-2).

Joel Stephen Williams

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# LEACHVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST



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**Ministers:** Raymond Lasley and Josh Vires  
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## Sunday, May 28, 2017

<p><b>Prayer List Updates</b></p> <p>Carroll Towell – strength is improving but still weak</p> <p>Jimmy Towell – had tests; awaiting results</p>  <p><b>Birthdays</b></p> <p>Louise Cagle Williams      May 28          Carson Towell                      June 1</p> <p><b>June's Service Assignments</b></p> <p>Announcements: Raymond Lasley          Scripture Reading: Justin Beach</p>	<p><b>Upcoming Events</b></p> <p>June 9      workday for church yard and hedgerow</p> <p>June 11      Drawn by Love at 7<sup>th</sup> and Mueller church of Christ in Paragould (ladies' event)</p> <p>June 20-22 VBS</p> 	<p><b>Correspondence Course Ministry</b></p> <p>week of May 22-27:          14 lessons graded</p> <hr/> <p><b>June Haiti Needs</b></p> <p>oatmeal          fingernail clippers</p> <hr/> <p><b>Attendance Last Week</b></p> <p>Sunday morning: 57          Sunday evening: 35          Wednesday evening: 39</p>
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## Weekly Service Assignments

<b>Sunday Morning</b>		Bible class: 9:45 am worship: 10:45 am	<b>Sunday Evening</b> 6:00 pm	
First Prayer	Larry Brooks		First Prayer	Matthew Sills
Announcements	Josh Vires		Closing Prayer	Raymond Lasley
Scripture Reading	Raymond Lasley		Lord's Supper	Ken Beach Rudi Cagle
Lord's Supper	1. Braden Drury 2. Rudi Cagle	3. Jerry Bolar 4. Justin Beach	<b>Wednesday Evening</b> 7:00 pm	
Second Prayer	Ken Beach		First Prayer	Rudi Cagle
Closing Prayer	Matt Greer		Closing Prayer	Joel Ingram