

Welcome to the Family



**Mike and Sharon Garlock
Madison, Brady**

Bible Study Small Groups

-Group 'Reveal' Night
is tonight after 5pm Worship



GREAT OAKS

Breakfast & BIBLE CLASS

(with 500 of your favorite people)

September 10th

Breakfast at 8am

Bible class starts at 9am



GREAT OAKS
CHURCH OF CHRIST
IGLESIA DE CRISTO

- Church Picnic – Saturday,
September 16
- “Two Languages, One Faith”
Sunday, September 24

40 Days of Prayer



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October 15 - November 23

-2023 Theme – “Increase Our Faith!”

Reason to Believe...



Reason to Believe... in God





Reason to Believe... in Scripture



Reason to Believe...
in Jesus

Who is Jesus?



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- Jesus claimed to be God in the flesh.

John 10:30-33

³⁰ I and the Father are one.”

³¹ The Jews picked up stones again to stone Him.

³² Jesus answered them, “I showed you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you stoning Me?”

**All verses from 1995 New American Standard*

John 10:30-33

³³ The Jews answered Him, “For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out *to be* God.”

John 8:58-59

⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am.”

⁵⁹ Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.

John 14:9

⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been so long with you, and *yet* you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how *can* you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

John 19:6-7

⁶ So when the chief priests and the officers saw Him, they cried out saying, “Crucify, crucify!” Pilate said to them, “Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no guilt in Him.”

⁷ The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and by that law He ought to die because He made Himself out *to be* the Son of God.”

Who is Jesus?



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- The big question all of us must answer: Matthew 16:15

Matthew 16:15-16

¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

Some Reasons Christians Believe



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1) Jesus' life is confirmed by history.

Josephus

“He [Ananias] convened a meeting of the Sanhedrin and brought before them a named James, the brother of Jesus, who was called the Christ, and certain others. He accused them of having transgressed the law, and delivered them up to be stoned.”

-Jewish Antiquities, XX 9:1 by Josephus

Josephus

“About this time there lived Jesus, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he was one who wrought surprising feats and was a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many of the Greeks. He was the Christ. When Pilate, upon hearing him accused by men of the highest standing among us, had condemned him to be...

-The Antiquities, xviii.33 by Josephus

Josephus

crucified, those who had in the first place come to love him did not give up their affection for him. On the third day he appeared to them restored to life, for the prophets of God had prophesied these and countless other marvelous things about him. And the tribe of Christians, so called after him, has still to this day not disappeared.”

-The Antiquities, xviii.33 by Josephus

About AD 90

Tacitus

“Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilate, and a most mischievous superstition, ...

Annals, XV.44

Tacitus

thus checked for the moment, again broke out not only in Judaea, the first source of the evil, but even in Rome...Accordingly, an arrest was first made of all who pleaded guilty: then, upon their information, an immense multitude was convicted, not so much of the crime of firing the city, as of hatred against mankind.”

Annals, XV.44

Some Reasons Christians Believe



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2) The many prophecies and the big story of Scripture fulfilled in His life.

John 5:39

³⁹ You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me;

Luke 24:27

²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

Some Reasons Christians Believe



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3) The resurrection – no other explanation makes sense.

Romans 1:1-4

¹ Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called *as* an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,

² which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures,

Romans 1:1-4

³ concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh,

⁴ who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,

Some Reasons Christians Believe



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4) His life did amazing things that we would expect God to do,

Some Reasons Christians Believe



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things that changed the world forever!

John 5:36

³⁶ But the testimony which I have is greater than *the testimony of* John; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish—the very works that I do—testify about Me, that the Father has sent Me.

Some Reasons Christians Believe



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Examples:
His words

Some Reasons Christians Believe



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Examples:
Miracles

Some Reasons Christians Believe



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Examples:
Goodness

Some Reasons Christians Believe



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Examples:
Saving the World

Some Reasons Christians Believe



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Examples:
Influence



Reason to Believe...
in Jesus



Listening to Jesus

John 14:6

⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

John 8:24

²⁴ Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins.”

Luke 13:3

³ I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

John 3:5

⁵ Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; ...

John 8:31-32

³¹ So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine;

³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”