

February 6, 2005 A.M.

Preached by Dr. L.D.Kramer at  
Rejoice Christian Center

**“THE CHALLENGE OF THE SPIRIT”**

**“Winning Souls”**

Text: “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.”(Prov. 11:30 KJV)

“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.” (Prov. 11:30 NIV)

**INTRODUCTION:** Winning Souls is everyone's job Jesus said “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”( Mark 16:15,16)

“ Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men [are], extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. 12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. 13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as [his] eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified [rather] than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.(Luke 18:10-14)

**I. SIX STEPS TO ETERNAL LIFE:**

**A. STEP ONE: A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD**

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;” ( Romans 3:23)

**B. STEP TWO: EVERYONE GETS PAID**

“For the wages of sin [is] death; but the gift of God [is] eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)

**C. STEP THREE: RECEIVING IS MORE THAN BELIEVING**

“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, [even] to them that believe on his name:” {power: or, the right, or, privilege}. (John 1:12)

**D. STEP FOUR: YOU OPEN THE DOOR**

“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me”. (Revelation 3:20)

**E. STEP FIVE: YOUR PRAYER**

“And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as [his] eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.” (Luke 18:13)

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved”. (Romans 10:13)

**F. STEP SIX: YOUR CONFESSION**

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” (Romans 10:9,10)

**II. THE APOSTLES' CREED, TRADITIONAL VERSION**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

**III. ASK FORGIVENESS TO THE ONES YOU WRONGED:**

**“I ACTED WITHOUT THINKING”**

I acted without Thinking  
And behaved a bit unwise.  
In looking back I feel that I should  
Now apologize.

I yielded to the moment,  
Rushing to the wrong conclusion.  
The words and deeds resulting  
Caused unhappiness, confusion.

Sometime we move in haste  
Without examining the facts  
And launch ourselves into  
The most unfortunate of acts.

I feel that I reacted  
In a manner I regret.  
This clearly was a moment  
I'd be happy to forget.

But since I can't go back in time  
And past mistakes ignore,  
I'd like to say I'm sorry  
And apologize once more.  
— Bruce B. Wilmer

Benediction: “The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace— Num. 6:24-26