



#### Schedule of Services

##### Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30 AM

Worship 6:00 PM

##### Wednesday

Bible Study 1:30 PM

7:00 PM

[www.collinsvillecoc.org](http://www.collinsvillecoc.org)

*For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth... in every place. (1 Thessalonians 1:8)*

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## Collinsville Church of Christ

February 15, 2017

# Moving to Higher Ground

**T**he Lord, when He was here on the earth, was always looking to elevate the lives of those whom he came in contact. Jesus never wanted people to live mediocre lives, but He always pushed people to elevate their lives to higher ground. Today, He wants His followers to continue to move to higher ground, especially in the area of our spiritual lives. How can we move to higher ground as the people of God?

1. Keep improving and growing in our spiritual lives. When Jesus was a young boy, He *increased in wisdom, and stature, and in favor with God and man* (Luke 2:52). Jesus did not stay at the same level while He was on the earth, He grew. Every Christian should be improving and growing as we walk with God. Here are some self-examining questions we need to ask ourselves to see if we are moving to higher ground in our spiritual lives:
  - a. Over the past few years, have I been able to do more things for the cause of Jesus Christ, or am I stuck in the same rut of doing the same things over and over?
  - b. Am I possessive with the work in which I am involved, or am I willing to train others to do what I do? Do you think you are the only one who can do your particular work?
  - c. Have I added any other talents or abilities to the one's I have, or have I buried what has been provided to me by the Lord?
2. Is my knowledge of the word of God stronger than what it was last year? Am I growing in the grace and knowledge of the Lord? Do I have a better understanding of Biblical concepts today, than I had last year? This knowledge of God's word only comes through study.
3. Have I taught a soul the gospel? Another sign of moving to higher ground is having the ability to

teach someone else the gospel. The Hebrew's writers reprimanded the Hebrew Christians because by the time of the writing of the letter, they should have been teachers (Heb. 5:12).

Let each of us prepare ourselves spiritually to move to higher ground.

-K.A. Pugh

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When driving on hilly, country roads, you need to be very careful when you top the hill. You cannot see what is on the other side and must be alert about what might be there. Years ago, a young man came over the top of a hill and heard a loud "pop" as he and another vehicle passed one another. He quickly slowed to a stop as he saw the other vehicle through his rear view mirror continue on down the road. As he looked out to see through his side mirror, he realized that the vehicles had come so close that his mirror was hit and broken off. That was a close call.

As we journey through life there are many close encounters with danger. We must always be alert for the dangers of temptation and sin that are lurking ahead. Satan is always there to take advantage.

*Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.* 1 Peter 5:8 ESV

Pray for wisdom to recognize temptation and strength to overcome. Live holy before God today and every day.

TLM

Collinsville Church of Christ  
1400 Troy Road  
Collinsville, IL 62234  
Phone: (618) 667-6708  
Email: [collinsvillecoc@att.net](mailto:collinsvillecoc@att.net)