

# Crystal River church of Christ

**Bob Dickey, Evangelist**

**REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2010**

Dear brethren,

Charlotte and I wish a Happy New Year for all of you. We hope your work for the Lord there will prosper and that you will continue to be blessed. We both are greatly blessed because of your trust in us and your fellowship in the gospel.

**EXCITING NEWS--A HELPER**---We have just learned that George Hickman, a friend of Charlie Graham's, has agreed to move here sometime in the late spring to help in the work. Thankfully, he will be able to move into the small dwelling that the church owns next to the meetinghouse. We have felt guilty for buying a house for ourselves south of Crystal River, causing their house to be empty. George will receive the house and utilities from the church, but will have to bring his own support in order to move here. Charlie had run a request for a young preacher to live in the house and to work with me, later changing the ad to "young or old." George of course, is older--near retirement age--and will bring much experience that will help us greatly. Charlie continues to be weak as he struggles with heart troubles.

**WEST CITRUS MEETING**---The elders of the West Citrus congregation, just a little north of town, have invited me to hold a 3 day meeting for them in February. They seem to be such a nice group of people. A few of our families seem to be disgruntled that former members here have gone to West Citrus over the past few years. I hope that I can help improve the relationship of the two congregations. It would be so nice if I could help the two congregations merge into one, but I know that it is often difficult for brethren to turn loose of an old building to unite as one.

**TROUBLED COUPLE AGAIN**---I have continued to try and help the troubled young couple that I mentioned in my recent reports. She left her husband some time ago to live with this young man. I have studied with them, and have told her she has no right to marry him. She has indicated her need to go back and restore her former marriage (her first husband wants her back), but this young man is not willing to part with her, threatening suicide if she tries to leave him. I can tell that she is conflicted, and uncomfortable when they come to our worship services, but we are remaining firm about the change they have to make to be right with God. I do hope that this will be resolved in a righteous way, but the young man is not just a threat to himself, I fear he may do something to threaten her safely or my own. I have preached on their sin when they have been present, and I know that he is very agitated towards me. It reminds me of the threat against my life that I faced a few years ago in Indianapolis. The Lord was with me through that ordeal, and I must continue to trust Him, like the early disciples trusted the Lord in difficult times.

**PUBLISHING SOME MATERIALS**---I heard from an old friend recently about the desire to publish some of my class materials and booklets. It will not be good as far as making much income from the effort, but I told him that I will try to get a few of these into his hands later on this year, hoping that the lessons might prove to be helpful to others. I know I could not be doing the work that I am without the generous help of those who care about us. We love and appreciate you for that!

*Bob*