

## Accountability, An Avoided Character Trait

by Josh Blackmer Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Palm Beach Gardens, FL

In 2014, Brazil hosted the World Cup of Futbol (soccer). The pride of Brazil was dashed when Germany crushed their team in an unheard-of 7-1 victory. Five of the goals were scored in the first thirty minutes, with four of those being made in a seven-minute span. After the game, the defeated coach, Luis Felipe Scolari, made this statement, “The catastrophic result can be shared with the whole group, but the choice and who decided the tactical lineup — I did. The person who is responsible is me... I am sorry we couldn’t give the fans happiness,” he said. “We didn’t get it and I ask all of Brazil to forgive me” (“Brazil’s Coach Shows How to Lose” by James Joyner). He left the field in tears. It took great moral fortitude to be accountable to an angry nation for such a humiliating loss. When we’ve done wrong, will we stand and be accountable? The more popular choice is to pass the blame, deny, avoid, dodge, deceive, lie and elude any kind of responsibility for our actions. We might be able to elude accountability, but there will come a time when we cannot. Everyone will give an account before God for all the things done in the body, good or bad (Rom. 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10). In light of that inevitable date, we should know the following three things.

One, we need to know when we are accountable. There is an age or mental capacity at which we become accountable for our actions (Deut. 1:39). When we are able to discern between good and evil is when we are then accountable for our actions (Jas. 4:17). Innocence is what mankind lost in the garden.

We need to know who we are accountable for. We are accountable for our own actions (Ezek. 18:20; Rev. 20:12). In the eyes of God, we can’t place our blame to others or take the guilt of others. However, there is the principle of the watchman. In this, we are held responsible if we don’t warn people of judgment (Ezek. 33:8). Meaning, we will both be at fault. Paul applied this to himself when he said that he was “free from the blood of all men” because he “did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God” (Acts 20:26-27). In like manner, there is a need to help those who are in sin, to restore them (Gal. 6:1; Jude 1:23). Parents are also responsible for their own children (Eph 6:4; Luke 17:1-4). We are accountable for ourselves, but we have a responsibility toward others.

Lastly, we need to know we are accountable to God. We will be judged according to the words of Christ (John 12:48-50). Nobody can hide from the word of the Lord (Heb. 4:12-13). Our hearts are always open before the eyes of the Lord (Jer. 17:10). What God has done in this world has left us “without excuse” on the day of judgment (Rom. 1:10).

## NEWSLETTER

Aug. 21, 2022

Mark Dailey, evangelist  
(716) 754-2752

minister@lasallechurchofchrist.org

## Schedule of Services

*Our current schedule is:*

Sunday Bible Class 10:00 AM

Sunday AM Worship 11:00 AM

*La Salle*  
church of Christ

*We Meet At*

1121 N. Military Rd.  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Phone (716) 283-1214

Website: lasallechurchofchrist.org

We seek to be a place of healing and worship.



### We welcome all who are here today.

If you are a visitor we are honored to have you with us. Please fill out a *Visitor Card* (on the back of the pew in front of you). We would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in one of the receptacles provided at the front and rear of the auditorium. There will be an opportunity to give but as a visitor it is not expected of you. Thanks.



*There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs if you need to care for your infant.*



Read God’s Word

We offer a **free** Bible Correspondence Course

**Please keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent. Thank you.**

## Friendly Reminder - BLUE LIGHT

When the “blue light” is lit at the front of the auditorium before service begins it means “Quiet Please”

**Prayers** *In our prayers, let’s praise God, recognize His greatness, thank Him for His Son and His blessings.*

### James 5:16

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

*Please pray as we continue our search for a gospel preacher.*

*Let’s pray for the situation in the Ukraine and surrounding areas.*

**Anna Brink** (dealing with cancer) remains at Roswell for the time being.

Let’s pray not only for those that are physically sick but those that are spiritually sick as well.

Please keep our loved ones and their caregivers in your thoughts and prayers.

Let’s pray for our members that have ongoing health and other issues.

Let’s pray for family, friends, and loved ones of our members who are having health and other issues.

Let’s pray for our shut-ins, widows and widowers, and call, send cards, and be of service.

Let’s pray for those dealing with family situations as well as work situations.

Let’s pray for those dealing with weather related disasters.

Let’s pray for those of our number who are looking for employment.

Let’s pray for those that are traveling. May they have a safe journey.

Let’s pray for God’s people that are doing mission work all over the world.

Let’s pray for people the world over that we may all learn to get along with each other.

Let’s pray for those taking Bible correspondence courses at the present time.

Let’s pray for children, families, and the staff at *Potter Children’s Home and Family Ministries*.

Let’s pray for the work being done at Great Lakes Christian High School in Beamsville, ONT.

Let’s pray for our neighbors receiving *House to House/Heart to Heart* that they have receptive hearts.

### Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)*

**Aug. 21 Today.** Men’s Business Meeting

**Sep. 05** Labor Day

**Sep. 11** Men’s Business Meeting

**Sep. 18** Membership Meeting. Nominate men for trusteeship.

Weekly Budget Amount \$1,843.00

Contribution Last Sunday \$1,405.00

Attendance Last Sunday 39

Financial Reports and Meeting Minutes are posted in the back.

**Mission Info** Please check the *Mission Board* in the back.

### Ukraine Relief

John Kachelman, Jr. Cell (901) 626-4538 john@kachelman.com https://kachelman.com

**For updated reports go to John’s website and click on the tab for Mission Work.**

**Philippines** We support Caleb & Vanessa Callari doing mission work in the Philippines.

**Caleb Callari’s Radio Program** - “Everyday Follower”

Do a search on YouTube for: Everyday Follower, School of National Evangelism Philippines

### Zambia

The LaSalle congregation has been involved in the Zambia mission work for many years.

If you would like to help support the Zambian Mission, please place funds in the offering basket marked for Zambia. More information may be found at [www.zambiamission.org](http://www.zambiamission.org)

Matthew 19:14

*“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”*

### Attention Men

We encourage the men who participate in the service to use the microphone so as to be heard.

Examples of participating in the service include the Lord’s table which includes talking and praying. Please speak loud enough and please don’t mumble.

Another example is opening and closing prayer. Sometimes this is done from the pew.

Please speak up so as to be heard by everyone. The same is true for reading scripture, please speak loud enough to be heard by everyone. Thank you for your cooperation.

via House to House / Heart to Heart

### Thirsty?

Our physical bodies demand water. That shouldn’t surprise anyone since 55% of the male body mass is water (51% in women). Our blood is 83% water and muscles are 75%; even our bones are 22% water. Our survival depends on getting enough water, and just a 2% deficiency means we are dehydrated.

Thirst is a sensation we all experience but few can explain. All we know is that when we’re thirsty, we begin searching for something to drink.

How’s your spiritual thirst? Jesus pointed to this reality: “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water” ([John 7:37-38](#), NKJV).

Do you crave the righteousness of God, found in the pages of Scripture? How long has it been since you’ve had a drink? — Tim Hall

*As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.* **Psalm 42:1**