

## Pastor's Greeting May 2026

### Continuing in Jesus' word

**"Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.' " Gospel of John 8:31-32**

**This week there was a lovely story carried by BBC Radio on the life of Robert Finley, age 72. At age 5 he announced that he wanted to be a "blues" singer. His father said he could not, because the "blues" was the devil's music. Undeterred, Robert practiced singing in private, imitating all manor of music.**

**Discouraged from singing the blues by his father, Robert kept his practice away from his parents and wondered if his father was right about the " blues" music.**

**Robert learned carpentry from his father. Needing to earn a living for his family, music was set aside until he contracted blindness as the result of glaucoma at age 63. To earn a living he began to sing and play his guitar on street corners. He was playing "blues." Before long crowds gathered and he was earning decent money.**

**Robert Finley remembers fondly that his father taught him:**

**"You have got to believe in something or you will fall for anything."**

**Robert remembered this instruction and over a lifetime held to the teachings of Jesus. But for Robert, the "blues" was about life and truth. He decided to**

**"continue in Jesus' word and be a disciple" as he sang the Blues.**

**Robert also remembered his father said,**

**"Jesus might not come when you want Him, but He is always on time."**

**Robert Finley travels the world now with a band sometimes with his oldest daughter, sometimes with a granddaughter. His blues performances are joyful and deal mostly with spiritual issues. For seven years now Robert has been touring worldwide.**

**The Christian church has often declared that Jesus came at the right time for the world to accept the Gospel message. If we are discouraged with things in our world and we wish God would work in our time as when Jesus came to the earth. Robert's father is right, God might not act when we want, but God works at the right time.**

**Last week there was a vigorous debate in the news media and among certain political figures about the nature of the "Gospel." Continuing in Jesus Word is the work of Jesus' disciples. Our work. Robert Finley believes his delayed destiny is God at work in his life. Could this debate about the "Gospel" be a turning point in our world? I hope so.**

**Peace and Joy, Charles R. Bade**

