

A Guided Tour of United Methodist Tradition and History Resources for Lay Speakers  
April 25, 2009 David O. Kueker

John Wesley's Sermons: [http://wesley.nnu.edu/john\\_wesley/sermons/index.htm](http://wesley.nnu.edu/john_wesley/sermons/index.htm)  
<http://archives.umc.org/interior.asp?mid=1648>

John Wesley: *I am distressed. I know not what to do. I see what I might have done once. I might have said peremptorily and expressly, "Here I am: I and my Bible. I will not, I dare not, vary from this book, either in great things or small. I have no power to dispense with one jot or tittle what is contained therein. I am determined to be a Bible Christian, not almost, but altogether. Who will meet me on this ground? Join me on this, or not at all."*<sup>1</sup>

John Wesley's Journal: <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/wesley/journal.html>

Wesley resolved not to preach where he could not include everyone in class meetings for spiritual community: *I was more convinced then ever that the preaching like an apostle without joining together those that are awakened and training them up in the ways of God is only begetting children for the murderer. How much preaching has there been for these twenty years all over Pembrokeshire! But no regular societies, no discipline, no order or connexion; and the consequence is, that nine in ten of the once-awakened are now faster asleep than ever.*<sup>2</sup>

The Letters of John Wesley: [http://wesley.nnu.edu/john\\_wesley/letters/index.htm#vol1](http://wesley.nnu.edu/john_wesley/letters/index.htm#vol1)

To Vincent Perronet, December, 1748. Also known as John Wesley, "A Plain Account of the People Called Methodists," *The Works of John Wesley*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1979), 8:252-255. *Wesley says that in this 'Plain Account' the whole plan of the people called Methodists may be seen; not only their practice, but the reasons whereon it is grounded, the occasion of every step taken, and the advantages reaped thereby.*

Other Writings by John Wesley

A Plain Account of Christian Perfection: <http://gbgm-umc.org/UMhistory/Wesley/perfect.html>

#### OTHER INTERNET RESOURCES

Book of Discipline 2008 Online: <http://www.umcneb.org/administration/bookofdiscipline.htm>

<http://gbgm-umc.org/UMhistory/>  
<http://archives.umc.org/interior.asp?mid=1648>

Christian History Timeline: <http://www.ctlibrary.com/ch/2001/issue69/15.26.html>

Charles Edward White *The Rise and Decline of the Class Meeting* <http://myweb.arbor.edu/cwhite/mr/cm.pdf>

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<sup>1</sup>John Wesley, *Causes of the Inefficacy of Christianity* (Sermon 116) in John Wesley, *The Works of John Wesley*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1979), 7:287.

<sup>2</sup>John Wesley, "Journal" (August 25, 1763), *The Works of John Wesley*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1979), 3:144. This reflects a 90% loss of the faithful when there is worship available in the parish church without participation in a cell type community as a means of sanctifying grace.