

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	33
Attendance AM	70
Attendance PM	30
Wednesday PM	40

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Florine Thomas; Walter Tolley; Diane Cole (Norris) [Surgery 4/24]; Mary Sanders (home); Victoria Dudley; Jim Thomas; Katherine Willis; Richard Melson, Dollie Jones, Carlene Harley; Otis Adair

Prayer:

Traveling: Norris Cole, II; Ashley Thomas; Valerie Melson

Prayers:

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Birthdays: April—8 Beulah Farmer; 12 Diane Cole (Lyle); 23 Norris Cole; 23-Samule Jones, Jr.; 25 Carolyn Johnson; 30 Gladys Chittick;

Anniversaries— 1 Otis & Glenna Adair; C.D.& Judy Arnett

Ladies Reading Group:

Men's Meeting: Saturday May 1, 2021 @ 9:00 AM in the auditorium

Potters Children Home:

April 25	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Announcements	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Opening Prayer	Jerry Thomas	Walter Tolley
Song Leader	Patrick Thomas	Michael Blanks, Jr.
Lead Lord's Supper	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 1	Denzil Turner, III	Denzil Turner, III
Server 2	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Scripture Reader	James Grigsby	James Grigsby
Sermon	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Prayer for Responses	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Closing Prayer	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Greeter	Richard Melson, Jr.	Richard Melson, Jr.
Greeter		

A.S.A.P. = Always Say A Prayer

**"Pray without ceasing"
1 Thessalonians 5:17**

TO OUR VISITORS

Our goal in the church of Christ is to be the New Testament church, which you can read about in the Bible. We invite you to observe our worship assemblies, the doctrine that is taught and the structure of the church organization. Make a close comparison with your "church" and the church of the Bible -- **The Church of Christ**. We also invite you to join us as we strive to be the church of the Bible and restore New Testament Christianity.

**Needmore Road church of Christ
PO Box 13963
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998**

Place
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Visit our website at www.thelordsway.com/needmoreroad



THE EDIFIER

Volume 02

April 25, 2021

Issue 17

BIBLICAL VIEW OF LOVE

Richard D. Melson and Roy J. Hearn

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Meeting Location:

2211 Needmore Rd
Dayton, OH 45414

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30
Worship 10:30 A.M.
4:30 P.M.

~~1st Sunday~~

~~No 4:30 PM service~~

Wednesday

Bible Study
7:00 P.M.

Preachers

Richard D. Melson
937-321-3973
dr.rdmelson@yahoo.com

Walter Tolley

937-238-7752
walt944@aol.com

Ministers

All Members

Supporting

- Christian Courier on The Web
- Southwest School of Bible Studies: Austin, TX
- Memphis School of Preaching
- Greater Midwest Lectureship Dayton, OH
- Potter Children's Home

Many sermons have been preached on the subject of love, and in most cases have dealt with the emotions, a feeling of affection, while the real basis for love is often neglected.

Love is reciprocal. We love God because He first loved us (1 John 4:19). God showed His love for mankind in making him in His own image (Gen. 1:26). Man is above the beasts, for he has a soul, which is immortal. God has filled the earth with many wonderful things for man's enjoyment, like gold, silver, precious stones, minerals of many kinds, plus the wonders of nature. Above all the gifts is the Son of His love, the rare Jewel of heaven, for the redemption of our souls (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8). Christians can reciprocate in love by giving.

A Principle Stated. God made everything good. He needs nothing from man, "seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things" (Acts 17:25). Man can do nothing to add to God's comfort. How then can Christians express love for God? There is only one way: "This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments" (1John 5:3). "Hereby do we know Him if we keep His commandments" (1 John 2:3). Please observe in this passage "to know" God is to keep His commandments, and "to love" is the same. Substitute in First John 2:4: "He that saith I love Him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar and the truth is not in him." Jesus emphasized the same principle in John 14:15,21,23,24. "If ye love me keep my commandments." Regardless how much one claims to love the Lord, if he refuses to keep His word there is no love in him.

The gospel plan of salvation includes several acts of obedience by which one is saved. Nobody in the church of Christ would deny that to be saved one must: (1) believe in Christ as God's Son (John 8:24); (2) repent of sins (Acts 3:19); (3) confess faith in Christ (Matt. 10:32; Acts 8:37); (4) be immersed in water for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38); upon which he is added to the Lord's church. The place of the saved (Acts 2:41,47). Who in the church would argue that one of these acts could be omitted from the Plan of Salvation? Now apply this to the law of giving.

Law of Giving. Second Corinthians says, first, there must be a readiness of mind. Christ loved us and willingly gave himself for us. To give willingly is to express gratitude for the gracious Redeemer. This is reciprocal love.

Giving Must Be Done Cheerfully. Second Corinthians 9:7 says that God loves a cheerful giver. Those who really love the Lord will delight in giving. To them it is a source of joy. The Macedonians provide good examples. In their poverty, even beyond their power, they were willing to give, and gave themselves first to the Lord (2 Car. 8:1-5). All gifts and sacrifices must be made voluntarily.

(Continued on page 3)

