

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	26
Attendance AM	73
Attendance PM	36
Wednesday PM	32

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Walter Tolley; Ryan and Rita McGahee (COVID); David Cook; Richard Melson (shoulder); Rosella McGhaee (Maria Joseph); Otis and Glenna Adair; Clifford Holt; Richard & Florine Thomas; Carolyn Morrison; Jim Thomas; Rhonda Fox

**Traveling:** Norris Cole, II; Lectureship speakers

**Prayers:**

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:**

**Birthdays: October**— 2 Virginia Robbins; 5 Rhea Wallace; 6 Kevin Gilbert; 9 Victoria Dudley; 13 Norris Cole, II; 14 Patrick Cook; 16 Judy Arnett; 17 Dollie Jones; 26 Caden Vance

**Anniversaries: October**—

**Ladies Reading Group:**

**Men's Meeting:** First Saturday of month @ 9:00 AM in the auditorium

**Potter Children's Home:** Coin Cans collected week of October 17th

October 03	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
<b>Announcements</b>	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
<b>Song Leader</b>	Michael Blanks	Phil Tydings
<b>Lead Lord's Supper</b>	Patrick Thomas	Anthony Grigsby
<b>Server 1</b>	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
<b>Server 2</b>	Anthony Grigsby	Norris Cole
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Denzil Turner, III	Anthony Grigsby
<b>Sermon</b>	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
<b>Prayer for Responses</b>	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
<b>Greeter</b>	Richard Melson, Jr.	Richard Melson, Jr.
<b>Greeter</b>		

**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  
Stamp  
Here

**Visit our website at <https://www.needmoreroadcoc.com>**



# THE EDIFIER

Volume 02

October 03, 2021

Issue 40

## LEADERS — I

Richard D. Melson

www.needmoreroadcoc.com  
Fax: (937) 401-0286

**Meeting Location:**  
2211 Needmore Rd  
Dayton, OH 45414

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday**

Bible Study 9:30  
Worship 10:30 A.M.  
5:00 P.M.

1st Sunday  
No 5:00 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

In this and several articles to follow, the goal will be to review leaders and leadership with the purpose to obtain a Biblical understanding of each word through Bible examples. When Jehovah makes one a leader, He gives him all that is necessary to lead; that is the authority to lead, and the means by which to lead.

A leader is one 'who leads, or guides' and according to the New Testament it is done example. "Shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; not yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock" (1 Peter 5:2,3 NASB).

God has revealed to us in His word the qualities that His leaders are to have and exemplify; also, the ones they are to avoid (e.g. 1 Tim.3:1-7,5:17-25; 2 Tim 2:24-26; Titus 1:5-10; 2:7). God has also by example provided direction for these leaders (Rom.15:4). One such example is Caleb the son of Jephunneh (Num. 13:6 NKJ) of the tribe of Judah (Num. 13:6).

Brother J.J. Turner in the July, 1981 edition of CHRISTIAN BIBLE TEACHER magazine wrote about this leader and entitled it "Caleb: The Optimistic Leader". I want to share with you eight outstanding qualities he sighted from the life of Caleb that contributed to his success as an optimistic leader noting how these have application to leaders in the church.

- Respected by men among his people (Num. 13:1,2)
- Willing to accept a dangerous assignment (Num. 13:17-21)
- Had the ability to make proper evaluations (Num. 13:26-30)
- Being optimistic in the midst of pessimists (Num. 14:6,7)
- Trusting in God while others trust in themselves (Num. 14:8,9)
- Being a man of courage (Num. 14:10)
- Being successful, because you Follow God (Jos. 14:12,8,14)
- Continuing to serve God as an older man (Jos. 15:13-17)

I encourage our leaders to be like Caleb, be optimistic, be strong and courageous for the Lord, not to be like the 10 who were leaders, but were ineffective in their obligation and turned the people away from the blessings of God (Num. 13:31-14:5,26ff).

"But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it" (Num 14:24).

✍️

# Words of Wisdom For Youth ... 1 Timothy 4:12

## A Cracked Water Pot

A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on each end of a pole which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water in his master's house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do. After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you." "Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?" "I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.

The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path." Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologized to the bearer for its failure. The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of your path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house." Each of us has our own unique flaws. We are all cracked pots. But if we will allow it, the Lord will use our flaws to grace His Father's table. In God's great economy, nothing goes to waste.

- Glenn Hitchcock

## Treasures

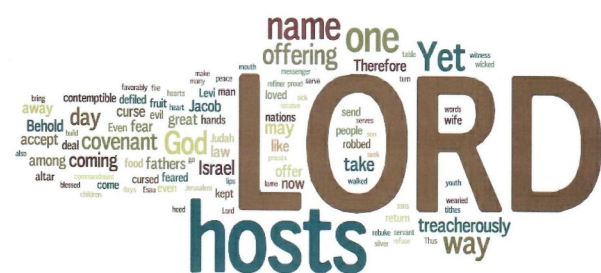


The word "treasure" is found 22 times in the New Testament and Jesus spoke nearly 75% of those occurrences. Jesus wanted us to focus on where we place our treasures—in other words, what do we treasure? He specifically instructed to stop laying up for ourselves "treasures on earth" (Matt. 6:19), for one "who lays up treasure for himself...is not rich toward God" (Luke 12:21).

It is so easy, tempting, natural and expected to place our emphasis in this life on our jobs, our homes, our possessions, our relationships, our recreation, etc. In and of themselves, none of these things are inherently wrong; however, when they become our focus of life, rather than seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, we are no longer "rich toward God"!

May God help us to stop and consider—am I more concerned about things of this life than I am about heavenly things and preparing myself for eternity with God?

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



Malachi

## Melson's Musings ...



### Qualifying Elders

The following guest editorial was written by Charles Hodge in 1984 and appeared in the Lancaster church of Christ (CA) bulletin on May 27. [Richard]

Read 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. For years scholars have argued over these verses -- are there qualities or qualifications? They are both! God gave the qualifications to describe the qualities -- the MAN GOD WANTS! Tragically we have stopped and stumbled over the legalities, must an elder resign if his wife dies? How many children? How old? Apostate children now in their 40's? LEGALITIES! Paradoxically, one can in a visual degree meet qualifications and not have qualities! Check out the Pharisees. Some leaders are even good men!

This is where qualities come into the picture -- principles, virtues, character! God says, "This is the man I want" The man! God's method is man! The qualifications are there to expose the qualities! Notice how the qualifications focus upon several virtues -- find these qualities in elders:

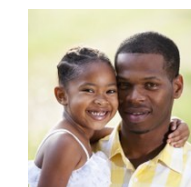
- 1) **INTEGRITY.** Pure, open, honest, fair, trusted, respected, vulnerable, compassionate, approachable, modeled.
- 2) **SENSE.** Not IQ! Common sense, wisdom, not tunnel vision. Broad based, team player, cooperative.
- 3) **VISION.** Ability to see ... talent in others, what simply needs to be done. Grasp of entire situation. Ability to see the "big picture".
- 4) **DISCIPLINE.** Self-control, ability to endure, no temper tantrum, patience, does not have to have his way. Does not dominate, manipulate, resort to power politics.

- 5) **SERVANT.** An elder exists for God, the congregation, not for himself. His not for glory but for service. He works out of humility not title. He cares, he prays, he serves.

— Charles Hodge

## Divine Artists

First-graders were asked to draw a picture of God in their Sunday School class. Their finished products contained some interesting theology. One child depicted God in the form of a brightly colored rainbow. Another presented Him as an old man coming out of the clouds. An intense little boy drew God with a remarkable resemblance to Superman. The best snapshot came from a little girl. She said, "I didn't know what God looked like, so I just drew a picture of my daddy."



## Wise Dad

During the frontier days, the driver of a covered wagon stopped his horses on the street of a young town and called to a passing man, "Hey, any saloons in this place?" "Sure, we have four!" the man replied boastfully. "Giddap," the driver shouted, urging his horses on. "Stop," called the man. "I can't stop here," replied the stranger, "I've got four boys in this wagon." "Why?" again called the man, "What's your business?" "My business is to raise these boys for God, and I can't do that in a town with four saloons." And he hurried his horses on, soon turning the bend in the road.

*"Is the young man ... safe?" 2 SAMUEL 18:29*

## NEWS AND NOTES

- Visit these online resources: [www.wvbs.org](http://www.wvbs.org) ; [www.apologeticspress.org](http://www.apologeticspress.org) ; [www.searchtv.org](http://www.searchtv.org); <http://gbntv.org/>; <http://kibbystreetcoc.org/index.php/let> (Let The Bible Speak); [www.thegospelradionetwork.org](http://www.thegospelradionetwork.org)
- View In Search of the Lord's Way— Dish network Sunday 7:00 am Channel 239; DirecTV Channel 307; GBN 7 PM
- Check out Tullstar Archives at <http://media.Tullstar.org> for lessons from faithful brethren.

## GOD'S PLAN FOR MAN'S SALVATION

*"Sirs, What must I do to be saved?" Acts 16:30*

- ♦ The Gospel Must Be Heard - John 6:44-45; Romans 10:17; John 8:32
- ♦ The Gospel Must Be Believed—John 8:24; Mark 16:16
- ♦ Sins Must Be Repented of — Luke 13:3,5; Acts 2:38
- ♦ Christ Must Be Confessed—Romans 10:10; Acts 8:37
- ♦ There Must Be Baptism (Immersion) for Remission (forgiveness) of Sins—Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21
- ♦ Christian Growth and Faithfulness—1 Peter 2:2; Revelation 2:10; 2 Peter 3:18