

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

|               |    |
|---------------|----|
| Bible Class   | 33 |
| Attendance AM | 83 |
| Attendance PM | 27 |
| Wednesday PM  | 35 |

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Katherine Willis (recovering from surgery); Pat Cook; Rachel Blanks; Samuel Jones (husband of Dollie, MVH); C.D. Arnett; Otis and Glenna Adair; Clifford Holt; Richard & Florine Thomas; Jim Thomas; Debbie Rowland; Carlene Harley; Rufus Poole (nephew of Naree Poole hospitalized in Maryland); LaVern Blanks (aunt of Dollie & Florine) at MVH; Steven Crane (hip); Kelly Fields; Stephine and Jacob Hoover

**Traveling:** Norris Cole, II;

**Prayers:** Carolyn Johnson; Deonna Cole (work)

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:** Richard Thomas family

**Birthdays: December**— 11 Nina Netheron;

Kimberly Tydings 15 Dwayne Eslick, Sr.; Dana Grigsby; Richard Melson, Sr. 18 Mike Blakley; 24

Mia Gilbert; 26 Theresa Wallace

**Anniversaries: December** — none

**Ladies Reading Group:**

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

| December 12                 | BRETHREN TO SERVE AM | BRETHREN TO SERVE PM |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Announcements</b>        | Patrick Thomas       | Patrick Thomas       |
| <b>Opening Prayer</b>       | Anthony Grigsby      | Anthony Grigsby      |
| <b>Song Leader</b>          | Patrick Cook         | Michael Blanks       |
| <b>Lead Lord's Supper</b>   | Steven Crane         | Steve Crane          |
| <b>Server 1</b>             | Jerry Thomas         | Jerry Thomas         |
| <b>Server 2</b>             | Denzil Turner, III   | Lyle Cole            |
| <b>Scripture Reader</b>     | James Grigsby        | Frank Brock          |
| <b>Sermon</b>               | Walter Tolley        | Walter Tolley        |
| <b>Prayer for Responses</b> | Walter Tolley        | Walter Tolley        |
| <b>Closing Prayer</b>       | Richard Melson       | Richard Melson       |
| <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

December 12, 2021

Issue 50

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
- Southwest School of Bible Studies: Austin, TX
- Memphis School of Preaching
- Greater Midwest Lectureship
- Potter Children's Home
- Midwest School of Preaching
- Central Carolina School of Preaching

## OUR NEED FOR THE BEST LEADERSHIP

Harvey A. Childress

The NEED FOR THE BEST LEADERSHIP in the world for the Lord's church is pointed up by some of the facts we face in the world today. The scientific study of God's world is increasing so rapidly we are told we double our scientific knowledge every fifteen years. That means we have 16 times as much scientific knowledge now as we had 60 years ago. We are told that 75 percent of all the scientists the world has ever had are alive today. We are told that there have been about thirty billion people on the earth since its beginning, and we have over three billion alive today. This means that 10 percent of all the people who have lived on the earth are alive now. Science has made it possible for a larger number of people to live longer, so we will see an increase of this percentage.

The NEED TO PREACH THE GOSPEL to every person on the earth challenges the greatest leadership the Lord's church can produce. To meet the needs of the world with the gospel we need leaders who are GOOD --- in character the kind of men God wants us to be. We need leaders who are BIG---in the way Jesus wants us all to be big. We need leaders who are INFORMED--- with the message we must communicate to the world.

**We Need Leaders Who Are Good!**

They will be the little leaven who will permeate the whole congregation with their goodness. (Gal. 5:9). They will set the tone of the work of the congregation---the atmosphere of the congregation issues from them. If they are wholesome, faithful, firm but kind, the whole congregation will have this atmosphere. Only GOOD men produce a healthy situation for younger members to follow.

**We Need Leaders Who Are Big Men!**

That is BIG in SPIRIT, in DEVOTION, and in DEDICATION to the cause of our Lord on this earth. They need not necessarily be big in fame and fortune, though men who have these things, but are big in SPIRIT, should not be ruled out. God is no respecter of persons. He will accept those in all situations who put Him first, but a man who has been successful in handling his personal affairs has established a pattern of success, and his knowledge may help the congregation to be more successful in its work.

The slogan of the IBM Co. is "THINK". Another company has added to that idea and come up with "THINK BIG!" Capable leaders of the Lord's work must think big, and be willing to make a big sacrifice of their time and effort to the Lord's cause, (Phil. 2:17). Since the congregation cannot outgrow its leadership we want men who are growing in their own greatness as they lead us.

**We Need Leaders Who Are Informed Men!**

They have received training (2 Tim. 2:2), so they know what the church is to teach the world so that it may be saved. (Tit. 2:1). We need men who know the difference in FAITH--that which is clearly spelled out in the Scriptures; in PRIVATE CONVICTIONS --personal conclusions one may draw from that which is not so clearly revealed: and in OPINION---that which is optional and incidental to the Lord's work, human judgments that cannot be bound upon another. When you have such well informed men they will not allow the congregation to be led astray by false teachers. And, they will not allow the Lord's work to be obstructed by hobbyists.

(continued on Page Three)

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

## My Portion of Goods

The parable of God's love to fallen man (commonly referred to as the "Parable of the Prodigal Son") found recorded in Luke, chapter 15, became a part of my storehouse (?) of Bible knowledge when I was but a young lad. I saw absolutely no relevance of it to my life: after all, had my father given me the entire estate, I couldn't have purchased a bus ticket to Tremont! (That was the next bus stop, going west from our town: it was about 10 miles down the road.)

But now that I've been around more than 50 years since first learning of the way things end up for rich (?) kids that take their inheritance and waste it on "wine, women and song," that beautiful parable has taken on a whole new meaning for me.

At the age of 17 (by two weeks) I left the protective love and care of my parents to enter college. Little did I realize at the time what a rich "portion of good" I was taking with me into that "far country" -- after all, Henderson, TN, and Freed Hardeman College were not one mile closer to Fulton, MS that our space shuttles travel on their missions!

As I reflect upon that journey into a "far country," I was submerged in self-pity. Instead of being grateful for the "riches" that I was carrying with me, I was feeling sorry for myself--perhaps a mite bitter. I was carrying with me exactly two changes of garments, a couple of bed sheets and a few other bare necessities. Oh yes, I had two one-dollar bills--they were to last until Thanksgiving.

But looking back after fifty years, my perspective has made a 180° turn. I now realize, to some extent at least, just what a "rich" kid I was. Oh, those "riches" wouldn't buy clothes, cokes, and tickets to the PTA-operated movie house: but they had a purchasing power that Howard Hughes' wealth could never equal.

Just to mention a few of those rich legacies: First of all, my parents shared with me in a very beautiful way their unwavering faith (trust) in God. In spite of nine mouths to feed and nine bodies to clothe in the depths of our nation's greatest depression, both of them always had a song in their hearts and on their lips. Somehow, they could see the rainbow beyond every cloud. Folks, that's a legacy that no amount of money could every buy.

Then there was the legacy of personal accountability. Early in life, I figured out that it was useless for me to try to convince my parents that my misdeeds were the fault of someone else. "Every tub must sit on its own bottom," was a household saying at our house. I only wish that my parents were still around so I could thank them for giving me my portion of goods that fell to me.

- Brad Brumley, Bulletin Digest, December, 1985

## God comforts the downcast

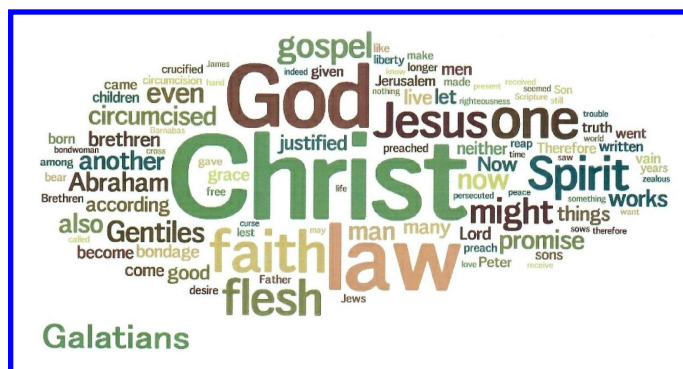


Here is how Paul described his state of mind in Second Corinthians chapter 7. He had had "no rest" (7:5). Sound familiar? He was "troubled on every side," as "outside were conflicts" and "inside were fears" (7:5). Truly, Paul felt "downcast" (7:6). Have you been there before?

But notice how verse 6 begins. While Paul was troubled, the next verse says, "Nevertheless God..." Think about that in your life. When you're dealing with "no rest," "trouble on every side," "conflicts" and "fears," NEVERTHELESS GOD! There is something (yea, SOMEONE) in your life Who is a steady, reliable, fortifying constant!

"Nevertheless God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus" (7:6). The word "downcast" indicates one who is "low on the ground." And when you are "low on the ground," God is there (always!) to pick you up and comfort you, through His Word, through His promises, through His presence and through His people! Don't ever forget that!

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson's Musings ...



(continued from Page One)

Good, strong, informed men will keep the church on the right track while accelerating its program of doing good that it may preach the gospel to the whole world in our generation. [This article was written in 1976]

## Quality Leadership

Time brings events that force decisions. The way in which we respond to our choices may be a delight or a detriment. We could reply with a political answer or an educational explanation, but to have a bright and blessed future, we must give a biblical reason.

How many men and institutions have taken bankruptcy and are suffering impoverished because of faulty leadership? Study 1 Kings 12:8 and 2 Chronicles 10:14. Consider Isaiah 3:4 and 12. The poet has summarized well by saying, "The child has become the father of the man." In schools, the teachers are afraid of the principals, the principals are afraid of the superintendents, the superintendents are afraid of the boards, and the boards are afraid of the parents, and the parents are afraid of the children. Thus, discipline is the number one problem in schools.

From the Bible we gleam the greatest leadership principles. In Matthew 12:41-45, we learn that when error is removed, it must be replaced with the truth. If not, "The last state of that man is worse than the first." (Matt 12:45).

The principle of capital punishment in Romans 12:4, is a deterrent to crime "for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness." (Isa.26:9). If these leadership qualities were practiced, our nation would be exalted because "righteousness exalteth a nation." (Proverbs 14:34).

## 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); <https://fun1071.fm>; soulofdayton.com (8:00 AM)
- 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

The church has not escaped these truths. The influence of the young is felt. Many women are desecrating and deserting their God given role and usurping authority over man. (1Tim. 2:12). The elders many times lack the wisdom and experience to catch and correct this eroding tide of "childishness" that is sweeping over the Kingdom of Christ.

To eliminate this softness in the church, we must have mature men who will study the Bible and elders who will execute the Bible principles of leadership. We must have godly women who execute Titus 2:3-5, and children who obey Ephesians 6:1-2.

If the world and the church are to be helped, we all must realize the validity of God's word (Jer. 10:23.) We must not attempt to put robes of righteousness on people while they are still in the hog pen of sin before they repent. (Luke 15:11-32; Acts 17:30). As God rules in the church, so he rules in the world, therefore, all men are subject to His Word and He demands obedience to His Word. (Dan. 5:21; John 12:48; Acts 10:34-35).

- Bill J. Graddy

Listen every Sunday morning to the weekly radio program: **Landmarks for Living**. It broadcasts on **98.7 FM**, or at [www.soulofdayton.com](http://www.soulofdayton.com) each Sunday morning at 8:00—8:30 AM. Plan to listen in if possible.

### Elder/Pastor/Bishop/Shepherd Installation Process

- The interview team consisting of Walter Tolley, Patrick Cook, Norris Cole and Patrick Thomas has met with: Alfred Willis, Jr. and Richard Melson and recommended them for ordination.
- The men on 12/5/2021 approved this recommendation.
- These men will be presented to the congregation and congregation to the men, on 19 December, 2021 after the morning service.