

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	23
Attendance AM	68
Attendance PM	26
Wednesday PM	35

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Sherry Baker; Jacob Hoover (fell); Mary Sanders (in rehab); William Bogan (hip); Walter Tolley (Cancer); Victoria Dudley; Herman and Beulah Farmer; Katherine Willis and Kimberly & Phil Tydings; Samuel Jones (husband of Dollie Jones); Jerry and Linda Thomas; Otis and Glenna Adair; Clifford Holt; Richard & Florine Thomas; Jack and Carlene Harley;

Traveling: Norris Cole, II; Cooks; Valerie Melson; Ashley & Alexandria Thomas

Prayers: Richard Melson, Jr.; Morton Branham (mother is in Hospice)

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy: Diane (Lyle) Cole and family; Rudi McCarthy

Birthdays: February — 4 Betty Blakley; 13 Tena Eslick; 16 Frank Brock; 18 Katherine Willis; 21 Catherine Anderson; Jerry Thomas; 22 Brenda Wiley; 28 Deborah Crane

Anniversaries: February — 8 Alfred & Katherine Willis

February 20	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Song Leader	Michael Blanks	Jerry Thomas
Lead Lord's Supper	Steven Crane	Steven Crane
Server 1	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 2	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Scripture Reader	James Grigsby	Frank Brock
Sermon	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Prayer for Responses	Elders / Preacher	Elders / Preacher
Closing Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Announcements	Walter Tolley	Walter Tolley
Greeter		
Usher	Richard Melson, Jr.	Richard Melson, Jr.
Usher		

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 03

February 20, 2022

Issue 08

THE DIFFICULT COMMAND

Bobby Duncan

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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.
5:00 P.M.

1st Sunday No 5:00 PM

Wednesday
Bible Study
7:00 P.M.

Shepherds
Richard D. Melson
Alfred Willis, Jr.

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

If someone should ask you what the most difficult command of God is, what would you say? Would you say it has something to do with loving one's enemy? Or being a liberal giver? Or keeping one's thoughts pure? Perhaps these are difficult. But the most difficult command is the command to repent. Acts 17:30-31 says, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent: because he hath appointed a day, in which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance to all men, in that he raised him from the dead."

J.H. Thayer in his Greek English Lexicon of the New Testament says the word translated "repent" means to change one's mind for the better, heartily to amend with abhorrence of one's past sins. He also says the word is used especially of those who, conscious of their sins with manifest tokens of sorrow, are intent in obtaining God's pardon (page 405).

When the prodigal son got ready to leave home, he said "Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me" (Luke 15:12). When he was getting ready to return home he had decided to say to his father, "Father...make me as one of thy hired servants." The difference between "give me" and "make me" is what we call repentance. When we lay aside our selfish desires and turn our lives over to the Lord to make us what he wants us to be, we have repented.

Being baptized for the remission of sins is not at all difficult for the one who has genuinely repented. Neither is loving one's enemy, giving liberally, or keeping oneself pure. That is why we say repentance is the most difficult command; once one has repented, that is, made up his mind to do right, all these things are much easier.

Because Paul genuinely repented, he was able to say, "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them all but dung, that I may win Christ" (Philippians 3:7-8).

Have you repented? Once you do, then serving the Lord becomes much easier.

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

How Strong Is Your Rope?



In his book, A Grief Observed, C. S. Lewis said, "You never know how much you really believe until its truth or falsehood becomes a matter of life and death. It is easy to say you believe a rope to be strong as long as you are merely using it to cord a box. But suppose you had to hang by that rope over a precipice. Wouldn't you then first discover how much you really trusted it?"

Consider three questions: What kind of faith do you have in God and His word? Has your faith been tested yet? Have you been in that situation where it is a matter of life and death, hanging over that precipice? If your faith has not yet been tested, you can be sure that the time is coming when it will be tested.

James said, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works. Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?" (James 2:17-20).

Is your faith dead or alive? "Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only" (James 2:21-24).

Abraham was ready. His rope held, even to the point of sacrificing Isaac. How strong is your rope? Will it hold? If not, now is the time to strengthen it.

- Bob Pritchard

Mindful of God's things or man's things



Where do you place the greatest emphasis in your life? It is so very easy to get focused on things from a human perspective and allow our focus to get off of eternal things that are of the utmost importance to God. This happens even when we don't realize it.

The apostle Peter was a spiritual man. He was a follower of Christ and was learning so much from the teachings of Jesus. His faith had grown to the level that he boldly confessed, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16). (That fits most of us.) But when Jesus' teachings (about His upcoming death) did not align with Peter's mindset, he was quick to "rebuke" the Lord and try to get the Lord to see things Peter's way (16:21-22).

Jesus said to His friend, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men" (16:23). When I, like Peter, am more mindful of my will than the will of Christ, I also can become His adversary. May God help me to keep focused on eternal things! .

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



"You Broke My Glass...!"

It was a 99 degree September day in San Antonio, TX, when a 10 month-old baby girl was accidentally locked inside a parked car by her aunt. Frantically the mother and aunt ran around the auto in near hysteria, while a neighbor attempted to unlock the car with a clothes hanger. Soon the infant was turning purple and had foam on her mouth.

It had become a life-or-death situation when Fred Arriola, a wrecker driver, arrived on the scene. He grabbed a hammer and smashed the back window of the car to set her free. Was he heralded a hero? "The lady was mad at me because I broke the window," Arriola reported. "I just thought, what's more important-the baby or the window?"

Most questions of priority are not between something important and something trivial; rather, between the important and the most important.

- Illustrations For Preaching & Teaching -Editor Craig Brian Larson, Baker Books

Think about this single sentence: "Tissue For Your Issue"

"God had one Son on earth without sin, but never one without suffering." —Augustine.

"But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter." (1 Peter 4:15-16)

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

Make plans to attend and support our Gospel Meeting with Neal Pollard March 6-9, 2022.

We thank you for the prayers on our behalf. We are working daily for the Lord and the congregation. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

We are reaching out to members for specific involvement in the work of the congregation. We are being very deliberate in this process.

You may now bring in your gently used clothes for the clothing pantry. These should be washed before delivery. Please no used under garments (only new).

Thanks, sister Willis and Melson

The committee for the Needmore Road Church of Christ Food Pantry has identified the following items for **February**: Applesauce, Canned Chicken, Rice, Peanut Butter and Dry Pasta. Thanks for being ready to serve!

We have implemented new email addresses: The Office – office@nrmcoc.com; Preacher: dr.rdmelson@nrmcoc.com; alfred.willis@nrmcoc.com. Finance-finance@nrmcoc.com.

Additionally we have upgraded the phone system from an analog to a digital system. Therefore when you call listen carefully to the message and follow the new instructions.



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

NEWS AND NOTES

- Visit these online resources: www.wvbs.org ; www.apologeticspress.org ; 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- 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