

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	35
Attendance AM	84
Attendance PM	37
Wednesday PM	35

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Virginia Robbins (knees); Reagan Blanks (foot); Gladys Chittick; Victoria Dudley (foot); Katherine Willis; Jerry and Linda Thomas; Jim Thomas; Otis and Glenna Adair; Clifford Holt; Richard & Florine Thomas; Jack and Carlene Harley; Geraldine Allen (LA); Anthony Cravin (LA) stroke;

**Traveling:** Norris Cole, II; Norris Cole; Lyle Cole; Richard Melson, Jr.; Lamont Cole; Nancy Wiemer

**Prayers:** Brethren in Ukraine

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:**

**Birthdays: May** — 2 April Gilbert; 4 Patrick Thomas; 27 Michelle Saunders; 30 Ron Robbins

**Anniversaries: May** — None

**Ladies Reading Group:** May 26@6:00 PM via Zoom Lesson 5

**Potter Children's Home:** Change cans are available in the office

May 15	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Song Leader	Michael Blanks	Jerry Thomas
Lead Lord's Supper	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 1	Denzil Turner, III	Patrick Thomas
Server 2	James Grigsby	Steven Crane
Scripture Reader	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Sermon	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Prayer for Responses	Elders / Preacher	Elders / Preacher
Closing Prayer	Ron Robbins	Lyle Cole
Announcements	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Greeter		
Usher		
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

May 15, 2022

Issue 20

## THE POWER OF REPENTANCE

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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.

**Preacher**

Richard D. Melson  
937-321-3973  
[dr.rdmelson@yahoo.com](mailto:dr.rdmelson@yahoo.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
- Midwestern School of Preaching
- Central Carolina School of Preaching

If you were to ask the average Sunday morning Bible class, "What is repentance?" I am sure there would be some diversity as far as answers go. Some would say, "Repentance is godly sorrow," while others would answer, "Repentance is a turning or a conversion." Though we realize that both of these answers are very closely linked to repentance, neither is an adequate definition alone. Notice what Paul says about this in 2 Corinthians 7:10. "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but sorrow of the world worketh death." Paul tells us that godly sorrow causes, or brings about repentance. On the other hand notice the words of Peter in Acts 3:19. "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." The A.S.V. says, "Repent ye therefore, and turn again". The point is the same either way. Repentance leads to conversion or a turning.

In Matthew 21:28-32 Jesus speaks of a father who had two sons. This man told both of his sons to go and work in his vineyard. One son said he would go, but did not go. The other son said, "I will not; but afterward he repented, and went (v. 29). The answer to Jesus' question concerning who pleased the father is obvious. The son who repented and went. But notice in this we see that repentance is a "change of mind." Godly sorrow produces a change of mind which produces a turning or a change in actions.

When we understand that the issues of life flow out of the heart of man (Mark 7:14-23) then we will begin to see the power of repentance. In our attempts to bring men unto our Lord, we must realize that the battle is fought in the minds of men (2 Cor. 10:3-5). It is the mind that separated the Ephesian brethren from the Gentiles (Eph. 4:17-23). Men became servants of righteousness rather than servants of sin when they "obeyed from the heart ( the mind) that form of doctrine that was delivered" (Rom. 6:17,18).

The lesson that we are noticing here is shown very well in the prophet Joel's book. In chapter 2 Jehovah calls for the people to turn to Him. He says, "turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God" (Joel 2:12,13). The "rending of the heart" that Joel speaks of is repentance. It leads to a turning unto the Lord, which subsequently will lead to blessings. In verse 25 of this same chapter we learn what the result will be for those who genuinely repent. "And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten." Not only would the crops again produce fruit, but Jehovah would also give them that which had been taken away because of their disobedience. There is power in repentance.

It does not matter how low we have gone. Nor does it matter how deep the despair is. If we will genuinely repent and turn to our God, he will comfort us. May we meditate on these trues as we study our Bibles more and more. *AW*

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

## Are You On Easy Street?



It is interesting to see how roads and streets are named. Sometimes the streets are named according to a theme, or for people, or totally at random. It has always struck me as rather strange, however, that despite what Jesus said, just about any city has a "Broadway," and few have a "Narrow Way." He warned, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matthew 7:13-14).

It shouldn't be that surprising, though, since the broad way has always been the popular way. That narrow way will always be the choice of the few. Robert Frost wrote, "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference." Surely that narrow way is the "one less traveled by," but oh, what a difference it does make.

A street many are striving to find is "Easy Street." I have seen many "Broadways," but I know only one "Easy Street." One of the elders of the church in Kannapolis, NC lived on a tree lined street named "Easy Street." He enjoyed surprising people when he told them his address. He would say something like, "I live where everybody wants to live, on Easy Street." Most of us want the advantages of being on "Easy Street." Never mind that Paul said, "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" (2 Timothy 3:12). Consider Moses, "Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward" (Hebrews 11:26).

Easy Street in Kannapolis is a nice enough street but is also a Dead End Street. Any street that is not the narrow way is going to be a dead end. As Charles Tillman's hymn reminds us, "The toils of the road will seem nothing when I get to the end of the way."

- Bob Prichard

## Facial recognition software is anciently old

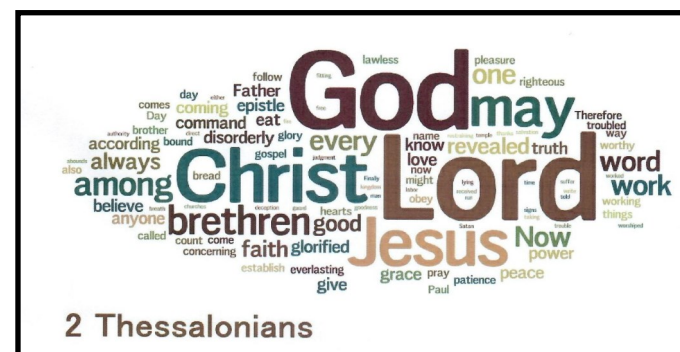


We might think that facial recognition software is a rather new invention. And, in some respects, it might be, for purposes like police departments identifying suspects or for you to unlock your new phone. But, it's actually been around for a really, really, really long time.

3,500 years ago, God commanded the Israelites not to use their facial recognition software—that is, the software that was installed in some human minds at that time. Moses, in particular, was told, "You shall not show partiality in judgment" (Deut. 1:17; cf. Ex. 23:3; Deut. 16:19; Prov. 24:23). Literally, the command was, "You shall not recognize faces." In other words, justice was to be blind. It did not matter what "faces" stood before a judge, each one was to be received equally and fairly and without any kind of partiality of one over another.

How often today do we "recognize faces" and show partiality? How often today do we determine how we will treat someone based upon "facial recognition software" that we have installed in our brains? Disable your facial recognition software today (Jas. 2:1, 9; 3:17)!

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson's Musings ...



### Put Out The Signals

There was a train wreck in Connecticut on May 9, 1873. The conductor of the train was badly crushed. As people gathered around to help, wondering if the man was dead or alive train Conductor Bradley said with his dying effort, "Put out the signals for the other train."

Of course he became one of the heroes of the time. None other than John Greenleaf Whittier left a poem celebrating Conductor Bradley's bravery. And Bradley's last words leave a worthwhile lesson. We too are certain to become death's victims. Will we have ultimate concern for ourselves or will our soul's interest lie in leaving behind the Word of God for others?

The trainman appeared not to worry about his own injury and approaching death. He simply wanted to save others. How about you and me? Put out the signals. Put out the signals. PUT OUT THE SIGNALS!

- Norman Gipson

### Praise and Criticism:

You can't let praise or criticism get to you. It is weakness to get caught up in either one. Some criticism will be honest and some won't. Some praise you will deserve and some you won't. You have to take both in the same light.

- John Wooden/Retired college basketball coach

## SHEPHERD'S CORNER

- ☞ Summer Lecture Series: *God's Help with Life's Struggles* - Every Wednesday at 7 p.m., beginning June 1 through August 31 we will have various teachers and preachers speak on this subject. More information to follow.
- ☞ Join the Elders every third Sunday of each month for a Fellowship Continental Breakfast **starting at 8:30 am until 9:15 am** in the Fellowship Hall, consisting of pastry, fruit cups, coffee, and orange or apple juice. (*We ask do not take the drinks or food into the auditorium*).
- ☞ Spring exterior projects are under way.
- ☞ There are new security night lights around the building for everyone's safety.
- ☞ Please take advantage of the updated tracts: In *Defense of God's Plan of Salvation; Instrumental Music in Worship: Is It A 'Big Deal'?*; *Christianity and World Religions*; and a *Christian Response to Racism*, along with other evangelism and study resources available in the foyer. We will be adding new titles quarterly.
- ☞ We encourage everyone to continue to practice good hygiene. Do not let your guard down. Wash your hands regularly.

### Needmore Road COC Food Pantry

**May Items:** Jelly or Jam; Meal Kit (e.g. Hamburger Helper); Canned Green Vegetable



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](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- 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