

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	36
Attendance AM	55
Attendance PM	35
Wednesday PM	44

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Rhonda Fox; Carlene Harley; Florine Thomas; Pat Norris (home); Glenna Adair; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Janis Bland; Naree Poole; Reagan Blanks (back); Dana Grigsby

Traveling: Richard Melson, Jr.; Richard Melson

Prayers:

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Member Birthdays: May — 2—April Gilbert; 4—

Patrick Thomas; 19— James Grigsby

Anniversaries: May — None

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class May 28 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 7 in "The Begging Place"

May 24	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Song Leader	Chris Poole	Patrick Cook
Lead Lord's Supper	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Server 1	James Grigsby	Jerry Thomas
Server 2	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Anthony Grigsby
Sermon	Kevin Berry	Kevin Berry
Prayer for Responses	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Closing Prayer	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas
Announcements	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Greeter	Samuel Jones	Samuel Jones
Usher	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
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
2211 Needmore Road
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998

Place
Stamp
Here

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



THE EDIFIER

Volume 07

May 24, 2026

Issue 21

www.needmoreroadcoc.com
Phone: (937) 274-6801
Fax: (937) 999-4949

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.

Preacher

Richard D. Melson
937-321-3973
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

INTEGRITY AND COURTESY IN CONFLICT

Bobby Duncan

I have been reading certain articles, watching certain videos, and listening to certain tape recordings in recent days, and there is something terribly disturbing about all of it. It is disturbing, of course, that some among us ostensibly do not have the proper respect for the Bible and would compromise with error. But this is not the thing I am talking about. The very fact that brethren conflict with one another is disturbing, but neither is this the thing I am talking about just here.

Maybe I've missed something along the way, but must the children of God, when they disagree with one another, act like the children of the devil? When we call attention to the mistakes of our brethren, should it not be with tears in our eyes, rather than with a smirk on our face? When we reply to those who have criticized us, should it not be with hearts filled with heaviness instead of hatred? Is there ever a time when the child of the King of the Universe has a right to be discourteous and ugly? In all the scathing language used by Jesus and his apostles in denouncing sin, they never became downright discourteous and ugly.

I can understand why people in the political arena act as discourteous and hateful as they sometimes do when they have their disagreements, for they are, for the most part, children of the devil, and this is what we would expect from children of the devil. I can understand why members of labor unions act like children of the devil when they have their differences, for they are, for the most part, children of the devil, and this is what we would expect from children of the devil. But must the children of God act discourteous and hateful when they have their differences? Hear me out, please!

What happens to our integrity—plain old honesty—when we get into controversy with our brethren? Is it necessary to lie, or tell only part truths in order to make our case against them stand? In order to be sure the brethren being attacked are duly castigated, is it necessary to suppress some of the facts, hint at things that are not true, and even tell outright lies about the matter?

Let me make it plain that I do not want an Independent Christian Church preacher teaching my class or filling the pulpit where I preach for any cause. But while that is the case, it does not give me the right to accuse my brethren of things they have not done. I have viewed the video of the Joplin meeting, and particularly that part where some are supposed to have advocated getting the Christian Church preachers to come and preach their doctrine from our pulpits. There is not one word in that exchange about these preachers preaching their doctrine. Reference is made instead to their preaching enough doctrine so that we may see there is not all that much difference between them and us. As already stated, I do not agree with that idea and would oppose such a proposal where I preach. But that does not give me the right to misrepresent the position brethren have taken, especially when they assure us over and over that they were not talking about allowing false doctrine to be

Continued on page 3

STRONGER THAN EVER IN 2026 - EPH. 6:10

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

You Can Just Be a Christian

Has it ever occurred to you that you can be just a Christian ... nothing more nor less than a plain Christian? Yes even in the midst of the religious confusion of our creed-bound, denomination-divided age, it is possible for you to be just a plain Christian!

What does it mean to be just a Christian? Well, being a Christian means so much more than merely being a good moral person... more than just going to church on Sunday... more than giving mental assent to certain beliefs... more than having one's name on a church roll.

Being just a Christian means trusting and obeying Jesus Christ just as Paul and Philip and the early Christians did in the first century after Christ. It means going back beyond all the distinctive Catholic and Protestant doctrines of today to find Christ just as He is revealed in the inspired New Testament. You see, there were no different denominations in the beginning of Christianity. The early disciples were all one body. They were called simply "Christians" (Acts 11:26). They did not follow different creeds but were guided by "the faith once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3). The New Testament, first as the spoken word and later as written down by "holy men of God" as they were guided by the Holy Spirit, was their only rule of faith and practice (2 Peter 1:21). We have this same New Testament today and can reproduce the same pure Christianity that flourished in the first century after Christ. We can be just plain Christians!

To find out the details of just how you may become and remain just a plain Christian like Peter and Barnabas and Aquilla, you must open your own New Testament and read for yourself. We suggest that you begin with the Acts of the Apostles. You will find that Jesus built only one church, and God added everyone who obeyed the gospel of Christ to this undenominational church, the body of Christ (Matthew 16:18) (Acts 2:47). The Bible teaches that you will be added to this same body today when you believe in Jesus Christ as God's Son, re-pent of your sins and are baptized for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38).

Why not become just a Christian and worship and work in the non-denominational church of Christ?

- Glenn Hitchcock

Why is a preacher worn out on Sunday?



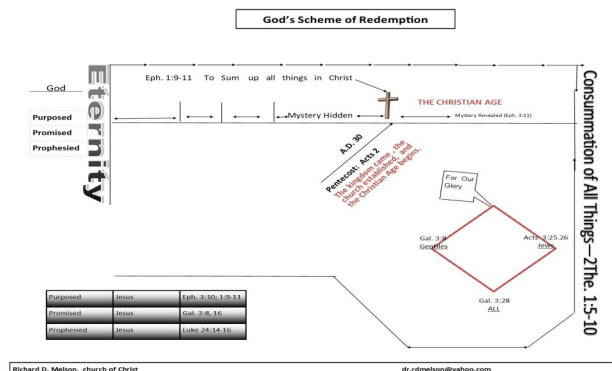
Have you ever heard about a preacher being worn out on a Sunday night? "Seriously?! C'mon! That's crazy! All he does is stand up and talk! (For too long!) That's NOT that hard! Gimme a break!"

But, being a true preacher of the gospel is more than just talking. Preachers who care look out and see the non-Christian visitor and try to carry them to the cross of Jesus. Preachers who care see the widow who is hurting and try to carry her to a place of comfort. Preachers who care see the apathetic members and try to pull them gently into greater devotion. Preachers who care see children halfway listening and try to carry them over to Jesus and lastingly clasp their little hands into His.

Preachers who care don't just see people in the pew, but they see every single individual soul and their unique needs at that very moment.

Every word he chooses is designed for "edification and exhortation and comfort" of every person (1 Cor. 14:3). This is not written to create pity for a preacher! But if your preacher is worn out from trying to carry every person just one inch closer to Jesus, are you with him in that endeavor? Or resisting it? This article (and every sermon) is about you, not him!

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



Integrity ... continued from page one

taught in our classes or from our pulpits, and that they did not for one moment have it in their minds that we should enter into some kind of compromise with those in error.

Please be assured that I am not talking about those only on one side of a controversy. The man who planned and conducted the Joplin meeting, for example, made a speech in which he demonstrated as ugly a spirit as any of his attackers. (And that is saying quite a bit.) Not only so, but more than once in his speech he told things that simply are not true. In that same speech, he castigated brethren for saying things about him that were not true, and yet he became guilty of the very things he was condemning, and with an attitude just as ugly as that of any of his accusers.

When a preacher of the gospel becomes guilty of various sins of immorality, such as fornication, or fraud, or theft, we say that the gospel he has preached has failed to influence his own life. What about the preacher who rejoices to see a brother fall, and who will even become guilty of lying to put his brother in a bad light? Is he not in the same condition? I Corinthians 13:4-7 says: *Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.*

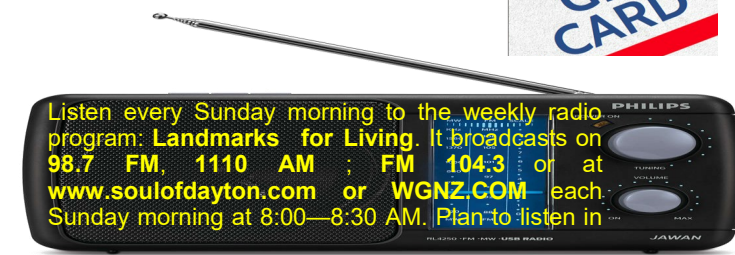
I fear these words do not accurately describe some of those whose articles I have read, whose videos I have watched, and whose tape-recorded reports I have heard. I am not saying that those who have love will not attack sin and error, but that dishonesty and discourtesy can have

no part in the actions of the Christian, even in his attacks against that which he considers sin.

If we stand for the right on doctrinal matters, but become ungodly, discourteous, and dishonest, what have we accomplished? ☞

I am attending the Central Carolina School of Preaching 25th Annual Lectureship in Sumter, SC, where I also am one of the instructors.— Richard

☞ **Singing School** with Andy Baker: Every member should mark these dates and plan to attend. **May 29-31**. It is not just for the song leaders but for everyone who loves to sing. Friday evening starting at 6:00 PM



NEWS AND NOTES

- Visit these online resources: www.wvbs.org ; www.apologeticspress.org ; www.searchtv.org; <http://gbntv.org/>;
- View: In Search of the Lord's Way— Dish- Sunday 7:00 am Channel 239; DirecTV Channel 307; GBN 7 PM; www.anchorofthesoul.com
- 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