

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	35
Attendance AM	64
Attendance PM	28
Wednesday PM	36

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Ruby Cole; Virginia Robbins; Katherine Willis; Jim Thomas; Otis & Glenna Adair; Clifford Holt; Richard & Florine Thomas; Jack Harley; Geraldine Allen (LA); Jeremiah Jones (Buffalo, NY, throat cancer);

**Traveling:**

**Prayers:**

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:** Brenda Mamula

**Birthdays: July** — 2 –Richard Melson, Jr.; 6 Penny Cook; 8 Rachel Blanks; 9 Ruby Nickell; 12 Alfred Willis, Jr.; 15 Glenna Adair; 17 C.D. Arnett, Destiny Soto; 20 Mike Mamula; 22 Otis Adair; 25 Clifford Holt;

**Anniversaries: July** — 30 Norris and Diane Cole

**Ladies Reading Group:** July 21 @6:00 PM via Zoom Lesson 7

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

July 17	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Jerry Thomas
Lead Lord's Supper	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 1	Denzel 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	Norris Cole
Announcements	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
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

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Stamp  
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# THE EDIFIER

Volume 03

July 17, 2022

Issue 29

## TAKING THE WORTH OUT OF WORSHIP (2)

Mike Vestal

How much does God really mean to you? What we truly prize, we truly praise. And that's precisely what should be taking place in the worship of God. In true worship, we are expressing how much God means to us (Psalm 29:2; Matthew 4:9-10). Our prizing of Him simply must express itself in praise. We express our adoration, awe, awareness, and appreciation of all God is and does through the avenues authorized in His word (John 4:23-24). Yet it is far too easy to get away from what worship should be all about. We can take the worth out of worship and greatly depreciate its expression and beauty by falling prey to some common misunderstandings. In last week's bulletin article, three such misunderstandings were noted. In this article, two more will be examined.

**"The Pep Rally View."** With this approach, the primary purpose of worship is "to make me feel good." It is commonly expressed by such statements as "I just didn't get anything out of worship today." And it is imperative that the atmosphere be "Ra Ra" (emotionally charged) in order for people to get something out of it. No one would deny that worship should be done with enthusiasm and passion (see last week's article), or that the one worshiping is blessed by expressing true worship to Him. But that's precisely the problem with the misunderstanding being discussed. God somehow gets lost in the shuffle. This approach tends to reinforce a man-centered, self-serving view of worship (cf. Matthew 15:7-10; Colossians 2:23). Worship must primarily be to God, about God, and for God. We simply must do a better job of informing people that, however much God's name may be mentioned in our assemblies, worship becomes man-centered when its focus becomes the "experience" of the worshipers and worship is employed as a means for attempting to manipulate divine power for the attainment of human goals. In true worship, we pant, long for, and thirst for Him! (Psalm 42:1-2; 63:1-5). And only in Him can we find the satisfaction our souls earnestly crave.

**"The Show Time View."** With this view, worship is all about the "show." Like the circus, worship is intended to be the "greatest show on earth." This concept primarily sees worship as entertainment and performance. Without such an emphasis in today's visually oriented society, we are told by some, folks will be bored to tears. Again, please get the point. Certainly we should desire to give God our best in worship, and Scripture plainly defines what that involves (cf. John 4:23-24; 1 Corinthians 14:15). But in the scheme of things, giving God our best can quickly lead to becoming spiritual "show offs" if we do not keep our hearts in the right place and actually give God priority of place in worship (cf. Matthew 6:1-18). Some questions are well worth considering. Does the worship as entertainment view really foster the awe and reverence that should be present toward God? Or does it foster awe or toward those who have leading roles in the worship assemblies? Doesn't the entertainment approach often seem to be a bribe to encourage people to assemble? Doesn't this concept of worship actually work to undermine the power of the gospel to change people's lives? It appears that in this view we erect idols in

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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

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

## Stop stirring!



In the kitchen, stirring is necessary. In the paint shop, stirring is necessary. But, in our relationships and interactions with others, we need to be oh-so careful when we stir and when we don't. There are times to stir the right way, like "stirring up love and good works" (Heb. 10:24) and "stirring up by way of reminder" (2 Pet. 1:13; 3:1). But, more often than not (based upon the number of verses dedicated to it), our stirring can be done the wrong way.

The book of Proverbs warns us five times against "stirring." Specifically, the book warns us against "stirring up strife." While these passages are similar, take note of each one. "Hatred stirs up strife" (10:12). "A harsh word stirs up anger" (15:1). "A wrathful man stirs up strife" (15:18). "He who is of a proud heart stirs up strife" (28:25). "An angry man stirs up strife" (29:22). Our pride, our hatred, our anger and our harsh words STIR UP STRIFE!

Brethren, there is a lot happening today to stir us up! But when that happens, may the stirring stop with us!

-David Sproule



Bad Mosquitoes

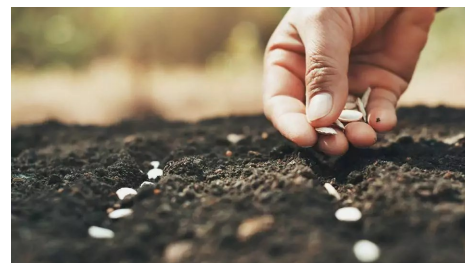
When my grandson, Billy, and I entered our vacation cabin, we kept the lights off until we were inside to keep from attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in. Noticing them before I did, Billy whispered, "It's no use, Grandpa. The mosquitoes are coming after us with flashlights."

—Author Unknown

"A merry heart does good" - Proverbs 17:22

Via House to House / Heart to Heart Vol23. # 3

## They turned to God for what?

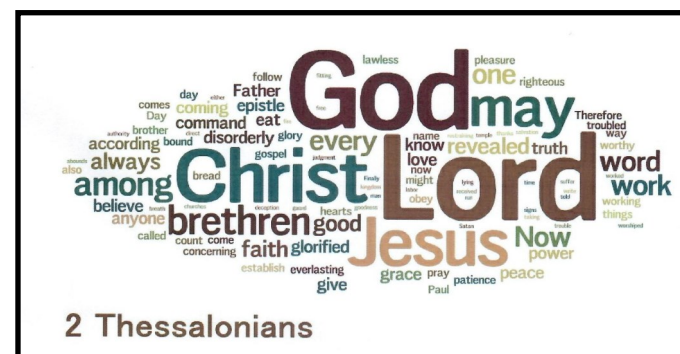


For what reason do people turn to God? Perhaps some turn to God because they are scared of going to hell. Others probably turn to God so that they can go to heaven. Some turn because they hear about God's love for them and what He did, and they in turn love the Lord and want to be His child. Some turn perhaps out of sense of obligation, or perhaps a sense of guilt. Many (maybe a majority) turn to God because of what they can receive.

When Paul wrote his first letter to the Christians in Thessalonica, he praised them for a number of things, including "how [they] turned to God from idols to SERVE the living and true God" (1 Thess. 1:9). They turned to God for the stated purpose that they might SERVE God! It was NOT just what they could "get out of it"! They turned to God so that they could GIVE back to Him! What a concept! Do we have that heart?

Why did you turn to God? Why do you now belong to God? Is it to SERVE Him? Ponder that for a moment.

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson's Musings ...



(continued from page one)

the form of performers while merely giving God a back seat at the show. All of these misunderstandings do have a bit of truth in them. But the devil is a master at twisting truth, isn't he? Let's NOT take the worth out of worship!

### Let's Be a Good Teacher

A man took his son fishing one day. After a few hours in the boat with not much to do, the son started asking his father some questions.

"How does the boat float?" he asked. The man thought about the question, then said, "I don't really know, son."

"Well, how do fish breathe underwater?" The father scratched his head. "I guess I don't know the answer to that one either."

"Why is the sky blue?" the boy persisted. The father replied, "I really don't know, son."

The boy started to worry that his father was getting upset at all the questions.

"Do you mind me asking questions, Dad?" His father immediately reassured him. "No, of course not, son!

If you don't ask questions, you'll never learn anything."

—Author unknown

## SHEPHERD'S CORNER

- ☞ Summer Lecture Series: *God's Help with Life's Struggles* - Every Wednesday at 7 p.m. The July 20th session will deal with another important, but difficult subject, the Loss of a Child.
- ☞ If you have a question from any of the Summer Series lessons and would like for the speaker to address it, please submit it to the office and it will get forwarded to the speaker.
- ☞ 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).
- ☞ COVID-19: We encourage everyone to continue to practice good hygiene. Do not let your guard down. Wash your hands regularly. If you need wear a mask, wear a mask. If you are sick stay home. Should you become infected with COVID-19, especially if you were in the assembly, please let us know.
- ☞ For security reasons doors will be locked about 15 minutes after the start of service. There will be someone at the door to let in those who might arrive late.
- ☞ There is an audio-visual (AV) control booth being built in the rear of the auditorium. It should be finished in about a week.



## 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](http://www.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