

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	52
Attendance AM	83
Attendance PM	41
Wednesday PM	25

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Jace Vance; Nancy Weimer; Chris Poole @home recovering from hip replacement; Ruby Cole; Jim Thomas; Otis & Glenna Adair; Clifford Holt; Richard & Florine Thomas; Geraldine Allen (LA); Eion Lusi (Children's Medical); Patrick Cook (knee); Levi Cook; Victoria Dudley (sinus infection); C.D. Arnette (foot/leg infection); Betty Blakely

Traveling: Mozilla Tate; Richard Melson, Jr.; (work); Cook family

Prayers:

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Birthdays: October — 2 Virginia Robbins; 5 Rhea Wallace; 6 Kevin Gilbert; 9 Victoria Dudley; 13 Norris Cole, II; 14 Patrick Cook; 16 Judy Arnett; 17 Dollie Jones, Nancy Weimer; 26 Caden Vance;

Anniversaries: October — None

Ladies Reading Group: Oct. 13 @6:00 PM via Zoom Lesson 11

Potter Children's Home: Donation Cans on October 16th

October 16	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Steven Crane	Steven Crane
Song Leader	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord's Supper	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Server 1	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 2	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Patrick Thomas
Sermon	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Prayer for Responses	Elders / Preacher	Elders / Preacher
Closing Prayer	Otis Adair	Phil Tydings
Announcements	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Greeter	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
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
Here

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



THE EDIFIER

Volume 03

October 16, 2022

Issue 41

GOD WAITED TWO YEARS BEFORE HE ANSWERED PRAYERS

Dan Jenkins

If there is any truth affirmed in the Bible, one of those truths must be this one—God answers our prayers. Before Jesus left the earth He told His disciples, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you" (John 16:23). The apostle John heard Jesus say these words, obviously practiced them and years later affirmed, "Whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight" (1 John 3:22).

Sometimes we fail to appreciate these truths because we think we know precisely how God should answer our prayers and precisely when He should do it. To help us understand these matters better consider the following illustration.

When Paul was headed to Jerusalem to deliver to the Jewish congregations those contributions made by the Gentile churches, he met with the elders from Ephesus. He told them that as he had traveled toward the holy city, time and again, prophets had foretold what would happen. He said, "The Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me" (Acts 20:23).

At this same time he wrote to the church at Rome and told them of his plans. "Now I am going to Jerusalem to minister to the saints....When I have performed this and have sealed to them this fruit, I shall go by way of you to Spain" (Rom. 15:23,28). Yet there was this problem. How could chains and tribulations await him, and at the same time he promised the Romans he would come to see them. The answer lies in looking at what he added in his comments to Rome. "I beg you, brethren,...that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me...That I may come to you with joy by the will of God" (Rom. 15:30-32).

So both Paul and the Roman Christians were praying that he some how might go to Jerusalem and come to Rome. Now God answers prayers, but often not in the "how" or "when" we think. You know the story. Paul went to Jerusalem and was arrested and spent more than two years as a prisoner (Acts 24:27) before he arrived in Rome. God answered those prayers in God's own way.

So the next time you are praying about a matter and you cannot see God moving to answer you, just remember that we simply are unable to understand precisely how or when He will keep His promise. 📖

www.needmoreroadcoc.com
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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

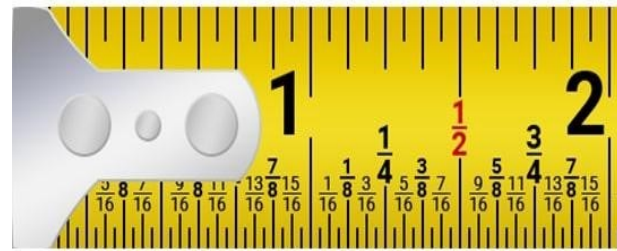
Ministers
 All Members

- 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

You Can Miss It!

If you give him an inch ...



Have you had the experience of asking for directions, listening carefully to instructions that are a bit confusing, and then hearing the words, “You can’t miss it!”? I have found that I not only can, but also do miss it sometimes. Sometimes I haven’t really paid attention well enough. Sometimes the landmarks are not as described. Sometimes my direction giver just doesn’t know what he is talking about.

One place I don’t want to miss is heaven. I am glad that I have inspired instructions to help me get there. I don’t have to rely on man’s instructions, and that is especially important considering that man gives so many conflicting instructions about how to get to this divine destination. When I read of the grace of God revealed through His Son, I know that if I will obey His commands revealed through the New Testament, I will reach my destination.

When it comes to heaven, there are some who say you can’t miss it, if you once get on the road to heaven (“Once saved always saved”). Even without considering what the scriptures say, does that make any sense? What road may I get on that is designed so that I cannot choose to take a detour or a side-road, or even make a U-turn on?

I think of Demas, a trusted servant who worked side by side with Paul, but made a choice to leave the road to heaven. “For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica” (2 Timothy 4:10). I think of Simon, a baptized believer, who left the road very quickly. Peter told him, “Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity” (Acts 8:22-23). Thankfully, Simon repented, and was back on the road to heaven. Other passages to consider include 1 Corinthians 9:27; James 5:19-20, and 2 Peter 2:20-22. You can miss it—but you shouldn’t. Obey Christ and remain faithful to the end (Revelation 2:10)!

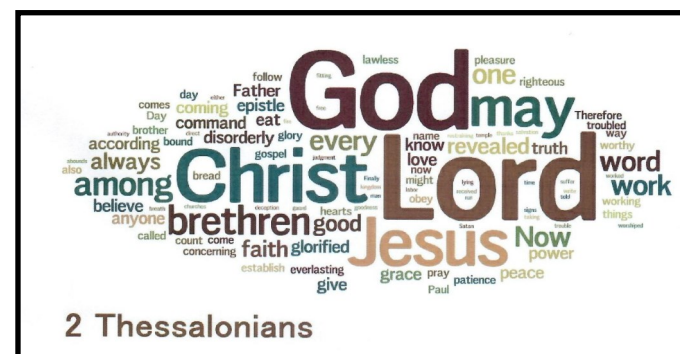
- Bob Prichard

You’ve heard the maxims before, like, “If you give him an inch, he’ll take a mile.” This is true of toddlers, salesmen and some business associates. But, even more so, it’s true of the devil!

That is why God warned us to not “give place to the devil” (Eph. 4:27). While it is also translated, “opportunity,” the word means to not give the devil any “room” in your life. We give him room (contextually) when we don’t control our lying (4:25), our anger (4:26), our impulses (4:28), our tongue (4:29), our bitterness (4:31), our unforgiving attitude (4:32), etc.

You see? In all these examples, if you give the devil an inch, he’ll take a mile. Let him get just a little temper out of you, a little lie, a little lack of self-control, a little slip of the tongue, a little feeling resentment, and before you know it, he has drawn you out into the realm of sinful conduct more than you ever intended to go. Friends, be “sober and vigilant” (1 Pet. 5:8)! “Resist him steadfast in the faith” (5:9)! Don’t give him an inch in your life!

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson’s Musings ...



Matthew 13:8—Seed Sown in “Good Ground”

In his parable about the man who sowed seed, Jesus said that some of the seed “fell upon the good ground, and yielded fruit, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty” (Mt. 13:8).

Later, in explaining the parable to his disciples, the Lord told what he meant by “good” soil. This type of ground represented a certain quality of person—the one who readily listens to the word (symbolized by the seed) and understands it (Mt. 13:23). Mark describes the good soil as those who “accept” the seed (4:20), while Luke characterizes the fruit-producing soil as those who have an “honest and good heart, having heard the word, hold it fast...” (8:15).

A consideration of these passages clearly indicates that in order to become a citizen in Christ’s kingdom, one must have a disposition amenable to the truth, indeed, a love for truth (cf. 2 Thes. 2:10).

One of the great examples of this sort of “open mindedness” was found in the people of Berea, a city visited by Paul on his second missionary campaign. Luke described them as follows:

“Now these were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, examining the scriptures daily whether these things were so” (Acts 17:11).

There are three terms in this passage that illustrate the “good ground” attitude.

First, Luke says they “received” the word. The verb signifies to welcome, to receive eagerly.

Second, they possessed a “readiness of mind.” Actually, this reflects only one word in the original, prothumia (pro – “forward,” and thumos – mind). The word beautifully pictures a sort of stretching the mind forward in keen anticipation.

Third, there is the present participle, “examining” (anakrino – an intensified term meaning to scrutinize carefully), the tense suggesting persistence.

Make notes on these special words. Circle “good” in Matthew 13:8, and in your margin note: See Acts 17:11. Your notes there will serve you well. (Wayne Jackson)

SHEPHERDS CORNER

- ☞ **November gospel meeting** with Hiram Kemp of Bowling Green, KY. November 6-10, 2022.
- ☞ **Song Practice:** Starting October 26, on the last Wednesday of the month there will be congregational song practice at 7:00 PM.
- ☞ Byron Henbest of Potter Children’s Home will give a presentation about the home Sunday evening.
- ☞ Remember to pray for our children in K-12 grades.
- ☞ The exterior doors will be getting repaired and hardware updated. There will a handicap button added to door #2 (inside and out).
- ☞ The stall doors in the men’s restroom will be repaired.
- ☞ **COVID-19** remains a serious issue, therefore we encourage everyone to continue to practice **good hygiene**. *Do not let your guard down.* Wash your hands regularly. If you need to 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.



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