

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	32
Attendance AM	83
Attendance PM	32
Wednesday PM	32

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Mary Vance; Phil Tydings; C.D. Arnett; Virginia & Ron Robbins; Ruby Cole; Otis & Glenna Adair; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stones Springs); Jerry Thomas; Richard Melson
Traveling: Norris Cole, II; Michael Blanks, Jr. Richard Melson, Jr.; Norris Cole, Sr.
Prayers: Carolyn Johnson
Repentance:
Baptism:
Sympathy: Michael and Brenda Mamula; family of Sonda Powers; Ashley Thomas (her bridesmaid died)
Birthdays: May — 2 April Gilbert; 4 Patrick Thomas; 19 James Grigsby; 27 Michelle Saunders; 30 Ron Robbins
Anniversaries: May — None
Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class May 25 @ 6:00 PM Lesson 6.
Potter Children's Home:

May 21	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord's Supper	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Server 1	Chris Poole	Jerry Thomas
Server 2	James Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Scripture Reader	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Sermon	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Prayer for Responses	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Closing Prayer	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Announcements	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Greeter	John Bouse	John Bouse
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
PO Box 13963
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998

Place
Stamp
Here

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



THE EDIFIER

Volume 04

May 21, 2023

Issue 21

www.needmoreroadcoc.com
 Phone: (937) 274-6801
 Fax: (937) 401-0286

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

THE PROBLEM WITH COMPLAINING

Cody Westbrook

If we are honest, we would all admit that we struggle with complaining from time to time. The bible identifies complaining as a worldly exercise and commands Christians to avoid it. Paul wrote, "Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world" (Phil. 2:14-15). The children of Israel stand as a perfect example as to why complaining is problematic.

Exodus 16 records one of many occasions upon which they complained. Notice some reasons from that context that complaining is wrong.

Complaining is rebellion. Exodus 16:2 says, "Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained..." The word "complained" is more than slight discontentment. It implies outright rebellion. It is obstinance and faithlessness (cf. Ps. 78:17,22).

Complaining makes one irrational. The children of Israel said to Moses, "Oh, that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger" (Ex. 16:3). They remembered the food in Egypt but forgot about the whips and the work.

Complaining is an affront to God. Though the people directed their complaints toward Moses and Aaron, really their complaint was against Jehovah (Ex.16:7).

Complaining is a lack of faith and appreciation. Exodus 13-18 covers a period of approximately 2 months. In that time the children of Israel had seen redemption and had even sang about it (cf. Ex. 15). They knew what God had promised (Ex. 6:6-8) and what He had done for them, yet they still complained.

Complaining is often about what we want instead of what we need. Exodus 17:3 identifies and important point—the people had livestock. So, when the people complained of hunger in Exodus 16, it was not that they literally had no food to eat. The problem was that they did not have the food they wanted to eat. Psalm 78:18 says, "And they tested God in their heart by asking for the food of their fancy."

We would do well to learn from the example of the Israelites not to complain but instead to be grateful and in whatever situation we may find ourselves (Phil. 4:11).



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

My devotion to God

Jesus says we are to "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:33). Our number one priority in this life must be to do the Father's will. We do this by seeking first the righteousness of God. But what is God's righteousness? Psalms 119:172 says, "For all your commandments are righteousness." When I obey what God has commanded, then I am doing righteousness of God.

We are to be fully devoted to God (Mark 12:30). We are to love God with our total being, if we are to be pleasing to Him so we can go to Heaven when this life is over. How do we show our love to Deity? Jesus says, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word...He who does not love Me does not keep My words" (John 14:23-24). We also read, "He who says, I know Him, and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him" (1 John 2:4-5).

Half-hearted allegiance and obedience to the Lord is vain and does one no good. Jesus tells those in Laodicea, "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth" (Revelation 3:15-16). Jesus also says, "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor...It is good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men" (Matthew 5:13). If Christians become half-hearted or unfaithful, they will be vomited out of the Lord's mouth or thrown out as salt that is no good and will be eternally lost. Jesus tells us, "Unless you repent you will all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3).

Our goal in this life must be to go to Heaven. In order to this we must, "Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth" (Colossians 3:2). We should be looking forward "for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Hebrews 11:10). Let's faithfully serve God with all our heart, mind, soul, and spirit so we don't miss Heaven.

- adapted from Ron Boatwright

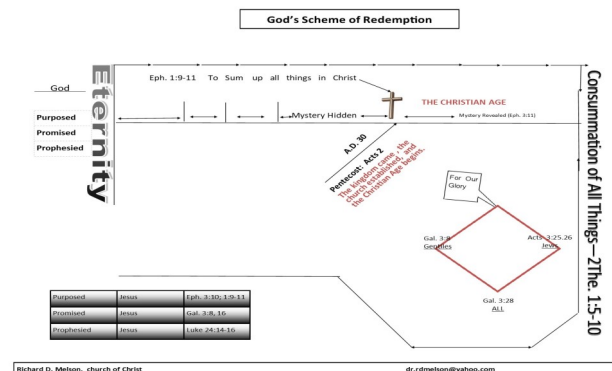
Do you celebrate your "birthday"?



For many people, it's their favorite day of the year because it's "their day." Some people will take off of work. Some will treat themselves to something special. After all, it only comes around once a year. Celebrate it. It's "my birthday"!

You know what day is better than your date of birth? Your date of new birth! Your spiritual birthday! Do you know what day you were baptized? That was (and still is) the BEST day of your life! Every year you celebrate the day that you came into this world. Why not also celebrate the day that you prepared yourself for when you leave this world! Parents, why not do something special for your kids on their spiritual birthday! If we truly believe that it is the most important day of our lives, on which we made the most important decision of our lives, should we not remember it and thank God for it! Let's make it our actual favorite day of the year—not because it's "our day" but because it's truly "His day"!

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



Evangelism

God's method of growth for the church is sowing and watering the seed. We call it "evangelism." Evangelism, literally defined, is the proclamation or sharing of good news. God has indeed given us good news of and through His Son, Jesus Christ.

How are churches to grow? While many have resorted to gimmicks and entertainment, our Lord has given us the perfect plan. By proclaiming to as many people as we can the wonderful news of a Savior, we will be executing God's divine plan of church growth. Sow and water the seed! It is an effort in which every church and every Christian should be interested.

Evangelism needs to become a natural activity in our lives. Perhaps the greatest reason why evangelism is not practiced by more Christians is that it seems so unnatural.

Evangelism is more than bringing someone to the "building" it is about bringing the Christ to the lost.

Can evangelism be a natural activity? A reading of Acts 2:44-47 indicates that it can be very natural.

First, note that these disciples were "together." Unity existed with the brethren.

Second they praised God! Not only in worship, but daily in the lives. How could you silence them from telling the powerful story of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ? Evangelism, in this first recorded instance, was an overflowing of joy. **It was an eager** desire to share something wonderful with others.

Finally action. A condition of need existed in that community of first Christians. Many of the brethren were without basic necessities of life. The response of the disciples was one of generosity.

With all these factors in mind, it is not surprising that the church grew so quickly. When Christians share the good news of Jesus Christ because of the fountain of gratitude within their hearts, others will take note and listen, and many will be converted to the paths of righteousness.

- ☞ **Bible Marking for Ladies:** Whoever wishes to join, every 3rd Sunday at 4 PM today.
- ☞ **Summer Series 2023**—Theme "*Called Unto Holiness*", June 7 – August 30, each Wednesday we'll have a different speaker for each subject. The tentative schedule is:

Date	Speaker	Topic
7-Jun	Tim Hatfield	Holiness of God
14-Jun	Raymond Sweet	Holiness of Christ
21-Jun	Kevin Berry	Holiness in Transformation
28-Jun	Bob Vincent	Holiness and Worship
5-Jul	Richard Nepaul	Holiness and Respect for the Scriptures
12-Jul	Patrick Powers	Holiness and Overcoming Temptation
19-Jul		Holiness and Being a Proper Example
26-Jul	John McGiffin	Holiness in Recreational Activities
2-Aug	Norris Cole	Holiness and Drug Use & Abuse
9-Aug		Holiness and Abstaining from Evil
16-Aug		Holiness and Personal Finance
23-Aug	Keith Allen	Holiness and Purity of Speech
30-Aug	Patrick Cook	Holiness and Personal Maturity



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