

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	49
Attendance AM	92
Attendance PM	35
Wednesday PM	24

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: Family of Leslie Miller (Valerie Melson's father) in Tallahassee, FL
Repentance:
Baptism:
Sympathy: Valerie Melson and family (death of her father)
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 June 8 @ 6:00 PM Lesson 6-7
Potter Children's Home:

May 28	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Jerry Thomas
Lead Lord's Supper	Lyle Cole	Patrick Thomas
Server 1	Chris Poole	Lyle Cole
Server 2	James Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Ryan McGahee
Sermon	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Prayer for Responses	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Closing Prayer	Jerry Thomas	Chris Poole
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 28, 2023

Issue 22

PERSONAL EVANGELISM

John Garza and Richard D. Melson

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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.

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

What is your understanding of personal evangelism? When we consider this topic, we are dealing with a subject absolutely essential to the health and growth of the Lord's church in every community. So, what is it? Simply put, personal evangelism is taking the work of sowing and watering the seed of the kingdom personally, so that God may give the increase (1 Cor. 3:6). It is a command that every Christian should be doing (Mark 16:15). Therefore, let's consider some deeper thoughts on the subject.

Personal evangelism is serving others, just as Paul wrote, "For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake" (2 Cor. 4:5). As it has been said before, "People do not care how much we know, until they know how much we care," and we may serve our neighbors physically, but ultimately, our true service is teaching the gospel of Jesus Christ (Gal. 1:10). In doing so, we show them how much we care because we want them to be saved and go to heaven with us.

Personal evangelism is listening. As we listen to others, we demonstrate a sincere interest in their concerns. Consider Jesus Christ; He was the Master at teaching because He was the Master at listening. For example, in the case of the woman at the well (John 4), trust was established due in part to Jesus' willingness to listen and reply based on what was being said. Therefore, we must follow our Lord in this way as well.

Personal evangelism is using our knowledge, skill, and motivation to succeed in leading souls to Christ. Peter connected these three aspects together in 1 Peter 3:15: "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear..." We are able to teach because of knowledge. We are able to give a defense because of skill. We are always ready because we are motivated to be. Brethren, we can know the Bible completely, but if we are not motivated to share it or if we cannot/will not share it with the right skill, our knowledge will be useless to others.

As faithful Christians and servants of God, our ultimate motivation should be to help others see their spiritual condition in the mirror of God's Word (Jas. 1:18-25).

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

A Father's Tool Box



Back on the farm, I remember that when something broke down, my father would get out his toolbox and make the repairs. As a child, I was always fascinated by his toolbox and its contents. It seemed my father could fix almost anything with the tools inside.

From the beginning, God has designated husbands/fathers as the leaders of the home. Fathers have a great responsibility in making sure the whole family goes the right direction in the name of the Lord. The Christian father needs to have his spiritual toolbox at-the-ready. Some of the tools he needs include the following:

Adjustable wrench: Fathers must be able to adapt to any situation that arises. **Carpenter's pencil:** Fathers must be able to draw the boundaries for the family so that all can clearly see them. **Level:** Fathers must be fair and keep a level head in all circumstances. **Pliers:** Fathers must be able to hold everything together, even when everybody else may be losing their grip. **Hammer:** Fathers must be effective in driving home important truths. **Utility knife:** Fathers must be able to cleanly separate and remove undesirable things and influences so that they do not harm the family. **Screwdriver:** Fathers must keep turning their families in the right direction to keep them secure. **Tape measure:** Fathers must be measuring and monitoring the family's resources, priorities, and use of time. **Duct tape:** Fathers must be ready to apply a "quick fix" to problems so that they do not get out of hand, holding them in check until a permanent solution is found. **Extension cord:** Fathers must plug into the proper power source (prayer, Scripture) and distribute energy to every family member.

Fathers are important, and they must use the proper tools and take the time to build and mend the family into a strong structure for the Lord.

—Edd Sterchi, Campbellsville, Kentucky (via Watertown, Tennessee, Church of Christ)

What kind of church is this?

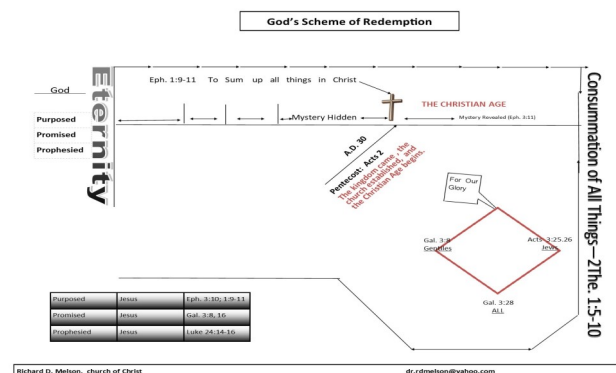


Imagine for a moment that there was a person living in the city of Philippi in the first century who decided to visit the church one Sunday. This person walked in and asked, "What kind of church is this?" If you were there in the first century and heard that question asked, would it strike you odd? Think about it. In the first century, there was only one church (Eph. 4:4). There were not hundreds (or even a few) denominations. In other words, there were not "kinds" of churches!

When the first car was invented, you would not have asked, "What kind of car is this?" It was the car! The first and only one! There were no others, so there were no "kinds" of cars! So, it would not make sense in the first century to ask, "What kind of church is this?" It was **the church!** The first **AND ONLY** one! There were no others, so there were no "kinds" of churches.

So, today, should we not simply go back to the Bible and be "the church" that Jesus started in the first century? He gave no authority for different "kinds" of churches (1 Cor. 1:10). He only has "one" (Eph. 4:4; 2:16; 1 Cor. 12:12-13).

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



The Eagle and The Snake

There is a great battle that rages inside every person.

None is immune to this battle. No matter how we try, we cannot escape the battle. It is not one to runaway from but to embrace by the grace of God, through our Lord Jesus Christ and His word.

One side is the soaring eagle. Everything the eagle stands for is good and true and beautiful. The eagle soars high above the clouds. Even though it dips down into the valleys, the eagle builds its nest on the mountaintops.

The other side is the slithering serpent, the snake. That crafty deceitful snake feeds upon one's downfalls and setbacks and justifies itself by its presence in the slithering mass.

Who wins this great battle in your life? None other than the one that is fed the most – the eagle, or the snake.

On those days when you leave God out of your life – do not imbibe in His word, do not commune with the Father, do not meditate upon His truth – it is then that the seductive adversary gains the upper hand. There will be days when things are rough, the pressures of life run in on us, it is at these times that we need what God provides, to help us soar as eagles.

"... but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." (Isa. 40:31 ESV).

- ☞ Saturday June 3, Men's meeting at 9:00 AM
- ☞ Next Sunday is our noon meal with 1:30 PM worship
- ☞ **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	Kevin Berry	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



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 ; 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