

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	45
Attendance AM	88
Attendance PM	28
Wednesday PM	23

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Phil & Kim Tydings; Mary Sanders; Janis Bland; Norris Cole; Rhea Wallace; Frank Brock; C.D. Arnett; Krubo Joploh; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stones Springs); Ron Robbins; Frank Cook; Debbie Rowland (MVH)

**Traveling:** Norris Cole, II; Richard Melson, Jr. Dollie Jones; Nancy Weimer

**Prayers:**

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:**

**Birthdays: December** — 5 Herman Farmer; 11—Nina Netheron, Kim Tydings; 15 Dana Grigsby, Richard Melson, DeWayne Eslick; 24 Mia Gilbert; 26 Theresa Wallace

**Anniversaries: December**— None

**Ladies Reading Group:** Zoom Class December 28 @ 6:00 PM Lesson 1—"Sisters, I Need You"

December 17	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Michael Blanks, Jr.
Song Leader	Chris Poole	Patrick Cook
Lead Lord's Supper	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 1	Ryan McGahee	Norris Cole
Server 2	James Grigsby	James Grigsby
Scripture Reader	Denzil Turner, III	Patrick Thomas
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Closing Prayer	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Announcements	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
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  
2211 Needmore Road  
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998**

Place  
Stamp  
Here

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



# THE EDIFIER

Volume 04

December 17, 2023

Issue 51

## WHAT IS YOUR LEGACY?

Cody Westbrook

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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](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

We use the word "legacy" to describe something left behind. It may be a house or sum of money, perhaps a lasting imprint on an organization or the lives of those closest to you. Regardless of kind or number, everyone leaves a legacy. The question is, "what will it be?". The apostle Paul wrote of the Thessalonian Christians' legacy in 1 Thessalonians 1:2-4. When Paul thought of them, he remembered three characteristics.

**Your work of faith.** A biblical faith is a working faith and such was certainly found in the church at Thessalonica. Ephesians 2:10 explains that Christians are "created in Christ Jesus for good works," and our work in the kingdom of God is produced by our faith. A faith which works by love (Gal. 5:6) is one that serves and produces good fruit (Luke 6:43- 45). Are you known as a hard worker in the kingdom?

**Your labor of love.** The term "labor" refers to difficult, strenuous, and exhausting effort. Sometimes it is said that a person works their fingers to the bone. Such sentiments accurately capture the thought. Love must be the motivating force behind everything (1 Cor. 13:1-3) but true love is not seen in what we say but rather, what we do (1 John 3:18). When we love as we should, labor is no problem. Are you known as a laborer of love?

**Your patience of hope.** Acts 17 records a great deal of pressure placed upon the church at Thessalonica after Paul's abrupt departure. He was concerned for them (1 Thess. 3:1-5) but was overjoyed to learn of their steadfastness (1 Thess. 3:6-10). The source of the patient endurance of trial was their hope. Our hope is what keeps us anchored (Heb. 6) and it will not leave us ashamed (Rom. 5:3-5). Are you known as one who patiently endures or anxiously panics at the appearance of trouble?

When your life is over, your friends and loved ones will gather to memorialize you. What will they say about you? How will you be remembered? What legacy will you leave?

*Too many are worried about "cementing one's legacy" as defined by the world. The athlete who does this is selfish and arrogant. Too many are concerned, "what will they remember about me? What will they say about me? Will they forget me?" What is missed in all of this is where will I spend eternity? Allow your legacy to be from Lord (Luke 17:10). [rdm]*

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

## Beware of the blade!

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly (John 10:10).

Have you ever heard about how the Eskimos kill wolves? You're not going to believe this one!

First the Eskimo coats the blade of his knife with animal blood and allows it to freeze. He then adds and freezes more layers of blood, several coats, in fact, until the blade is completely covered with frozen blood. Next, he plants his knife in the snow, the blade facing up and goes about his business.

When a wolf finds his way to the luring aroma of fresh blood, he starts licking. Then more and more vigorously, lapping it until the sharp blade of the knife is exposed. However, by this point, so intense is his craving for the scrumptious blood, that the wolf does not notice the sharp sting of the blade on his own tongue, nor does he even realize that his ravenous craving is now being satisfied by his very own blood! By light of dawn, the Eskimo will find him laying dead in the snow.

Sin entices and seduces us in precisely the same way. Satan lures us to the place where he plans to ravage us with some sort of destructive fleshly pleasure -- gossip, rage, sexual sin, etc. Once we give in to it's lustful pleasures, our craving for it increases. When we continue to allow ourselves to indulge, it grips us all the more. And before we know it -- it completely consumes us. Our friendships are damaged. Our marriages are broken. Our testimony, spoiled. Satan has come only to rob, kill and destroy.



- Greg Dial

## Your work ... your money ... what is it all for?

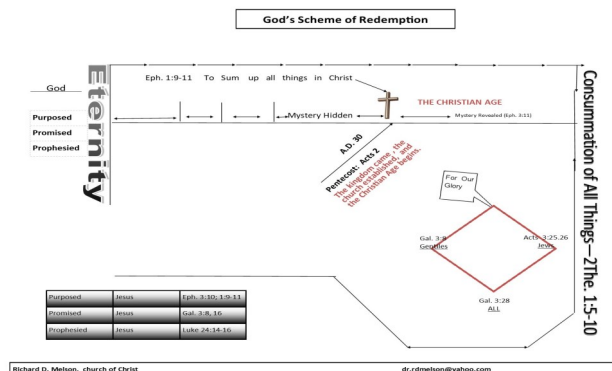


How much of your life does your work consume? Quite a bit? Then you get your paycheck. How much of that is consumed by bills (blah!) and family and recreation (yay!)? Have you ever wondered, "What is all of this for?"

Tie the following two verses together. In Ephesians 4:28, Christians are instructed, "Let him labor, working with his hands what is good..." Why work? The rest of the verse says, "...that he may have something to give him who has need." I work to "have" so that I can "give." Is that a different way of thinking about why you work?

Connect that with why God blesses His children in 2 Corinthians 9:8. When we give to God "bountifully" and "cheerfully" (9:6-7), "God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance..." Why does God want to give us "an abundance"? Finish the verse: "...for every good work." Is that a different way of thinking about why God blesses you with money and things? Think about it.

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson's Musings ...



### Dayton, are you listening ?

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. (James 1:19-20).

The story is told that former President Franklin D. Roosevelt got tired of smiling that big smile and saying all the usual things at White House receptions. So, one evening he decided to find out whether anybody was paying attention to what he was saying as he greeted them. As each person came up to him with extended hand, he flashed his big smile and said, "I murdered my grandmother this morning." People would automatically respond with comments such as "How lovely." or "Continue on with your great work." Nobody listened to what he was saying, except for one foreign diplomat. When the president said, "I murdered my grandmother this morning," the diplomat responded softly, "I'm sure she had it coming to her.

"It's a funny story, but how often do we do the same? It seems that we have lot's to say but we are not very good at listening. Think about it, the large number of language, speech and speaking courses you find in school textbooks; but can you find even one class on listening? There is such a lack of effective listening skills in this day and age that we have to pay someone a lot of money just to listen to us!

More importantly, God has many things He desires to reveal to us and has — but we're always talking, talking, talking! But we need to be listening to what the Lord has said.

Let's strive to do less talking and more listening today. Let's give the Lord and others a chance to be heard.

- ☞ **Pantry Items:** We need to replenish the pantry. Boxed Meals (e.g. Hamburger Helper); Canned Meals (Ravioli etc.); Pop Tarts; Canned Soups; Cereal
- ☞ **Potter Children's Home:** Thanks to everyone who helped. David Hamilton arrived home safely.
- ☞ **New Wednesday Bible Study:** Adult class- *Principles of Old Testament Prophecy*—How to understand and interpret Old Testament Prophecy
- ☞ **Senior Lunch**— Will resume in April, 2024



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](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 (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