

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	39
Attendance AM	81
Attendance PM	25
Wednesday PM	38

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Phil & Kim Tydings; Anthony Taylor; Diane Cole (Norris) at home; Krubo Joploh; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Mary Vance (ribs); Rhonda Fox; Jahmeir Dudley (broken wrist); Dana Grigsby (knee); Richard Melson (back); Sara Newkirk (Buffalo, NY)

**Traveling:** Norris Cole, II; Richard Melson, Jr.; Cook & Vance families; Valerie Melson

**Prayers:**

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:**

**Birthdays: June** — 1— Stephanie Hoover; 2— Alyse Poole; 4 - Janis Bland; 5— James Vance, III; 6— Carlene Harley; 8— Randy Farmer; 13— Deonna Cole; 19 - Linda Thomas; 25—Richard Thomas; 29 - Anthony Grigsby, James Vance

**Anniversaries: June** — 20—Philip and Kim Tydings; 28 — Jerry and Linda Thomas; 30-- Larry and Dana Grigsby

**Ladies Reading Group:** Zoom Class July 11 @ 6:00 PM  
Lesson 8&9 —“Sisters, I Need You”

June 30	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord’s Supper	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 1	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Server 2	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Patrick Thomas
Sermon	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Prayer for Responses	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Closing Prayer	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas
Announcements	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Greeter		
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 05

June 30, 2024

Issue 26

## WASHING AND CLEANLINESS

Dan Jenkins

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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

When we think of cleanliness, we think of removing dirt from our bodies, clothes, dishes or our houses, but the Jews used the word far differently. God spoke often to them using this word and almost without exception it applied to being ceremonially unclean. This concept can be seen so clearly in the book of Leviticus where He uses the word “clean” at least forty times. Now add to this that in the same book He uses the word “wash” over thirty times, for often when they became unclean, they were told to wash themselves. When they thought of being unclean, they associated it with washing themselves or things in their lives to become clean.

This Old Testament usage has a New Testament application in relation to us and our being cleansed from the filthy pollution of sin. Paul lists a host of sinful actions in his first letter to Corinth. They include fornication, idolatry, homosexuality, thievery and drunkenness. These were common practices in pagan cities. However, when he mentions them as being part of the lives in the Christians, he uses the past tense. It was part of their former lives.

Read carefully his words. “And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified” (1 Cor. 6:11). They were no longer stained by the filthiness of sin; they had been washed. Paul’s preaching caused it. They changed when Paul arrived in that city and planted the church. “And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized” (Acts 18:8). The blood of Jesus was the basis on which they were cleansed, for He...“loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood” (Rev. 1:5). Do not overlook that they were baptized.

Paul mentions this same concept in his letter to Ephesus where he discusses the process of how they were made clean. Christ “...loved the church and gave Himself for her that he might cleanse her with the washing of water by the word” (Eph. 5:25-26). They had heard the word and that caused them to come and be washed in water (Acts 19:1-5).

How had Paul had his sins washed about by Jesus’ blood? Hear these words spoken to him the day he was saved. Ananias, a messenger sent from God, said, “Now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16). He was washed in the blood when he was baptized.

When Paul wrote Titus, he described the process of salvation. It includes two aspects—a renewal of the Holy Spirit and a “washing of regeneration” (Tit. 3:5). Jesus Himself described the new birth as be “born of water and the Spirit.” We are not saved by a sinners’ prayer. We must be washed! *✍️*

**SEEKING THE LOST - LUKE 19:10**

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

## Second Only To The Bible



It was required reading in Jr. High School. I can still remember trying to slog through it, and not appreciating it at the time. It is the story of a fifty-year-old man setting off on a quest to do great deeds and right all wrongs. Don Quixote, by Miguel de Cervantes was quite innovative when first published (part one in 1605, and part two in 1615). The exploits of this man of La Mancha have inspired many, whether he is a tragic hero, a non-conformist, or simply a buffoon. According to The Intellectual Devotional (2006), “of all the books published throughout history, Don Quixote is second only to the Bible in terms of total number of copies printed.”

With time, I have come to have more appreciation for Don Quixote—appreciation that I lacked when I was in Jr. High. With maturity, I have learned to appreciate many things that I saw little reason for at 13.

Consider the accolade for Don Quixote: “second only to the Bible in terms of total number of copies printed.” Have you noticed how often comparisons are made to the Bible? With all of the great and not so great books published every year, the Bible is the perennial best-seller. Perhaps it doesn’t generate the same media frenzy as a new Harry Potter book, but the Bible continues to outsell every other book.

We know why this is so. It is because there is no other book like the Bible. Although other books make similar claims, it is the only book that is truly inspired—“God breathed.” No other book can offer what it offers.

We should join with the psalmist in praising the Bible, which is second to no other book. “For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven. Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth. They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all are thy servants. Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction” (Psalm 119:89-92) .

— Bob Prichard

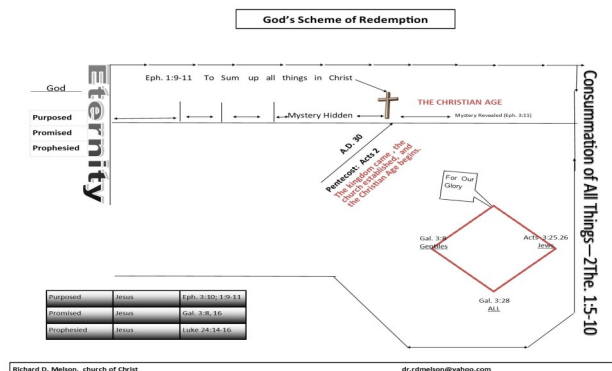
## He couldn't wait any longer



The devoted father awoke on that lazy Saturday morning surrounded by his family. His beautiful wife and young children were all lounging in the bed that morning, laughing and giggling and talking about the day ahead. But the father was thinking. Thinking deeply. He'd been putting something off for a long time. Too long.

He picked up the phone and called the preacher where he had attended with his wife for many years. His message was short but clear, “I’ve been laying in the bed with my family this morning, and I do not want them to be somewhere in eternity where I’m not with them. I need to meet you today and get baptized right away.” He was baptized for the forgiveness of his sins that morning and lived the life of a Christian with and before his family. What about you? Do you have family and friends who are going to be somewhere in eternity where you are not with them? How about making that right today? Don’t wait any longer (Acts 22:16)! !

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson's Musings ...



### Soul Searching Time

Here we are at the precipice of the second half of 2024 and we continue to forge ahead as a new congregation for the Lord. Some thought that with the loss of the eldership we would not survive and the devil hoped that would be the case. But God and righteousness is always stronger than the devil.

#### Congregational Perspectives

Introspection reveals a leadership determined that sound teachings continue. The apostle Paul commanded Titus to speak sound doctrine (Titus 2:1). A church that belongs to Christ supports only the preaching of the word (2 Tim. 4:2). Preachers who neglect teaching on subjects which disappoint those bent on accommodating the world are not welcome (Acts 20:27). Every teacher must speak the "truth in love" (Eph. 4:15).

We are confronted with people who prefer a message compatible with contemporary culture. They ignore that the cross of Jesus can be exalted only when sin is condemned and sinners are warned that their present destiny is with the devil in hell. Jesus warned that in the last day He will banish the wicked with the e words: "Depart from me, ye cursed into the eternal fire which is prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41). Preaching Christ pleases God rather than men (1 Thes. 2:4).

This explains why the church should not be expected to be the most rapidly growing religious group in the area (Matt. 7:13-14), but this truth does not license complacency. To be unconcerned about spiritual growth is to neglect the great salvation (Heb. 2:3), disobey the great

commission (Matt. 28:18-20), and sin willfully (James 4:17).

#### Redeeming the Time

Wisely one must focus on the year, the month and the day rather than the century and the decade. No one lives more than a few decades (James 4:13-17), and daily conduct invested for Christ redeems otherwise wasted hours (Eph. 4:14-16). There must be hundreds in our area that will choose heaven rather than hell when we do what we can to present Jesus as He is. Because Christ commanded the apostles to go, we must understand that He wants us to grow. One who seeks improvement must not plan for just a year. The Christian follows Jesus always. While the teachings of Jesus and His apostles demand immediate action, the action must continue. Then one wisely plans not for the year but for life. *(to be continued next week).*

#### Summer Series: Principles of Victorious Christian Living

I want to thank each of the preachers who have already taught to help us live for the Lord! One thing that every Christian should be desirous of doing is to sow and water the seed of the kingdom.

- ☞ **Summer Series 2024:** Principles of Victorious Christian Living, each Wednesday June 5—August 28
- ☞ **2024 Theme:** Seeking The Lost



## 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/>; [www.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