

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	54
Attendance AM	77
Attendance PM	22
Wednesday PM	32

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Phil & Kim Tydings; Anthony Taylor; Diane Cole (Norris); Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Rhonda Fox; Dana Grigsby (knee); Sara Newkirk (Buffalo, NY); Dwayne Eslick (hip replacement/home); Otis Adair ;Naomi Shields (back surgery)  
**Traveling:** Norris Cole, II; Norris and Diane Cole  
**Prayers:**  
**Repentance:**  
**Baptism:**  
**Sympathy:** Mary Sander’s family; Tony Moore (family)  
**Birthdays: July**— 2—Richard Melson, Jr. 6— Penny Cook; 8— Rachel Blanks; 9— Ruby Nickell; 15— Glenna Adair; 20 - Mike Mamula; 22—Otis Adair  
**Anniversaries: July** — 18—Mike and Brenda Mamula; 23— Chad and Jennifer Arnett; 30— Norris and Diane Cole  
**Ladies Reading Group:** Zoom Class July 25 @ 6:00 PM Lesson 9 —“Sisters, I Need You”

July 21	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Song Leader	Chris Poole	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord’s Supper	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Server 1	Ryan McGahee	Patrick Thomas
Server 2	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Frank Brock
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Patrick Ccook	Patrick Cook
Closing Prayer	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Announcements	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
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

July 21, 2024

Issue 29

[www.needmoreroadcoc.com](http://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](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

**GAME CHANGERS: JOSHUA AND CALEB: COURAGE TO STAND**

Ronnie Scherfficus

Most are familiar with the inspired record of Joshua and Caleb — the two spies who returned with a good report and opposed the evil report of the ten spies (Num. 13) that caused the people to cry out in despair to God and murmur against Moses and Aaron (Num. 14:1-4). But we often fail to consider the reaction of Israel toward Joshua and Caleb when they opposed the evil report and courageously stood on God’s side.

And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes: And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land. If the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defense is departed from them, and the Lord is with us: fear them not. But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. (Num 14:6-10)

Joshua and Caleb not only opposed the negative words of their fellow spies, or even the negative reaction of the people, but they stood courageously in the face of death! While we may never face the threat of being stoned to death, we nevertheless must be strong and courageous (Josh. 1:6-7) to stand in a world so openly opposed to the truth of God.

We must courageously stand on the truth of the infallibility and inspiration of the Bible. One of the most frequent attacks against the Bible is that it cannot be infallible. The argument is as follows: “Since the Bible was written by men, and since man is not infallible, then the Bible is not infallible.” Such opposers to the Bible refuse to acknowledge the Bible’s inspiration. Paul wrote, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God” (2 Tim. 3:16). To the Corinthians Paul affirmed, “Now we [inspired men] have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God” (1 Cor. 2:12).

Throughout the Old Testament we learn that the prophets spoke, not their own words, but the words of God (Jer. 1:9-10; 2 Sam. 23:2; 1 Pt. 1:11). Thus Peter affirmed, “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost” (2 Pt. 1:20-21).

If the Bible was a production of man it would be just to say it is infallible. If the Bible was the production of man the fallibility and error contained therein would no doubt be easily shown! But the Bible is not a production of man! It is the verbally, plenary, infallible, inspired Word of God that lights our paths (Ps. 119:105), guides our steps (Jer. 10:23) and keeps us from sin (Ps. 119:11). If we will but have the courage to stand on the truth of the infallibility of God’s inspired word we will not only change our lives but the lives of those around us.

*Continued on page three*

## SEEKING THE LOST - LUKE 19:10

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

## Are We a Cult?

[The following was written 18 years ago, but remains true as a new campaign is out to continue to promote the devil's lie]

In the wake of the tragic murder of Matthew Winkler, many have been trying to make sense of what happened. Nancy Grace, of CNN discussed some of the issues on March 27, 2006. The transcript of the program includes her interview with Tom Rukala, a Baptist preacher from Selmer, TN, the city where Matthew Winkler preached. Mr. Rukala appears to have some personal animosity to the church, which caused him to say several erroneous things, including the charge that the church of Christ is a "borderline cult."

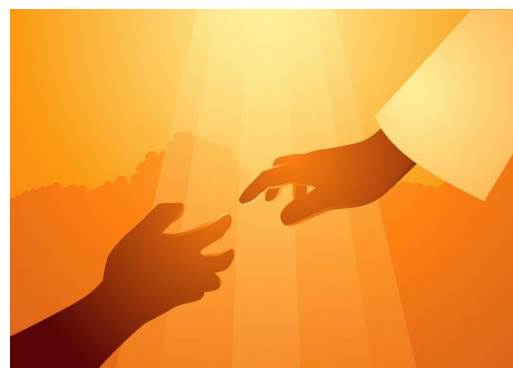
Many wonder why Ms. Grace, who indicated she knows little about the church, would ask a Baptist preacher about the church of Christ. It seems illogical to us, but most people in the media know nothing about the religious world, so such a mistake is not to be unexpected.

What is a cult? The usual definition of a cult in modern religious circles is that of a group that denies the deity of Christ, and accepts inspiration beyond the Bible (either written or verbal). As the Evangelical Dictionary of Theology (p. 289) points out, the word "cult" is very often used today for its propaganda value, as in this recent use on CNN.

By the usual definition, we certainly would not be considered a cult by most people. We must realize, however, that as long as there is some propaganda value in saying we are a cult, some will resort to this kind of name calling. We should not be surprised that this is happening. As a prisoner in his own hired house in Rome, Paul called the chief of the Jews together to learn about the church, of which they said, "we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against" (Acts 28:22). Let us pray that others will desire to hear even today about this sect that is everywhere spoken against. Peter and other apostles rejoiced "that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name. And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ" (Acts 5:41-42). We should do the same!

— Bob Prichard

## "It is He who made us"

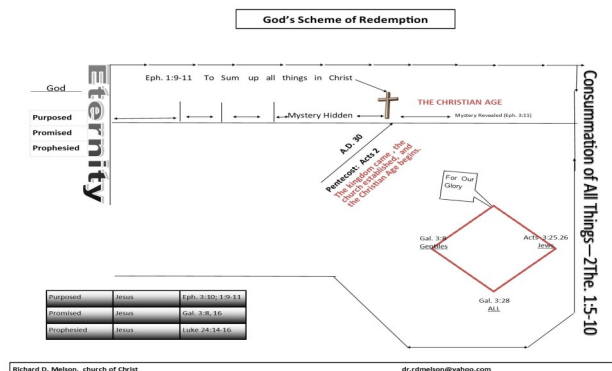


Reading the Bible slowly and considering each phrase is fun. Do you ever stop to wonder how God chose to word certain things in certain passages? Psalm 100 is a well-known text. The very center of the psalm states, "It is He who made us." Why doesn't it state it more simply as, "He made us"? Consider the significance of the text saying, "It is HE who made us."

The words just before it state, "Know that the Lord, He is God." "God" (Hebrew, Elohim) is not His name but a reference to the Divine nature of Jehovah, emphasizing His strength, might and the power to create and effect. He is God! The words just after it state, "and not we ourselves" (KJV, NKJV, NASB, and footnotes in other translations). What's the point in this verse? Jehovah is God! AND WE ARE NOT!

Therefore, let us "Make a joyful shout" to HIM! Let us "Serve" HIM "with gladness"! Let us "Be thankful to HIM"! HE alone is deserving of ALL of this (and more!), for "It is HE who made us," and WE had nothing to do with it!

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson's Musings ...



*Continued from page one*

We must courageously stand on the truth of the one church. In a country where "offensive" speech is strongly condemned by popular culture, and a spirit of "let's just agree to disagree" or "we're all going to the same place just taking different roads to get there," dominates the religious mindset it takes a great measure of courage to stand on the truth of the one church. An examination of the origins and doctrines of the Catholics, Lutherans, Episcopalians, Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists, and all other Protestant denominations and/or Evangelical sects that have spawned from the corrupt seed of manmade tradition, and it is evident that none individually nor all collectively represent the New Testament church! Jesus said "I will build my church" — singular (Mt. 16:18). Paul instructed that the body of Christ is the church of Christ and that there is "one body" (Eph. 1:22-23; 4:4; 5:23). The Lord adds to the church those who obediently obey the gospel (Acts 2:47) and there is no ecclesiastical assortment of religious bodies from which He chooses! There is one church and the saved are added to that one church — the church for which Jesus shed His blood, which originated according to the eternal purposes and prophecies of God, and which follows the pattern and doctrine of apostolic teaching. In the religious climate of our society it takes great courage to stand on the truth of the one church!

Joshua and Caleb were game changers because they courageously stood when the majority spoke against God and against His promises. So courageous were these men of faith that they were willing (and able!) to stand when their life was in jeopardy. These men became game changers in Israel. If we will follow their example and courageously stand with God we can also make a difference for God's people today.

*The Midtown Messenger, Midtown Church of Christ Weekly Bulletin, February 17, 2019*

## Renew-Refresh-Recharge

Polishing the Pulpit Branson was an overwhelming success. There were almost 2,000 attendees—many of whom were first-timers. There were many from Missouri, Arkansas, Colorado and Ohio who were first time attendees. I was privileged to speak five times and listen so that I became refreshed, renewed, and recharged.

Many brethren worked to create contacts with the staff of the convention facility. There were several Bible studies happening during the week with non-members. Brother Robert Youngblood was instrumental in four conversions and there are three additional ongoing studies for the local congregation.

PTP brings brethren together and provides spiritual nourishment for the weak. It was exciting to see so many brotherhood missions and works coming together for the good of the Kingdom. If you have not attended Polishing the Pulpit, there is still time to register for PTP-Sevierville. You won't be disappointed.

## 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



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/>; [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