

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	40
Attendance AM	77
Attendance PM	15
Wednesday PM	24

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Ruby Nickell; Ruby Cole (home); Phil & Kim Tydings; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Nina Netherton; Kristina Burns; Otis Adair; Mary Rutland;
Traveling: Norris Cole, II; Richard Melson, Jr.; Tony Moore; Shanelle Colcous;
Prayers:
Repentance:
Baptism:
Sympathy:
Birthdays: December — 5 Herman Farmer; 6 David Ward; 11 Nina Netheron, Kimberly Tydings; 15 Dwayne Eslick; Dana Grigsby, Richard Melson; 23 Tony Moore, Sr. 24 Mia Gilbert; 26 Theresa Wallace;
Anniversaries: December— 27 Tony and Princess Moore
Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class @ 6:00 PM Lesson 1 in "Bible A's for Ladies"

December 22	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Patrick Cook
Lead Lord's Supper	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 1	Chris Poole	Chris Poole
Server 2	James Grigsby	Patrick Thomas
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Tony Moore
Sermon	Richard D Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Closing Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Announcements	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
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

December 22, 2024

Issue 51

AS THE END APPROACHES

Dan Jenkins

When Paul wrote his epistle to the church at Rome, he reminded them of the urgency of being prepared for whatever was in their future. The Romans knew the times that lay before them (13:11), and Paul told them how to prepare. Their approaching trial may be different from one each of us faces—the end of our lives—but Paul's words seem so applicable to what each of us must do as we see the end approaching.

As the end approaches, we must awake out of our sleep (13:11). Paul said, "It is high time to awake out of sleep for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed." There is a grave danger of complacency overtaking us spiritually. We may be like the apostles in Gethsemane who failed to listen to the Lord's admonition, "Watch and pray." Yet, they slept! As the end comes closer to each of us, let us watch and be sober.

As the end approaches, we must lay aside six fleshly sins (13:14). Paul said, "Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness . . . let us walk properly . . . not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy." Our God created us as eternal souls residing in fleshly bodies, but it is so easy to forget this and live fleshly lives. One of life's greatest sorrows is to see those who were once steadfast in their devotion now allow the flesh to gain supremacy over their souls. Look at the six sins Paul lists and guard against them. Our salvation is nearer than when we first believed, but so is our condemnation if worldliness destroys our spiritually. Christianity is a life of continual growth which began at our spiritual birth and ends with our physical death. The end is coming!

As the end approaches, we must clothe ourselves in an armor of light (13:12). Paul said, "Let us put on the armor of light." The words "put on" are set in contrast to that which we must "cast off." The six sins he lists are called the "works of darkness," and our guarantee of victory is found in the armor of light. Paul amplified these two verses later when he said, "Put on the Lord Jesus Christ." Becoming like Christ begins when we put on Christ in baptism (Gal. 3:27), but it does not end there. We walk in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:7), and we are transformed every day to be more like Him. As the end approaches, let us put on Christ.

As the end approaches, we cannot make any provision to compromise with sin (13:14). Paul said, "Make no provision for the flesh." There is no room to compromise when it comes to truth. Truth is absolute, and it is always right to do right. That determination we had to stand for truth when we first believed must never leave us.

The end is approaching: watch, pray and be sober!

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

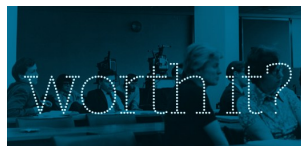
Ministers
 All Members

- 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

SEEKING THE LOST - LUKE 19:10

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

What is it worth?



What is a telephone number worth? How much would you pay for a particular number? In 2009 a telephone number was auctioned on eBay, and it brought a high bid of \$186,853.09. The number auctioned off was "867-5309." If you have a memory for the oldies, you will recognize the number as the title of Tommy Tutone's 1981 hit song "867-5309/Jenny".

Verizon, who issued the number, protested against the auction, saying that numbers are not transferable. Besides wanting to make some money, the person with the number probably wanted to change it because of all of the unsolicited calls he receives, which usually come on weekends from people who are drunk.

Perhaps that should remind us of how blessed we are to have the telephone as a communication tool. It seems that many people prefer to communicate by email or the latest fad, instant messaging. Think what a revolution it would be if we had been using email for a long time, and we suddenly had telephones to actually talk to each other. I believe one reason that we seem to like email so much is that we don't have to actually talk to anyone.

Speaking of talking to someone, how long has it been since you spent some really good time talking to the Lord? There is no doubt in my mind that one of the most under-utilized tools we have to make our lives better, to save the world, and to prepare for heaven, is prayer.

When Jesus gave the model prayer to the disciples, He began by saying, "When ye pray" (Luke 11:2). Notice He didn't say, "If you pray," but "When you pray." He expected His followers to be praying people.

As Paul came to the end of his first letter to the Thessalonians, he said, "Brethren, pray for us." He knew that they would, because he had already told them, "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:25, 17). How long has it been since you really prayed? And you don't even need a special number! "

— Bob Prichard

"I didn't get anything out of that!"

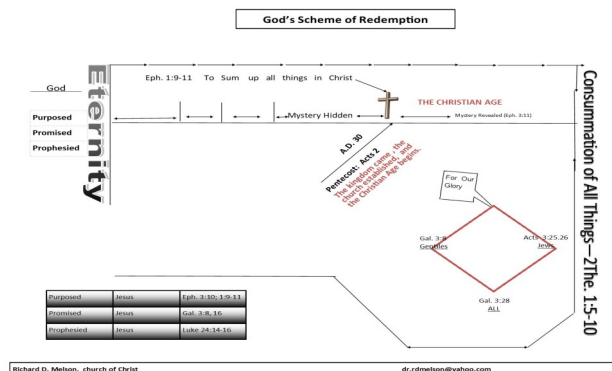


Imagine someone coming out of the gym and saying, "I didn't get anything out of that!" Well, sir, did you put forth any effort while you were there? "No, I just went in, sat down for a while, and then left." Well, no wonder you didn't get anything out of that! Imagine someone else coming out of a restaurant and saying, "I didn't get anything out of that!" Well, sir, did you put forth any effort while you were there? "No, I just went in, sat down for a while, and then left." Well, no wonder you didn't get anything out of that!

Imagine yet someone else coming out of a worship assembly and saying, "I didn't get anything out of that!" Well, sir, did you put forth any effort while you were there? "No, I just went it, sat down for a while, and then left." Well, no wonder you didn't get anything out of that!

God designed worship to take effort! It is an action verb (John 4:23-24; Matt. 4:10)! And He did not design worship to primarily focus on what the worshiper gets OUT of it, but rather what the worshiper puts INTO his/her active worship of the all-deserving God of heaven! Think about it!?

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



If Tomorrow Never Comes

If I knew it would be the last time that I'd see you fall asleep,
I would tuck you in more tightly and pray the Lord, your soul to keep.

If I knew it would be the last time that I see you walk out the door,
I would give you a hug and kiss and call you back for one more.

If I knew it would be the last time, I'd hear your voice lifted up in praise,
I would video tape each action and work, so I could play them back day after day.

If I knew it would be the last time, I could spare an extra minute or two to stop and say, "I love you," instead of assuming you would know I do.

If I knew it would be the last time, I would be there to share your day, well I'm sure you'll have so many more, so I can let just this one slip away.

For surely there is always tomorrow to make up for an oversight, and we always get a second chance to make everything right.

There will always be another day to say our "I love you's"
And certainly, there's another chance to say our "Anything I can do's?"

But just in case I might be wrong, and today is all I get,

I'd like to say how much I love you and I hope we never forget.

Tomorrow is not promised to anyone, young or old alike,
And today may be the last chance you get to hold your loved one tight.

So if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today?
For if tomorrow never comes, you'll surely regret the day,

That you didn't take that extra time for a smile, a hug, or a kiss and you were too busy to grant someone, what turned out to be their one last wish.

So hold your loved ones close today, whisper in their ear,
Tell them how much you love them and that you'll always hold them dear.

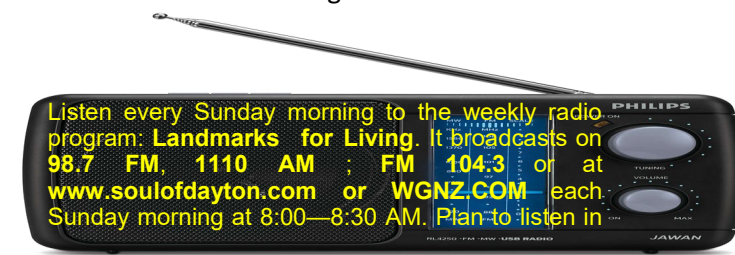
Take time to say, "I'm sorry" "please forgive me," "thank you" or "it's okay."
And if tomorrow never comes, you'll have no regrets about today.

Unknown

James 4:14 - Whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

- Glenn Hitchcock

📻 2024 Theme: Seeking The Lost



NEWS AND NOTES

- Visit these online resources: www.wvbs.org ; www.apologeticspress.org ; www.searchtv.org; <http://gbntv.org/>;
- 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