

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	43
Attendance AM	72
Attendance PM	40
Wednesday PM	22

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; 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 Jan 09 @ 6:00 PM Lesson 1 in "Bible A's for Ladies"

December 29	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Anthony Grigsby	Frank Brock
Song Leader	Patrick Cook	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord's Supper	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Server 1	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Server 2	Chris Poole	Anthony Grigsby
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Norris Cole
Sermon	Richard D Melson	Kevin Berry
Prayer for Responses	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Closing Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Announcements	Norris Cole	Norris 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 29, 2024

Issue 52

YEAR IN AND YEAR OUT

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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

We do not have the option of lighting our light one moment and then putting it out at the moment we are ridiculed or persecuted. Our light must shine brightly - shine forth for the Lord year in and year out!

The year 2024 is about to come to an end and the year 2025 will begin. It is traditional for people to gather together on New Year's Eve to enjoy each other's company and acknowledge the beginning of the New Year. Some suggest that this is the period of time where we close one chapter of our life and begin in another. I suppose that one can view the Old and New Year in such a manner, but there is something much more important to be considered. At some point in time, you and I will close out our life in this world and begin eternity! When this moment occurs, it will matter greatly whether or not we have faithfully served the Lord "year in and year out". Let us make sure that we take the time to evaluate our lives in view of the coming Lord in judgment on this world (2 Thes. 1:7-9). Consider these things as 2024 comes to a close:

Am I concerned about sacred matters year in and year out? The Lord's church and proper worship is so important that God's inspired Word regulates both. The religion of the Bible is not something that one can successfully trifle with. The cost of Christianity and the Lord's church is indeed high. In order for the redemption of man to be possible, the Father gave His only begotten Son (Jn. 3:16), and the Son willingly gave His life (Matt. 27:20; Rom. 5:8).

It is no wonder that Christ said, "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments" (Jn. 14:15). The Savior paid a tremendous price for being the "Lamb of God" (Jn. 1:29) and the "good shepherd" (Jn. 10:11). His precious blood was shed to purchase His church (Acts 20:28). Never forget that it was not your blood or my blood that purchased the church! Such being the case, all authority belongs to Christ as the head and savior of the body (Matt. 28:18; Eph. 1:22-23; 5:23). Those who desire to go to heaven will respect what God has said regarding the proper worship of the church. We must be concerned about sacred matters year in and year out. The Lord was and is.

Am I committed to worshipping and serving the Lord year in and year out? Some things in this life are hit or miss on again, off again, or seasonal or periodic. Normally, however, we are more committed to those things that are near and dear to our hearts. Can we truly say that worshipping and serving the Lord is something that we are determined to do year in and year out?

Spasmodic or half-hearted allegiance is in vain and is detested by the Lord. To the church at Laodicea He said, "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou

(continued on page 3)

SEEKING THE LOST - LUKE 19:10

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

FROM THE BEGINNING...TO THE VERY END OF THE YEAR

During the final days of the wilderness wanderings, the great leader Moses delivered his final address to the Israelites. Among those things that he said were the following words: "The eyes of the Lord your God are always on it, from the beginning of the year to the very end of the year" (Deut.11:12). Moses' words were in reference to the land that the people would enter to possess, and their ongoing relationship to this land and to God who gave it to them. (cf. Deut. 11:11). Moses' words here are also appropriate as we complete the annual journey from the Old to the New Year. They are words that provide a timely reminder of two basic aspects of the New Year.

WHAT GOD WILL DO. Moses reassured the Israelites of God's care for them from the beginning of the year even to the end of it. As you and I face the unknowns and uncertainties of a new year, we need to be reassured of the providential care of God. This care is reflected in four words God has often repeated to His people. They are: "I AM WITH YOU" (cf. Gen. 26:24; 28:15; Isa. 41:10; Matt. 28:20, et al). The New Year is a time to remember that "the Lord will go before you, and the God of Israel will be your rear guard" (Isa. 52:12). He has promised to go before us, be behind us, and within us, as a source of strength (Eph. 3:16; cf. Heb. 13:5-6) as long as we remain faithful to Him.

WHAT WE MUST DO. Moses' words (Deut. 11:12ff) are also a challenge at the crossroads of an Old and New Year for us to obey the Lord (v.13), love the Lord (v.13), serve the Lord (v.13), walk with the Lord (v.22), holdfast to the Lord (v.22), and teach the Lord's words (v.19). God has promised to be with us to and do His part. We must do our part.

Norman Vincent Peale reported an incident from his boyhood that occurred on the last day of 1910. His father, a minister, was writing his final letter of that year. At the top of the letter he wrote, "Dec. 31, 1910." Then he turned to his son and said, "Norman, that's the last time I shall write 1910. Tomorrow I shall write January 1, 1911." Norman asked, "Papa, what do you think 1911 will be like?" His father replied, "Norman, it will be just exactly what you, I and God do with it... That goes for every year you'll ever live."

2025 will be what you, I and God do with it. God will do His part. It is my prayer that God strengthen us to do our part.

— Richard Melson

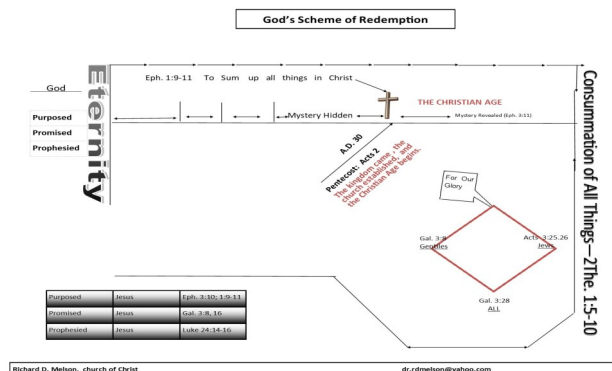
Letting your kids decide



Did you hear about the parent whose child had a curable illness that simply required a regular prescription medication, but the parent let the young child decide each day whether to take the medicine or not? Oh, you didn't? Did you hear about the parent whose child didn't like going to school, so that parent decided to not make the child go to school, lest the child turn away from education altogether and never want to learn anything ever again? Oh, you didn't?

As parents, we raise our kids to have the best opportunities to succeed in life, and we make the big decisions for them, when they are young, since they are not equipped to understand the long-term need for certain things or the ramifications of choosing to neglect something vital to their life. We do that with medications, with school, and those things we have determined to be essentials. So, here's the question: Why do parents let their children decide whether they want to go to church, or go to Bible class, or go to church youth events, or participate in worship or church activities, or have family devotionals, or all sorts of things that make an eternal difference? Why are those optional?

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



(continued from page one)

wert cold or hot. So because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth" (Rev. 3:15-16). After one's conversion, he must continue to faithfully walk in the light of God's Word (1 Jn. 1:7).

Allegiance to the Lord and His cause is second by second, minute by minute, hour by hour, day by day, week by week, month by month, and year by year. There are no vacations when one is enrolled in service to the King. May we remember that our sights are set on things above (Col. 3:2) and on a "city which hath the foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Heb. 11:10)?

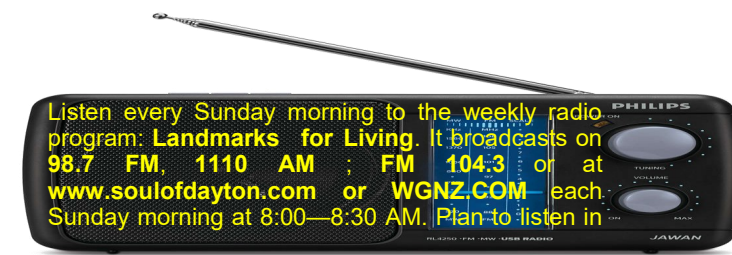
Am I concerned about being the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world" year in and year out (Matt. 5:13-16)? Some members of the Lord's church do good for a while, as they seem to be concerned about their influence and being a good example. But then something happens, and perhaps at least part of the credit goes to a most formidable foe, Satan (1 Pet. 5:8). Members of the body either forget or do not care that their light is not to be hidden or covered up. God would have our light to always shine like a beacon so that all can see, and so that He might be glorified. We do not have the option of lighting our light one moment and then putting it out at the moment we are ridiculed or persecuted. Study carefully Matthew 5:13-16! If the salt ever loses its savor (flavor and preserving power) it is "good for nothing, but to be cast out and trodden under foot of men" (Matt. 5:13). Our light must shine brightly - shine forth for the Lord year in and year out!

Am I committed to loving the lost year in and year out? Manmade denominations are more than confused when it comes to the subject of love. Many advocate love without obedience, but such love is not the love that God demands. The writer of Hebrews proves such in saying, "though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him" (Heb. 5:8-9).

One cannot love God who does not keep (obey) His commandments (Jn. 14:15). One cannot be saved without obeying the Gospel (2 Thes. 1:8). It is not a gospel or my gospel but the Gospel that saves (Gal. 1:6-9; Rom. 1:16). If we are committed to saving lost souls, we will always speak the truth as only the truth can free one from the bondage of sin (Jn. 8:32).

Faithfulness to God is required year in and year out! ✍️

📻 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