

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	50
Attendance AM	87
Attendance PM	30
Wednesday PM	21

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Dollie Jones (Stone Springs); Ruby Cole (home); Phil & Kim Tydings; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Nina Netherton; Mary Rutland (home);

Traveling: Michael Blanks, Jr.; Norris Cole, II; Richard Melson, Jr.

Prayers: Citizens of various parts of Southern California & western North Carolina; Richard & Debra Barr

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Birthdays: February — 4 Betty Blakley; 13 Tena Eslick; 16 Grover Frank Brock; 21 Catherine Anderson, Jerry Thomas; 22 Brenda Wiley

Anniversaries: February — None

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class Feb. 6 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 2 in "Bible A's for Ladies"

February 02	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Song Leader	Patrick Cook	Michael Blanks, Jr.
Lead Lord's Supper	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Server 1	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Server 2	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Scripture Reader	James Grigsby	James Grigsby
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Closing Prayer	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas
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 06

February 02, 2025

Issue 05

OPENING TO OPPORTUNITY

Brian R. Kenyon

When "opportunity knocks," what is our reaction? Sometimes we are fearful.

Sometimes we ignore it. Sometimes we do not even realize it is present. Unfortunately, opportunities do not always return when missed. Let us learn about opportunity from Paul's statement to the Corinthians: *But I will tarry in Ephesus until Pentecost. For a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries* (1 Cor. 16:8-9).

The word "door" is often used as a metaphor for opportunity (Acts 14:27; 2 Corinthians 2:12; Colossians 4:3; Revelation 3:8).

First, when opportunities come, we must make plans accordingly. Paul was willing to continue in Ephesus where the opportunity presented itself. "Pentecost" no longer carried a religious connotation for Paul, but it was a good way of marking the time of year. He would continue working in Ephesus until late spring or early summer before visiting Corinth. The reason why some Christians miss spiritual opportunities and corresponding plans to take advantage of them is they are too focused on things of this world (Matthew 13:22; Romans 12:2). The best way, then, to recognize spiritual opportunities is to be spiritually minded (Colossians 3:1-2; Romans 8:5-8). When recognized, we can make plans with God in mind (James 4:13-15).

Second, opportunities to save or to edify souls, including our own, are worth every effort. The words "great" ["wide," NAS] and "effective" ["effectual," KJV] indicate that Paul's opportunity in Ephesus was tremendous. In fact, the word translated "effective" means active and powerful. It is the same word from which the English word "energy" derives. Sometimes, Christians squander opportunities because they are not willing to make the sacrifices necessary to take advantage of them (Matthew 25:1-13). However, we must realize that no matter the temporary sacrifice, the eternal blessings are worth it (Romans 8:18)!

Third, opportunities often come with obstacles. Paul had "many adversaries." These adversaries stood against Paul as he served the Lord. The opposition against Paul in Ephesus is well documented (Acts 19:21-40; 2 Corinthians 1:8-10), but by God's grace, he was still very successful (Acts 19:1-20)! Christians today also face opposition when they take advantage of spiritual opportunities (Matthew 5:10-12; 2 Timothy 3:12; 1 Peter 4:12-16). In order to do our best for the Lord, we must neither fear the opposition (Philippians 1:28) nor give "opportunity to the adversary" (1 Timothy 5:14).

There is so much opportunity for Christians to grow in the Lord. Let us take advantage of each opportunity and give ourselves to His service!

The Laborer, Yukon Church of Christ Weekly Bulletin, May 19, 2019.

www.needmoreroadcoc.com
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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.

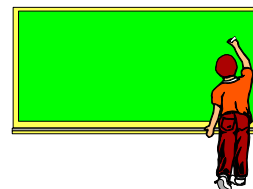
Preacher
Richard D. Melson
937-321-3973
dr.rdmelson@yahoo.com

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

BEING THE NEW CREATION IN 2025 - 2 COR. 5:17

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



“No I Ain’t!”

The little boy has misbehaved at school and had to write, “I am a bad boy” five hundred times. “I got even with the teacher, though,” he said. “When I got home I wrote, ‘No I ain’t’ five hundred and one times!”

The little boy understood something. Words do matter, and good words matter even more. Our lives need to be spent in seeking the good of all, and our words will often make the difference. Solomon said, “A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!” (Proverbs 15:23). What we say to others makes a difference!

Solomon also said, “He that diligently seeketh good procureth favour: but he that seeketh mischief, it shall come unto him” (Proverbs 11:27). In words and deeds, we most often find what we are looking for. If we are looking for evil, we will find it. If we are looking for good, we will find it.

Satan looks at us, and says we are worthless. As he came among the sons of God, Satan said of Job, “Doth Job fear God for nought? Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face” (Job 1:9-11). Even Job, who God described as “a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil” (Job 1:8), is supposedly only faithful because of all the blessings he has received.

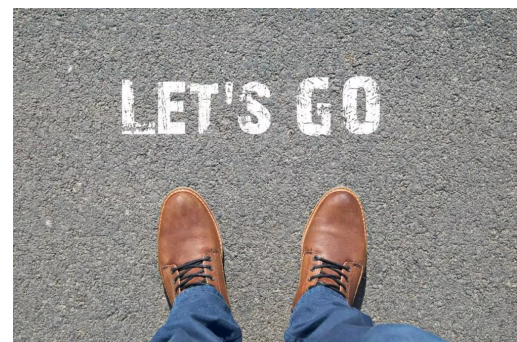
Even after the loss of his children and all of his material possessions, Satan still says of Job, “Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face” (Job 2:4-5). Satan, the accuser, still says that we are worthless.

In contrast, consider the words of God through John the apostle: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved” (John 3:16-17). Because of His love, God sent Christ to die for us.

When Satan says I am so bad that I am not worth saving, God says, “No he ain’t!”

— Bob Prichard

It’s more than just what we “don’t do”

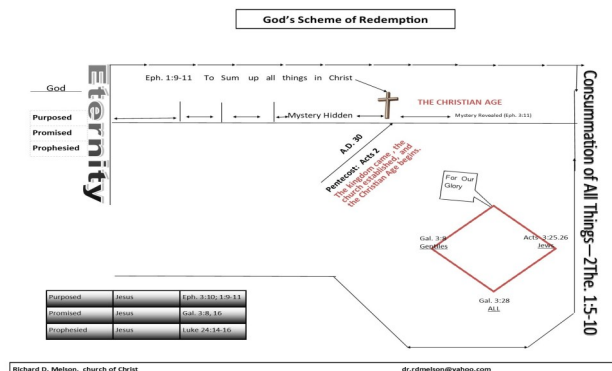


Sometimes, it appears, Christians seem to go through their days without doing a whole lot, in an active sense, for the Lord. There seems to be a mindset of something like this, “I’m a good Christian. I don’t do anything really bad. I’m a good person overall. That’s what it means for me to be a Christian.”

But, is that what it means to be a Christian? Just be a good person and don’t do anything really bad? Solomon concluded this about life: “Man’s all” is to “fear God and keep His commandments” (Ecc. 12:13). Keep His commandments? Do I do that every day? James concluded this about life: “Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin” (Jas. 4:17). So, there is actually “doing” needed to keep me out of sin?

There are scores of individuals in the Bible who were relatively “good people” but were not right with God (cf. Matt. 7:22-23; Acts 10:1-6). Let us not sit back every day, avoid doing the “bad” things, and then think we’re “good” with God. Let’s get up and DO.

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson’s Musings ...



Are Your Words Helping the Church?

Words are the most powerful weapon known to man. With them we can lift the spirits of the downtrodden, make someone feel loved and appreciated, or start wars and destroy relationships. Our words have a powerful impact on the church. Congregations can be torn apart by slanderous and vindictive speech and built up by words of encouragement and appreciation. This is behind Paul’s command in Ephesians 4:29 to let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. “Corrupt” speech is speech that is rotten and worthless. James used the word in James 5:2 when he said “Your riches are corrupted...” Jesus used the word several times to refer to rotten fruit (Matt. 7:17-18; 12:33). A bushel of rotten apples serves no good purpose, and the same must be said for rotten words. As Christians, we must be mindful of what we say and what effect our words may have on those who hear them. Rotten language in daily communication will harm our influence and our ability to convert souls to Christ. In the church, our speech may discourage brethren, hinder the work, or drive a wedge between fellow members. Note that rotten speech per Ephesians 4:29 is not just filthy language. It is any kind of speech that causes harm. Take a moment and reflect on your speech. Is it rotten? Are your words helping to build up the church or are they causing harm? How can your words best be used for edification?

May God help us to strengthen the body of Christ through healthy, wholesome, edifying words.

- Cody Westbrook

DEDICATED WOMEN AND THEIR FAMOUS SONGS

Elizabeth Payson was the youngest daughter of a famous and very devout minister of Portland, Maine. When she was very young she began to write poetry and prose and at the age of sixteen contributed to The Youth's Companion, a magazine of high spiritual and literary standards.

She was married to George L. Prentiss, a professor at Union Theological Seminary in 1845. As a poet she is best known for the hymn **"More Love To Thee, O Christ,"** which was written about 1856 at a time a great personal sorrow for her. Thirteen years later she showed the poem to her husband who printed it for private distribution. It attained great popularity and was translated into many languages.

*More love to Thee, O Christ,
More love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make
On bended knee;
This is my earnest plea,
More love, O Christ, to Thee,
More love to Thee!*

- Irma Batey



Listen every Sunday morning to the weekly radio program: **Landmarks for Living**. It broadcasts on **98.7 FM, 1110 AM ; FM 104.3** or at **www.soulofdayton.com** or **WGNZ.COM** each Sunday morning at 8:00—8:30 AM. Plan to listen in

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