

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	49
Attendance AM	87
Attendance PM	28
Wednesday PM	54

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Dana Grigsby; Krubo Joploh; Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Mary Rutland; David Johnson

Traveling: Richard Melson, Jr., Norris Cole, II

Prayers:

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Member Birthdays: July — 2— Richard Melson, Jr.; 6- Penny Cook; 8 - Rachel Blanks; 9 - Ruby Nickell; 20 - Glenna Adair; 27 - Otis Adair

Anniversaries: July — 18— Michael and Brenda Mamula; 23— Chad and Jennifer Arnett; 30— Norris and Diane Cole

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class July 10 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 9 in "Bible A's for Ladies"

July 06	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Chris Poole	Chris Poole
Song Leader	Lyle Cole	Michael Blanks, Jr.
Lead Lord's Supper	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Server 1	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Server 2	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Lyle Cole
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Closing Prayer	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Announcements	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Greeter	Samuel Jones	Samuel Jones
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

July 06, 2025

Issue 27

LET FREEDOM RING !

Mike Vestal

As wonderful as it is to be able to celebrate our freedom as a nation, it is a far, far greater thing to be able to celebrate our **freedom in Christ**. "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed" (John 8:36). Perhaps many of us as Americans are sometimes guilty of taking our freedom for granted. But each year on the Fourth of July we remember how precious freedom is, and that our freedom came with a heavy price - the lives of thousands. How much more precious is our freedom in Christ? Did it not come at the price of the life of the very Son of God? (1 Peter 1:18- 19; 1 Corinthians 6:20). Our nation gives us the opportunity for "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," but only in Jesus are such concepts fully realized.

The book of Galatians has often been called, "The Magna Charta of Christian Liberty," or "The Christian's Declaration of Independence." Notice Galatians 5:1, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. " "Stand fast therefore" has to do with the Christian's life. Dead folk do not stand and walk! "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit" (Galatians 5:24). The expressions "liberty" and "freedom" have to do with the Christian's liberty. The truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ is liberating! (John 8:31-32; Romans 6:16-18). William Cowper was right when he said, "He is a freeman whom the truth makes free, and all are slaves beside." This liberty is a freedom from sin, not to sin.

Note that Galatians 5:1 says, "do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. " It seems to me that this expression, although stated negatively, basically amounts to the pursuit of happiness. I say this because the greatest source of satisfaction and joy in life actually is the pursuit of God! (Psalm 16:11, 43:4; Jeremiah 9:23- 24). Anything else is slavery and/or idolatry! How could one become entangled again in bondage? Perhaps going back to the first book of the Bible will help to illustrate. God created Adam and Eve (male and female) to be both morally responsible (receiving commandments) and free (invited, but not coerced into loving obedience). To fail to properly balance moral responsibility and freedom leads to sin. It results either in license (which denies moral responsibility) or in legalism (which denies freedom).

Christians know from both Scripture and experience that human fulfillment (life) is impossible outside some context of authority. For that very reason, our country has a government divided into executive, legislative, and judicial branches. The Christian must understand that God is the ultimate King, Law Giver, and Judge. Our national government is "by the people, for the people, and of the people." Our God made people, is for us more than we could possibly fathom, and sent Jesus to save as one of us! (Hebrews 2:18, 4:15). Freedom unlimited is an illusion. The mind is free only when under the authority of truth, and the will when under the authority of righteousness. It is only under Christ's yoke that we find the rest He promises, not in casting it aside or replacing it with something else (Matthew 11:28, 29). "Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty" (2 Corinthians 3:17). How thankful we should be for freedom in Christ! May we truly be able to say, "In God We Trust." *GR*

www.needmoreroadcoc.com
Phone: (937) 274-6801
Fax: (937) 999-4949

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

Help For The Long Race



Eric “The Swimmer” Moussambani of Equatorial Guinea was an unlikely hero of the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games. The 22-year-old had only learned to swim the previous January, had only practiced in a 20-meter pool without lane markers, and had never raced more than 50 meters. By special invitation of the International Olympic Committee, under a special program that permits poorer countries to participate even though their athletes don't meet customary standards, he had been entered in the 100-meter men's freestyle.

When the other two swimmers in his heat were disqualified because of false starts, Moussambani was forced to swim alone. Eric Moussambani was, to use the words of an Associated Press story about his race, “charmingly inept.” He never put his head under the water's surface and flailed wildly to stay afloat. With ten meters left to the wall, he virtually came to a stop. Some spectators thought he might drown! Even though his time was over a minute slower than what qualified for the next level of competition, the capacity crowd at the Olympic Aquatic Center stood to their feet and cheered the swimmer on.

After what seemed like an eternity, the Equatorial Guinea swimmer reached the wall and hung on for dear life. When he had caught his breath and regained his composure, the French-speaking Moussambani said through an interpreter, “I want to send hugs and kisses to the crowd. It was their cheering that kept me going.”

Let us encourage one another to keep going on toward heaven. Keep moving forward. Keep following the Lord, no matter what others might do (Phil. 3:12-16).

No purpose of God can be withheld from Him!

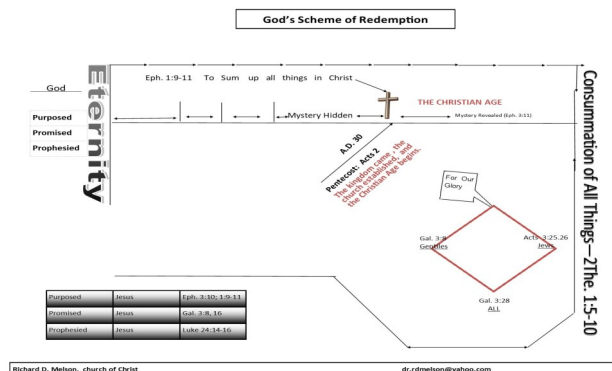


After all that the man Job had endured and after all of the accusations had been made and after all of his friends had spoken, it was time for God to speak (beginning in chapter 38). After listening to God, Job concluded, “I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You” (Job 42:2).

You have probably been through a lot. You may have questioned a lot of things, including God's presence, power and promises. You may have heard people say all sorts of things about God and wondered if they were true.

Here's something you need to remember. “No purpose of” God “can be withheld from” Him! God has purposed to give His children a life of spiritual abundance (John 10:10). God has purposed to strengthen His children through His Word (Acts 20:32). God has purposed to work in you “what is well pleasing in His sight” (Heb. 13:21). God has purposed to reserve a home in heaven for you (1 Pet. 1:3-5). Remember: No purpose of God can be withheld from Him! Do you trust Him?

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



Freedom's Prayer

Lord, we thank you this day for our cherished freedom. Freedom to be citizens of the Lord's eternal kingdom, Freedom to live in this great and wonderful land of the free. Freedom as well to give all glory, honor, and praise to Thee.

We give thanks for the leaders of our good land, We honor the memory of those fallen in Iraqi desert sand, And we give thanks for the soldiers whose sacrifice we cherish, Knowing that their lives were given that our freedoms don't perish.

Lord, bless our troops that are still serving overseas, And bring them home soon to their families. Keep them alert, safe, strong, and wise, And help the Iraqi people our sacrifice not to despise.

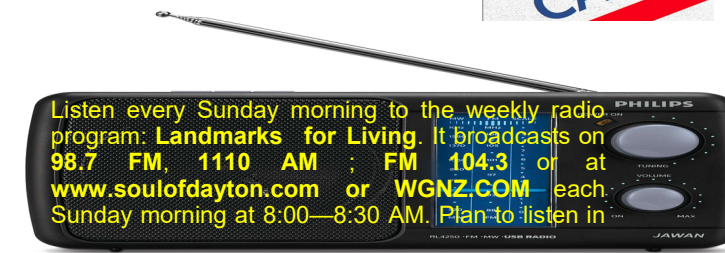
May they build a new nation democratic and free, Knowing that all good things in this life come from Thee, May their hatred for others be replaced with Christ-like love, Knowing that your eternal truths comes down to us from above!

- Daniel Whitworth via Glenn Hitchcock

Date	Subject	Speaker
6/4	Romans 1	Bob Vincent
6/11	Romans 2	Richard Melson
6/18	Romans 3	Tim Hatfield
6/25	Romans 4	Richard Melson
7/2	Romans 5	Mark Phillips
7/9	Romans 6	Phil Grear
7/16	Romans 7	Sabin Johnson
7/23	Romans 8	Kevin Berry
7/30	Romans 9	Sabin Johnson
8/6	Romans 10	Richard Melson
8/13	Romans 11	Richard Melson
8/20	Romans 12-13	Patrick Powers
8/27	Romans 14-15	Richard Melson
9/3	Romans 16	Richard Melson

- ☞ We aware of a technical issue with our live stream audio feed and are working to correct this problem.
- ☞ Adult Class in the auditorium on, “Jesus The Savior”
- ☞ 1st Sunday Fellowship Meal—July 6

- ☞ Take a “**Christian Gift Card**” and give it away to someone you meet.



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