

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	50
Attendance AM	72
Attendance PM	36
Wednesday PM	37

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Prayer for Health:** Mary Rutland; Dana Grigsby; Kay Feldman; Mary Sanders; Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Phil Tydings;

**Traveling:** Mozella Tate; Norris Cole family

**Prayers:**

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:** Judy Arnette and family

**Member Birthdays: November** — 14— Ruby Cole; 16— Tally Poole; 26 — Cadence Vance;

**Anniversaries: November** — None

**Ladies Reading Group:** Zoom Class Dec. 11 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 13 in "Bible A's for Ladies"

November 16	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Song Leader	Patrick Cook	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord's Supper	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Server 1	Chris Poole	Chris Poole
Server 2	James Grigsby	James Grigsby
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Ryan McGahee
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Closing Prayer	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
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

November 16, 2025

Issue 46

## GOADS AND NAILS

Dan Jenkins

When God heard young Solomon's request, He responded and gave him wisdom above all men. "All of the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom, came to hear the wisdom of Solomon" (1 Kings 4:34). The wisest king "...sought to find acceptable words" (Ecc. 12:10) and then wrote these words, so by reading them we can share in his wisdom. Those who read these words of wisdom and write them in their hearts are men who truly are wise. Consider how Solomon regarded the words of the Bible.

**Solomon knew these words were true.** When Solomon sought to find the acceptable words to convey the wisdom and then wrote them down, he described them as being "...upright, words of truth" (Ecc. 12:10). Solomon's father, David, had said, "Your law is truth... all Your commandments are truth...the entirety of Your word is truth" (Psa. 119:142, 151, 160). To be wise, we must know the words of the Bible are truth.

**Solomon knew these words were from God.** Look again at the words of Solomon in Ecclesiastes chapter twelve. "The words of the wise...are given by one Shepherd" (v. 10). God is that one and only Shepherd and He cannot lie. Solomon knew that "...nothing can be added to it, and nothing taken from it" (Ecc. 3:14). Wise men know the source of truth.

**Solomon knew these words would keep us close to God.** He uses an illustration people of his day knew so well when he describes the words of God as being like an ox goad. "The words of the wise are like goads" (Ecc. 12:11). To appreciate this, remember that a goad was a large wooden pole sharpened on one end. It was used to keep beasts doing the will of the farmer who used that point to prick the legs of the ox and ensure they went in the right direction.

Now think of this figurative language to see that the Bible is the way God's encourages men to go in the right direction. We have free will and can "kick against the prick" (see Acts 9:5), but this always is hard and harms us.

**Solomon knew that these words were permanent.** He said that they "...were like well driven nails" (Ecc. 12:11). I am sure that the "nails" of his day were different from those we use today, but think of how buildings are held together today with those large nails. When my house was being built almost forty years ago, I remember watching the builder driving the nails that would ensure the roof was firmly attached to the walls. They were well driven and have withstood several hurricanes. God's word will firmly anchor your life to Him and help you in the storms of your life.

We are wise when we live by the words of the wisest man who received them from the God of all wisdom! *gr*

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

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

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

## Devotional Thoughts

"I will lift up my eyes unto the hills - from whence cometh my help?" (Psalm 121:1)

We may not be sure what was in the mind of the Psalmist. He may have been thinking of the perpetual hills as they declare the glory of God or the fact that the earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof. It may have been the high places of earth where God's glory has been so wonderfully exhibited, to which he longingly arose to find grace to help in time of need.

At any rate he was able to elevate his mind by means of the hills to the one who created them all. Those everlasting mountains stand fast and they cannot be moved. Man in his feeble way stumbles, yet his foot is firm and immovable in God's protection as the hills themselves- and so the Psalmist looks away from the valley of the world to the great elevations of courage, strength, faith, hope in God. Let us do likewise!

*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. (1 Pet. 5:8 NKJ)*

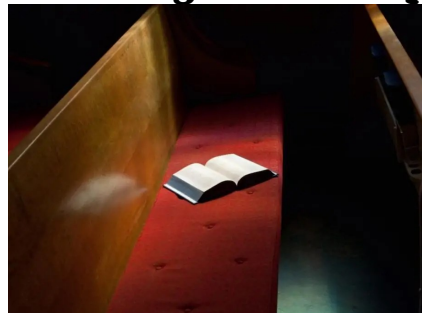
The devil is here likened to a lion seeking for prey. This beast of the forest hunts stealthily and only roars when he springs. So the devil is stealthy and does not give warning of his approach, but is always ready to spring upon and devour any wanderer from the fold of safety.

The admonition to the child of God, then, is to be calm of mind, having mental self-control, being constantly aware of the deliberate, fierce and subtle persistence of the destroyer of men's souls.

"In Him we live, and move, and have our being." (Acts 17:28). Do we realize the dependence we have on the Lord? By withholding the necessities of this life He could destroy everyone of us. The goodness and long-suffering of God toward us in our selfishness: greed and independence is really marvelous. But really we are at His mercy and this thought should cause us to be penitent for our thoughtlessness and to show by our lives that we appreciate His position in the universe. By faithfully following His precepts, as found in His Word, we can render the honor and glory to Him which is justly due.

-Marvin W. Hastings

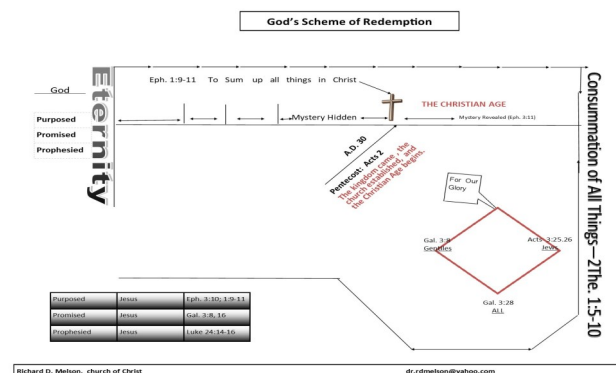
## What's the big deal about not assembling for worship?



When I make the choice to not assemble with the saints to worship our God together, I am choosing to disregard the commands of my Father in heaven to...“love one another, as I have loved you” (John 13:34-35)...to “esteem others better than” myself and to “look out...for the interests of others” (Phil. 2:3-4)...to “give preference to one another” (Rom. 12:10)...to “greet one another” (Rom. 16:16)...to “encourage one another and build up one another” (1 Thess. 5:11)...to “wait for one another” (1 Cor. 11:33)...to “speak to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs” (Eph. 5:19)...to “teach and admonish one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs” (Col. 3:16)...to “consider one another in order to stir up love and good works” (Heb. 10:24)...to “exhort one another” (Heb. 10:25)...to “worship Him in spirit and truth” (John 4:24)...to “not forsake the assembling of ourselves together” (Heb. 10:25).

I disregard and disobey every single one of these commands of my God when I choose to willfully absence myself from the assembly. Yes! It's a big deal! An eternally big deal!

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson's Musings ...



### Anchored 2025

The 2025 Anchored lectures was a tremendous success. This was my first time attending this series hosted by the Palm Beach Lakes congregation, The theme this year was Living What We Believe: From the Book of James.

For those who have attended PTP greetings is extended from David and Tracey Sproule, Dan and Judy Jenkins, and many others who you have met over the years.

As I write this I, along with other airline passengers, are sitting in the Palm Beach Lakes International Airport dealing with the FAA flight cancellations and delays. I am thankful that for the most part everyone is behaving well even though it is a very hectic time.

Normally by booking early I can get a good rate for the church; but if I had known that there was going to be a government shut which would impact air travel to the extent it has I would have rented a car and drove to West Palm Beach. But I am not the only speaker being impacted by this event, some who needed to return in order to preach on Sunday were not able to do so. As a Christian we must exercise patience with the airline and TSA staff as this situation is not their fault. There is no need to be upset or irritated with them, they cannot control these events. The Christian is to be an example of how the children of God react to these events to the children and for every non-Christian around us (be an example ...) (1 Tim. 4:12; Phil. 2:16).

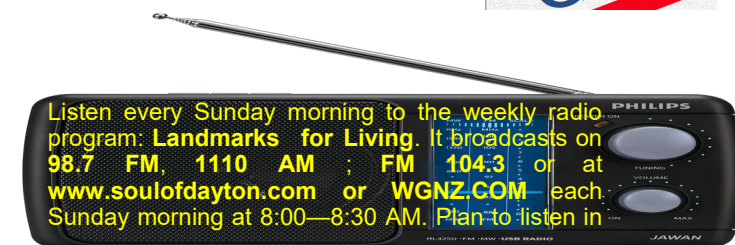
This was very challenging as I just learned that my new flight is now delayed again, and the hotel where I have overnight room reservations says that if I do not arrive

before the cancellation window that I will still be charged for a night's stay even though I did not stay. Well this is an opportunity to apply everything I have just studied from James since Thursday night! Put more trust in God than in man. Learn to "wait on the Lord".

Putting everything in the Lord's hand, doing that which I am responsible for got me through it. My blood pressure did not rise. I did not loose my cool. I was able to help some others to remain calm as well. Keeping God's word not only in my vest pocket, but active in mind was essential! (Psa. 119:9-16).

May we each learn to be anchored in Him (Heb. 6:19) who can save our souls by obeying His gospel (Matt. 1:21) and living by that gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-2).

- ☞ Potter Children's Home Coin Can— We have several empty coin cans in the office. Please pickup one to fill.
- ☞ Potter Children's Home—Commodity and Christmas gifts will be picked up Saturday Nov. 29th at 1:00 PM
- ☞ Check out the new tract titles in the rack
- ☞ Take a "**Christian Gift Card**" and give it away to someone you meet.



## 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/>;
- 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