

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	43
Attendance AM	65
Attendance PM	42
Wednesday PM	46

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Rhonda Fox (back surgery); Marie Tolley (knee & heart); Carlene Harley; Florine Thomas; Pat Norris (home); Glenna Adair; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); ins; Janis Bland; Naree Poole; Chris Poole; Desiree Butler (Plainfield, NJ)

Traveling: Richard D. Melson; Diane and Deonna Cole; Ashley Thomas; Sharnelle Cousis; Tally Poole; Dollie Jones; Rita and Ryan McGahee

Prayers: Al Washington and family; Central Carolina School of Preaching students;

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Member Birthdays: April— 8 - Beulah Farmer; 11— Mary Sanders; 12 - Jacob Hoover; 23— Norris Cole, Sr. 25— Carolyn Johnson

Anniversaries: April — 1—Otis and Glenna Adair; 16 — Michael and Rachel Blanks

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class April 30 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 5 in "The Begging Place"

April 26	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Song Leader	Chris Poole	Patrick Cook
Lead Lord's Supper	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Server 1	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas
Server 2	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Anthony Grigsby
Sermon	Kevin Berry	Kevin Berry
Prayer for Responses	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Closing Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Announcements	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
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 07

April 26, 2026

Issue 17

MAKE UP YOUR MINDS!

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

"Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer" (Luke 21:14). The NASV puts it this way, "Make up your minds."

One of life's great frustrations for many people is that they cannot make a decision. They cannot come to a conclusion. They find themselves caught between forces that seem to pull them one way and then the other. If something new or novel comes along, they are carried with it.

Jesus knew His disciples would face some pretty serious opposition. It would not be easy for them. But He would have them know that they would not have to worry about what they were going to say. He says, For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist (Luke 21:15). They would have the word of the Lord on that matter and that should settle it. They would thus have no reason to doubt what He said, nor should they doubt their passion when problems arose.

Shouldn't we be able to do the same thing? Shouldn't we be able to come to the same kinds of conclusions? We have the Word of the Lord, and we should be able to "make up our minds."

WE CAN MAKE UP OUR MINDS ABOUT BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE LORD'S BODY
We live in a world filled with people, many that have been taught that membership in the Church is not necessary. But the Lord has had some things to say about that topic. This ought to help us make up our minds.

In his conversation with Nicodemus, you will find him saying, "you must be born again" (John 3:7). I don't think many folks will deny the necessity to being born again. After all, we have the word of the Lord on the matter. But have we thought of this in connection with membership in the Church? There is a definite relationship. Go back to verse 5 of this chapter, and you will see that Jesus said, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God (John 3:5).

So, from the word of the Lord, we would conclude that one must be born again. We are also sure that one would have to be born of water and of the Spirit. But we are also sure that when one was born of water and of the Spirit, he would be in the kingdom of God. He would be a subject in the kingdom, a child in the family, and a member in the body of the Lord (Eph. 1:22-23). In short, he would be in the Church. He would have no choice about that part, not any more than a child would have in becoming part of a family into which he was born.

A man would not have much trouble making up his mind about this sort of a proposition. He would have the word of the Lord to help him and that would settle the matter once and for all.

Yes, we can make up our minds about becoming a member of the Lord's body and identifying with a local congregation (church). *~*

STRONGER THAN EVER IN 2026 - EPH. 6:10

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

The Parable of The Frogs

I once heard a story about a farmer with a pond full of frogs. Every spring, the frogs were so loud that they would keep him awake all night. Knowing that the local restaurant served frog legs, the farmer decided to sell his frogs to the restaurant owner. He told the owner, 'I'm going to drain my pond tomorrow, and I will have at least a thousand frogs to sell.' Well, the next day the farmer was very embarrassed to learn that his pond contained only three little frogs. It seems that these little creatures sounded like they were more numerous than they were. The story reminds me of when I was a boy in North Central Arkansas. At night one could hear the singing of little tree frogs. Just a couple of these little frogs could make a tremendous noise. Two little frogs in one tree would sound like thousands!

There can be an application made to the church concerning the influence of negative voices. This may seem harmless on the surface, but it is very deadly to the church. A vocal minority can prevent the church from being led by wise elders or even the majority of the brethren, where there are no elders. One false teacher may look harmless but given the opportunity and time to agitate his views, the result can be disastrous. Even the most discredited false teacher or the smallest vocal minority will eventually have an effect if not stopped. Paul said, "whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not..." (Titus 1:11), A negative spirit should never be given an influence out of proportion to its merit.

-Longview, Texas

LEAVE IT WITH HIM

The little sharp vexations
The briars that catch and fret
Why not take all to the Helper
Who has never failed us yet?
Tell Him about the heartaches
Tell Him the burdens, too;
Tell Him the baffled purpose
When we scarce know what to do;
Then, leaving to Him our weakness
He surely will see us thru.

Osmosis

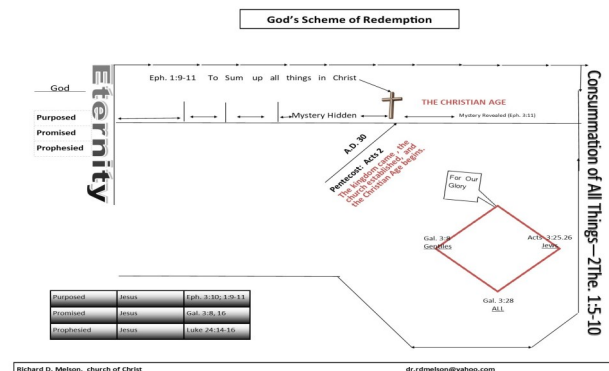


We used to joke around as kids about putting the school textbook under our pillow at night and learning what we needed to know for the next day's test by osmosis. Well, it doesn't take a genius to know that didn't work. Being in the proximity of the book that has information doesn't actually convey the information.

The same ought to be obvious to us as Christians. We are given the responsibility to "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matt. 5:16). God's command makes that good and necessary for us to do, but simply being in the proximity of a Christian who has the information about Jesus Christ and eternal salvation does not actually convey that information to the hearts of those who need it.

That's why God told Christians to do more than be a good example. The lost will not learn the gospel by osmosis! We must open our mouths and tell people the good news about Jesus Christ (Mark 16:15; 2 Tim. 2:2). It's worth telling, for there is nothing more exciting and life-changing!

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



Passing the Buck

A big headline in the papers said: "Poland Blames US For Riots... Shouldn't surprise us any. When was the last time you heard someone actually take the blame? Regarding the death of Anwar Sadat I read that it was the policies of Ronald Reagan that directly contributed to his death. The Democrats blame the Republicans for the recession and the Republicans blame the Democrats. Adam blamed Eve, and Eve blamed the snake.

It's called "Passing the Buck" and few of us have the courage of a former U.S. president who had this motto mounted on his desk in the oval office: "The Buck Stops Here." He was willing to take the responsibility - but what a rare bird he was.

Husbands blame wives for a failing marriage, and wives blame husbands. Rebellious children blame their parents for the hardships of life, and irresponsible parents blame their children. The old blame the young for the way the world is going, and the young blame the old for the legacy of strife they have left us.

Preachers blame congregations when the work isn't going well, and congregations blame preachers. Disillusioned sufferers blame God for their trials, while the mature saint thanks God for the same sufferings that produce steadfastness.

Erring Christians blame the elders, the preacher, the hypocrites or whoever happens to be handy as rationale for their spiritual irresponsibility, and the non-Christian blames God for making the Way so narrow.

But someday the buck will stop and we will all be forced to bear the burden of personal responsibility upon our own shoulders. We'll stand before God and wonder who is to blame for our spiritual blunders, and He will say: "Would you like to borrow my mirror?" 'Nuff said.

"... So then every one of us shall give account of HIMSELF to God" (Romans 14:12).

Randall Medlin
Chattanooga Valley Bulletin
Flintstone, Georgia

MAKE SOMETHING HAPPEN

A young boy complained to his father that most of the church hymns were boring to him too far behind the times, boring tunes, meaningless words. His father put an end to the discussion when he said, "If you think you can write better hymns, then why don't you?" The boy went to his room and wrote his first hymn. The year was 1690; the teenager was Isaac Watts. In case you don't know the name Isaac Watts, he wrote 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross,' "Joy to the World" and about 350 other hymns.



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; www.anchorofthesoul.com
- 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