

GOD'S PLAN FOR SAVING US

God's Grace - Ephesians 2:8
God's Love and Mercy - Ephesians 2:4
Christ's Blood Shed - Romans 5:9-11
The Gospel - Romans 1:16

Our Response of Faith:

Believe - Acts 16:31; Mark 16:15-16
Repentance - Luke 13:3
Confession - Romans 10:10
Be baptized for remission of sins -
Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21
Be faithful, committed, walk in light -
Revelation 2:10; 1 John 1:7-10

Doesn't God Want Me To Be Happy?

by Joe Slater

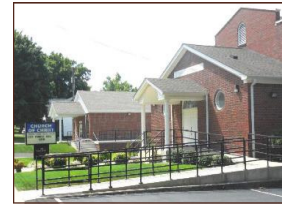
This question usually refers to superficial happiness such as a child feels when given a new toy. Such earthly pleasure isn't necessarily wrong, but neither should we think it is God's chief goal for us! He certainly approves when we "eat and drink and enjoy the good of all (our) labor" (Ecclesiastes 3:13). As Solomon found, though, such enjoyment cannot fill the God-shaped void in the heart of every person.

A man who had been unfaithful to his wife tried to rationalize his sin by asking me, "Doesn't God want me to be happy?" He had confused "the passing pleasures of sin" (Hebrews 11:15) for true happiness.

Undoubtedly Jesus could enjoy a good meal and the satisfaction of a job well done. For those perceptive enough to see it, His sense of humor shines through. We should not view Him as perpetually melancholy and forlorn. Yet Isaiah portrays Him as "a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief" (53:3). What makes us think we, as disciples of Jesus, are entitled to continuous gratification because "God wants us to be happy"?

The imprisoned Paul knew what it was like to have everything he needed and to be in want. "I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content" (Philippians 4:11-12). Evidently, he didn't believe the modern "prosperity gospel" ("gospel of health and wealth").

Genuine Biblical happiness doesn't depend on your outward circumstances! Being faithful in a covenant relationship with God results in happiness nothing of this world can match! When that's your concept of happiness then yes, God wants you to be happy!



A Weekly Publication of the
**Horse Cave
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

120 Cave Street
Horse Cave, KY 42749

TIME OF SERVICES (CST):

Sunday: Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Study 6 PM

Church Webpage: www.horsecavecoc.com

Focused on Christ - Thankful for our Salvation - Glorifying the Lord - Serving through Love - Preaching Christ to the World

We gladly welcome you to our congregation, trusting that - if you are *seeking Christ* you will find Him here, if *sorrowing* you will receive comfort and strength here, if *troubled in spirit* you will gain the blessing of peace here, if *discouraged* you will rejoice in encouragement and hope here, if *friendless* you will find companionship and Christian love here. That these and other blessings may be yours is our prayer.

Bulletin Editor: Wayne Hatcher

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Number 23

*Please Make Plans To Attend Our
6th Summer Series in July and August*

**"All Spiritual Blessings Are IN
CHRIST" Ephesians 1:3**

July 5	Marty Edwards	"Our Salvation"
July 12	Allen Jones	"Our Redemption/Forgiveness of Sins"
July 19	John Board	"Our Sanctification"
July 26	Danny McCain	"Our Victory Over Satan"
Aug 2	Robbie Fudge	"God's Everlasting Love"
Aug 9	Bart Waren	"God's Saving Grace"
Aug 16	Edd Sterchi	"Our Sweet Fellowship With God"
Aug 23	Craig Waddell	"Our Eternal Inheritance in Heaven"
Aug 31	Tom Hall	"Vital Question: How Do We Get Into Christ?"

*Each Wednesday evening at 6:00 CST

HORSE CAVE CHURCH OF CHRIST
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NEWS & NOTES...

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sue Bunnell had another PET Scan on Tues. and thankful the new tumor had not grown or spread from 3 months ago, no radiation, just watch closely; Lois Edwards; Becky Hatcher continues with dialysis 3X a week. Wayne is her caregiver: Sonny Dye had knee replacement surgery, Joyce Dye fell and aggravated her shoulder; Lori Brewer; Mark Hatcher; Laura Brooks; Mike Thompson; Fran Mears; Joey Palmore; Becky Bush; Dixie Napier's son Randy is undergoing treatments; Daryl Lowe taking chemo treatments; Victoria Adams; Gayla Fudge Graham; Mary Hatcher; Parker Bybee; Bobby Pedigo; Glenda Turner (friend of Wayne & Becky in Statesville, NC being treated for a type of T-Cell Lymphoma; Note that Wanda Proffitt has been moved from Highland Ridge to NHC

NHC Glasgow

Jean Turner

Wanda Proffitt

BARREN COUNTY HEALTHCARE Glasgow

Ruth Bradford

PRAY FOR MISSION EFFORTS WE SUPPORT

Nepal and Bangladesh - Michael Brooks
House To House/Heart To Heart local mailing
Manna Project

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

We are in our Summer Quarter on the theme: David and Solomon Lesson 2 "Two Brothers" 2 Samuel 13:23-39 Wayne will be the teacher.

PREACHING TODAY

Wayne at 11 am "Worship — Singing"
Sunday evening at 5:00 Danny McCain lessons from the book of Mark

WEDNESDAY EVENING 6:00

We are in a textual study of the book of Colossians. Darrell Wallace will be the teacher this week.

OUR RADIO PROGRAM

We are sponsoring "In Search of the Lord' Way"

heard on our local radio station WLOC 101.7 FM and 1150 AM each Sunday morning from 8:30 - 9:00 with **Phil Sanders**. Please pray for this work as we sow the seed of the gospel

His Lessons in June:

June 4 - "We Need the Church"

June 11 - "You Can Understand the Bible"

June 18 - "Morality"

June 25 - "Whatever?"

*NOTE: If you are unable to pick up the radio signal, you can log on to wloconline.com There are choices to listen on your computer or use the *tunein* app for you mobile devices.*

RECOMMENDED TV PROGRAMS

"**Light of the World**" Lehman Ave. Church of Christ in Bowling Green Viewed on SCRTC cable channel 7 from 6:30-7:00 am

"**In Search of the Lord's Way**" with Phil Sanders carried by WNKY TV on channel 7 on SCRTC cable - Sun 7-7:30 am

GBN seen on our local SCRTC cable on 113

Singing Is God's Idea

by Joe Chessser

I love to worship in song. I always have. My mother instilled this in me at an early age. We of course sang during our worship at church assemblies. But there were many other times when we sang "church" songs together at family gatherings, or with friends, or at area-wide singings, or at Bible camps and VBS. I was privileged to sing with Christian choirs in high school and college, and on several other occasions. Sometimes my wife and I would just open up a song book and sing together. I just love to sing. Singing moves my heart closer to God.

However, not everyone was raised to love singing like I was. Not everyone enjoys singing like I do. And that's ok. But what's not ok is to have a negative attitude about singing. Why? Because singing is God's idea.

In seems that in lots of churches singing

is becoming an afterthought, even a drudgery. It seems that some are only doing it because that's what they've always done or because it is an "item of worship." It seems that many song leaders just select their songs without much forethought or planning, and that church leaders and church members fail to attach much importance or value to singing. This may be an exaggeration, but my point is to encourage us all to refocus our attention on the fact that singing is God's idea. And because it is His idea, perhaps we need to reevaluate why He wants us to sing, and even more so, why He wants me to sing.

Singing is not just for those who can sing well. It is awesome and inspiring when singing is beautiful, and we should work at singing the best we can. But a beautiful sound is not the main point. According to Colossians 3:16 the reason for singing is for teaching and admonishing one another with the word of Christ that dwells richly in our hearts. Certainly we can teach and admonish each other without music. That what preachers and teachers and parents do. But it's God's idea to also do it with singing. God knows music has a way of moving and influencing us in ways that nothing else can. Different kinds of songs (psalms, hymns, spiritual songs) teach and admonish us in different ways than merely speaking the words can do. When music is combined with spiritual lyrics, we can be affected deeply as we make melody in our hearts (Ephesians 5:19). PLUS, we can impact others, and that is one thing God wants us to do in worship, according to the above Scriptures.

So, let's be encouraged to give God our best in worship by singing to each other as we allow our own hearts to make melody to God. Let's be encouraged to pay more attention to the lyrics of the songs so we can all be moved closer to God.

Singing Is Worship

by Ron Albright

If we go to the Bible for our authority in matters of religion, we become a distinctive group of believers. Many in the religious world simply do things because others are doing it or because it "feels good." For some people, it does not matter if God authorized it or not, they will always do what they want to do, instead of doing what God says to do.

Jesus taught that it is hypocritical to honor Him with our lips yet continue to do things that are opposed to His teachings. It also makes our worship empty (Mark 7:6-9).

In the matter of music in our worship assemblies God has authorized one kind of music. It's vocal (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16). Singing is a specific kind of music and when God specifies vocal music that eliminates the other kind of music, which is instrumental. The words sung both edify each other and praise God. Singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs can do both (edify one another and praise God), but an organ, guitar and drums cannot teach and admonish or praise God.

Why would we want to do that which God has not authorized? Why disrupt unity by doing something that is opposite what God has authorized?

Let's continue to be a people who respect God's way for worship and not be swayed by the traditions of men.

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Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord. Ephesians 5:19

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. Colossians 3:16