

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

Routines con't from page 3

life. When you see a Christian who is weak or sickly, you can count on the source of their problem being connected somehow to what they are feeding on and/or how they are using what they have learned. So, it's critical to routinely feed on the word of God and to routinely practice what you learn.

But don't let the routine become the goal. That's what the Pharisees did. They studied the word of God thoroughly. They knew it backwards and forwards. And they were extremely concerned about applying the word of God so precisely that their routines became their faith. How they developed, defined and defended their faith became, for them, more important than what God actually said (see Matthew 15:3-9). It got so bad that their routines, their traditions, boxed them in. They couldn't do what God wanted them to do because their routines became their goal in life. What should have been a means to an end actually became the end itself. Because of that they actually ceased walking with God. Jesus called them hypocrites, blind guides, whitewashed tombs, snakes and vipers (Matthew 23)!! They had, over time, allowed the applications of the principles of God to supersede the word itself. They were no longer open to spiritual growth for themselves or for anyone else. Since they had it figured out, anyone who differed with them about their routines was wrong.

So, on the one hand we need to routinely put into practice what we learn from the word of God. Growing to spiritual maturity demands that. But on the other hand, we cannot allow how we practice God's word to become more important than the word itself.



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

Bulletin Editor: Wayne Hatcher

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.

Vol. 55

January 29, 2023

Number 5

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TODAY

by Micheal Dubina

Each day of life that dawns for me
Is dearer than it used to be
And I am more content, each day,
To live each hour a better way;
I want for less - and ask for less -
Of all that life proclaims is best
And find my greatest need, each day,
Is just to worship God and pray.

I'm getting old and very tired
Of chasing dreams that youth inspired,
And tired of chasing after goals
That lack rewards for heart and soul;
Today - I only strive to find
A simple peace of heart and mind
And try to make each dawning day
A bond of love to Heaven's way.

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NEWS & NOTES...

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Carolyn Russell recovering from the 3rd surgery on her arm; continue to remember Sue Bunnell; Mike Thompson; Fran Mears; Laura Brooks; Jackie Coop; Joey Palmore; Becky Bush undergoing tests in Louisville; Lisa Schuler's sister Linda; Lisa Schuler's dad Vincent Ward at home; continue to pray for Heather Seng (Lisa & Malon Schuler's daughter) as she awaits for a liver transplant; Don Waddell is doing better; Chase Burd (Marie Burd's grandson); Dixie Napier's son Randy is undergoing treatments; John Carter at home; Merida Brooks (Bessie Brooks' sister-in-law) had heart surgery; Helen Edwards; Mary Thompson; Parker Bybee; Bobby Pedigo; Bradley Bogue having treatments for lung cancer; Rhealyn Denison recuperating from surgery on her legs; our local schools, students & staff, first responders

IN THE HOSPITAL

Becky Hatcher still remains in ICU at TJ Samson Hosp. since Jan. 6. It's been a tumultuous 3 weeks. She had a pace-maker installed, then this week she was put on dialysis and has had 3 treatments. She had a major episode on Wed. that was alarming. As of Friday, was some better. We deeply appreciate everyone's support and prayers.

Agnes Seaton is in the Medical Center at Caverna having tests and needing medical care

PRAY FOR MISSIONS WE SUPPORT

Nepal and Bangladesh - Michael Brooks
The Barnabas Journey - Ed Bass
House To House/Heart To Heart local mailing
Manna Project

HIGHLAND RIDGE Glasgow

Wanda Proffitt

NHC Glasgow

Jean Turner

Marilyn Hogan was moved here last Tuesday

BARREN COUNTY HEALTHCARE Glasgow

Ruth Bradford

SHANTI NIKETAN HOSPICE HOME Glasgow

Ann Schuler

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

We are in our new quarter on the theme "One-Book Chapters" We are currently on lesson 9, *"The Beloved Gais"* 3 John 1-8. Wayne continues to serve as teacher.

5th SUNDAY - PREACHING TODAY

Robbie Fudge will be our special guest preacher today at 11 am and at 5 pm

WEDNESDAY EVENING 6:00

Wayne is scheduled to teach our study in the book of *James*.

OUR RADIO PROGRAM

We are sponsoring *"In Search of the Lord's 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**. Prayers for this work as we sow the seed of the gospel

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

SUNSET VISION WORSHIP LUBBOCK, TX

Darrell & Robin Wallace are attending this at the Sunset International Bible Institute where Darrell & I graduated. Theme: *"I Saw the Lord..."* Exalting God From Isaiah 6

FREED-HARDEMAN 87th ANNUAL BIBLE LECTURESHIP

Feb. 5-9, 2023 *"For Such a Time As This"* Restoring God's People in *Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther*

EQUIPPED - PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY: Studies in the book of James

April 20-23 at the Lehman Ave. church of Christ in Bowling Green, KY

TEST YOUR BIBLE IQ

Which prophet was taken to Egypt after the death of Gedliah?

Answer to our last question:

Samuel I Sam. 3:11-14

Jonah and the Love of God

by Joe Slater

Before you criticize Jonah too severely, put yourself in his place. God commanded him to preach to Nineveh, the capital of the Assyrian empire. Assyria was a fierce and dreaded enemy of Israel. I could make you nauseous with details of the Assyrians' cruelty to their enemies. The worse the pain they could inflict and the longer they could make it last, the better they liked it. No doubt Jonah would have been happy for God to wipe them from the face of the earth. Good riddance!

How would you react if God told you to go preach to Pyongyang (North Korea, ruled by Kim Jong-un)? Or to Kabul (Afghanistan, ruled by the Taliban)? Or to ISIS in parts of Syria? Jonah's assignment had much in common with those.

Jonah was wrong to disobey God. Let there be no doubt about that! Jonah's nationalism kept him from understanding God's love for even the worst of sinners. God's nature doesn't change. Today He isn't willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9); that was true in Jonah's day too. The sheer ignorance of the Assyrians didn't excuse their hideous abuses, but it did result in the Lord being longsuffering with them even as He was with Israel and still is with us.

Can you love people who hate you and would be all too happy to kill you if they

could? Jesus prayed for the very people who were mocking and murdering Him. A few weeks later His blood cleansed some of them from their sins!

God loves the good and the evil, the just and the unjust, His love is perfect (complete, mature, Matthew 5:43-48). It's nothing special to love those who love you (v. 46). But loving your enemies makes you like God.

Routines

by Joe Chesser

Practice makes perfect! That's why professional sports teams have their training camps. That's why gymnasts and ice skaters work on their routines over and over and over again. That's why training seminars have role playing. That's why musicians practice hours each day. To be the best you can be at any given endeavor requires lots and lots of practice. This also includes Christian living.

God expects us to practice our faith. There is no short cut or any other way to grow to Christian maturity. The danger of not putting into practice what we learn from Jesus is that we will not develop beyond the baby stage. That's what the writer of Hebrews was concerned about (Hebrews 5:12-14). These people had been Christians long enough (some up to 30 years) for them to be teaching others. But instead, they still needed to be fed milk. The mature, he tells them, are capable of eating solid food and are constantly putting into practice what they are learning. Food and exercise. It's not complicated, but it is necessary for becoming the best you can be as a Christian. Living for Christ should become the customary, routine, way of

concluded on back pg.