

## 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

## An All Purpose Book

The Bible contains a message for every state of the mind of man:

- When we are grieved, it provides comfort (1 Thessalonians 4:18).
- When we are happy, it adds greater joy (Matthew 5:3-12; Romans 14:17; Philippians 4:4).
- When we are discouraged, it gives us courage (1 Kings 18-19; Galatians 6:9; Psalm 46:1).
- When we are lonely, it reminds us we are never alone (2 Timothy 4:17; Hebrews 13:5).
- When we are dying, it gives us assurance (Psalm 23).

God's Word is a

- Medicine when our hearts are broken (Proverbs 4:20-23).
- Fire to warm our souls (Jeremiah 23:29).
- Hammer to break our addictions (Jeremiah 23:29).
- Seed to grow righteousness in our hearts (Luke 8:11).
- Sword to war against Satan and spiritual wickedness (Hebrews 4:12).
- Honeycomb to delight our taste (Psalm 19:10).
- Light to guide us home (Psalm 119:105).

*"Learn of me."*

**M A T T H E W 11:29**

- House To House/Heart To Heart Vol 20 #4



## 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.

**Wednesday:** Bible Study 6 PM

**Church Webpage:** [www.horsecavecoc.com](http://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.

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## Persistence by Ed Wittlif

*"The secret is not to give up hope. It's very hard not to because if you are doing something worthwhile I think that you will be pushed to the brink of hopelessness before you come through the other side."* (George Lucas)

There are times in my walk with God that I have felt like throwing in the towel and giving up. I have struggled with the same temptation and given in and sinned. When the light at the end of the tunnel cannot be seen, why not just quit? There were times that I felt it was hopeless. I would never change.

I have learned that the feeling of hopelessness comes from viewing God primarily as a judge. That has changed over the years. I have found that I cannot leave God's word alone. I had a hunger for reading His word that persisted even when I wanted to give up.

One thing that changed the way I thought about God was the parable of the talents. I realized that the one talent man was condemned for not trying (Matthew 25:14-30). The first letter of John also helped me to persist in light of my hopelessness. God desires to forgive me and will if only I will confess my sins to Him (1 John 1:9).

The second chapter of 1 John reminded me that if I sin, then Jesus is my Advocate. This ties back to the simple fact that I must be honest and admit my sin.

My Father wants me to persist in my struggle with sin. The greater my persistence, the easier it becomes. However, if fleshly desires are less of a temptation, then perhaps pride becomes a greater problem.

Paul said, "I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14). Trust in Jesus and His cleansing blood and in the proven love of the Father. That is what my hope is based on.



Facebook



Website

## NEWS & NOTES...

### REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sue Bunnell at home; Lori Brewer recovering from shoulder replacement; Lois Edwards recovering at home from injuries sustained from a fall; Becky Hatcher was able to get an injection in one of her four ruptured discs; Lisa Schuler; Laura Brooks; Jerry Ann Logsdon; Agnes Seaton; Bonnie Turner; Joyce Dye (kidney stones); Jackie Coop; Mary Thompson; Parker Bybee; Geneane McQuire son Bobby at her home after a heart transplant; Steve Higginbotham undergoing treatments in Houston; Wayne Davis undergoing treatments; continued prayers for Wayne & Becky in the loss of their granddaughter Becca and Mary Becca's mother; prayers for everyone affected in so many ways due to the virus which has really increased in numbers; our nation and leaders

Friends in our community - Seaborn Elzey; Greg Gore, Lawrence Johnson; Dorothy Woodson neighbor of Rex & Doris

### PRAY FOR MISSIONS WE SUPPORT

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

### NHC in Glasgow

Jean Turner

### BARREN COUNTY HEALTHCARE

Ruth Bradford

### SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

We begin our Winter Quarter this morning on the theme: "Genesis" - Part 2 Our lesson this morning lesson 1 "The Promise Realized" Gen. 21:1-21 Wayne Hatcher continues be the teacher.

### TUNE IN TO OUR RADIO PROGRAMS

Tune in to WLOC-FM on Sunday mornings to hear our radio broadcast: on 101.7 FM or 1150 AM or from their webpage: wlocoline.com 8:30-8:45 a.m. **Words of Truth** - Billy Bybee 8:45-9:00 a.m. **Truth In Love** - Wayne Hatcher

**GBN (Gospel Broadcasting Network)** may be seen on Ch. 113 locally on SCRTC cable 24/7 Check them out on GBN's Facebook page, videos on GBN's YouTube, GBN Mobile App, Roku, Apple TV, Online Streaming, Dish Network, DirecTV and GBN podcasting on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and Google Podcasts

### PREACHING THIS MORNING

Wayne Hatcher is scheduled to preach this Sunday at 11:00 worship hour on *"How God Helps Us Deal With Our Trials & Hardships"*

### THANK YOU

Special appreciation to Mike Thompson for filling in for me on Sunday morning, Nov 22 and Billy Bybee filling in for me on the radio program on Nov. 22 and 29th.

Becky and I are very, very grateful for all the many ways you are supporting us during the tragedy of Becca's death on Nov. 21. Your cards, food, monetary gifts, calls, texts, Facebook messages and prayers have meant so much to us. I ask you to especially pray for Becca's mom, Mary and also her little brother Alan Wayne.

Our wonderful community, the Caverna Independent School; friends across our country, members of the church in so many places have been so supportive and caring. We love you and will never forget it.

### COMMODITIES OUTREACH

Potter Children's Home & Family Ministries is asking for our help with any of these items:

**Toilet Paper Cherry Jello Brownie Mix  
Yard Size Trash Bags Parmesan Cheese**

**ELDERS, DEACONS, MINISTERS** meeting today at 3:00 here in the auditorium

### TEST YOUR BIBLE IQ

Which book begins with: "There was a man in the land of Uz" ?

The answer to our question last week: Daniel

## On Giving the Perfect Gift

by Joe Chesser

It's the week after Thanksgiving, and you know what that means – shopping for Christmas is now officially open, and at a frenzied pace. We may not be spending quite as much this year as in years past, but that only makes shopping for just the right gift that much more important. For some people, gift giving is simple. They always know just the right thing to buy, and always in just the right size and color. They just have a knack for buying gifts. Others are more like me. I struggle with what to buy, finally make a decision, and a week later find something that would have been better. So now, do I take back the first gift and buy the second, or do I just give what I already have (I'm asking for help here!)? I wish I knew the perfect gift to give each person on my list.

Actually, I do. I know the perfect gift, and it's something I can give to everyone, whether on my list or not. The best gift I can possibly give cannot be purchased at WalMart or order online. This gift is not something I have to save for, nor is it like any gift anyone else can give. It's unique, it's one of a kind, and I am the only one who can give it. That gift, of course, is me – myself!

I am the best gift I can give my wife, my children and my grandchildren. I am the best gift I can give my neighbor and co-worker. I am the best gift I can give those I know and even those I don't know, those who are poor and those who are wealthy, those who are young and those who are old. I am even the best gift I can give my Lord. I know this is true because I

learned it from Him.

From Paul's words in Galatians 2:20 we learn: "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." I crucify myself because he allowed himself to be crucified. I love him because he first loved me (1 John 4:10, 19). Giving ourselves to God and others is the absolute best gift we can possibly give. Nothing is a close second. Would my wife prefer a new watch more than my time, my affection, my attention? Not in a hundred lifetimes! Would my children, grandchildren, fellow Christians – anyone – prefer gifts from Target? No. And neither would God.

The Corinthians are forever remembered because "they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with the Lord's will" (2 Cor. 8:5). Nothing you can buy will ever substitute for giving yourself. It's fun to exchange wrapped presents at Christmas, but never forget that the gift that most people truly need and want, the perfect gift, is you. Give yourself wrapped in love!

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*"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." apostle Paul in Romans 8:18*

*"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Jesus in John 16:33*