



CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 7, 2019

The Gentiles are OK, Now What?

(Acts 16)

Acts 15 represents a turning point for Christianity. Paul had been preaching and teaching in synagogues, but there were non-Jewish people who heard the message and believed. In a world full of fear and anxiety, he preached forgiveness and peace. It was rather upsetting to those who had a written story of being God's people that they traced to the creation of the universe.

Paul left gatherings of believers in uncertain circumstances – with some saying everything was fine as is and others saying it was necessary to obey the “law” and some others saying to shun the law altogether. Acts 15 settles the issue doctrinally, but it still had to be worked out in the churches.

This sets us up nicely for the events in Acts 16. Here we begin to see what an ethnically, linguistically, and culturally diverse church looks like. There are some ambiguities in this chapter that the text never tries to resolve. Is Timothy Jew or Gentile? Is Paul Jewish or Roman? We learn from Paul that the most important identifier is that he is of Christ – everything else is secondary. That does not mean it is not important or does not affect how we live as Christians.

Luke gives us a hint about where Acts is heading in chapter 2 when he lists “the nations.” God did not require that they all know Aramaic, he blessed them by giving them the message in their own languages. This, even by today's standards, is astonishing. A deep religious truth not being given in code, or in a specific language with its attendant cultural assumptions, but rather delivered in the language with which they were most familiar.

We have had hints in Acts about the message being for more than the Jews in Palestine. There is the Ethiopian official, Cornelius, and Paul being chosen to be an apostle to the Gentiles. But it is in Acts 16 that we begin to get the full impact of what this is going to look like.

As for Timothy, his ethnicity, is never fully resolved – because for the purposes of the kingdom of God, it doesn't need to be. For Paul, he is Jewish and he is Roman – there is no need to decide as far as the Gospel is concerned for him to be either one or the other. As for the jailer, whose life was spared by Paul and Silas staying put. He remained a Roman jailer of Philippi, but he heard the message of the good news and believed and was baptized along with his household. I am sure his life changed, but I am equally sure it did not involve becoming less of what he was culturally.

This is the power of the Gospel. This is also another aspect of having faith in God and his word. The church is like the prophets of old in the sense that we are given a word to speak for God into the ears of anyone who will hear. When people respond, we understand that there is some teaching that needs to happen and perhaps changes that need to be made. We also understand that the working out of faith may look a little different in different environments.

This holds true whether we are speaking across the ocean or across the street. The Gospel has the power to be spoken in any environment, leave people where they are culturally, and change the world all at the same time.

Read: Any 3 sections of Psalm 119

WELCOME

We are glad you've joined us for worship today!

Please fill out the information sheet found in the maroon binder at the end of your pew.

*An attended **nursery** is provided during worship assembly.

***Communion**—We celebrate the resurrection of our Lord every Sunday (“first day of the week”) through a time of communion known as the Lord’s Supper. The “unleavened bread” represents His body and the “fruit of the vine” (cup of grape juice) represents His blood shed on the cross. As our guest, you are welcome to participate, though you are not required to do so.

***Giving**— We are challenged to be good stewards of God’s blessings by supporting the various ministries of the church through a weekly collection that is taken during our worship time. You are welcome to give, but please do not feel as though you must.



TONIGHT: We will meet at 6pm.

Wednesday: Auditorium 6:30pm, 6:45pm class

Note from Landon: **Sign up sheets for summer events coming soon!**



Ryan Hill-RI (Shoulders) Christopher Goodale-USMC
Cameron Hurst--USAF(Curry) Hans Niestrath-USNA
Sam Richey-USMC (Stoltz) Conner Wiseman, Fort Bragg (Moore)
Jason Rushing-Air Natl Guard (Hampton) Ty Naifeh (USA)

Worship Order

Order of Worship Sunday, April 7, 2019

Congregational Reading: Acts 16:28-32

**There's Power In The Blood
Jesus Saves**

Prayer—Byron Pruitt

The Blood of Jesus Speaks For Me

Lord's Supper

K. Ashby T. Hampton

Tim Ashby Tim Scott

M. Wilkerson Titus Scott

Presiding: Kenneth Ashby

A Simple Prayer

Contribution

No Children's Church

Give Thanks To The Lord

He Gave Me A Song

Scripture Reading: Acts 16:16-21 **Brock**

Prayer— Terry Goodale

Lesson: Sean Niestrath

Heaven Came Down

Benediction: I Chronicles 16:34-35

ALTERNATES:

Please meet in case you are needed to serve as a sub for the Lord's Supper

April:

J. Stubblefield

Byron Pruitt

Prepare communion:

April: Rust

May: Adams

For the Record:

Last Sunday

Bible Class: 56

Worship: 99

Contribution:

\$2383.00

Wednesday: 59

April 7, 2019

Monitor: D. Stubblefield

Nursery: Betty Rust

Children's Church: none

Sound Booth: Darin Swaidner

Sunday, April 14, 2019

Prayer: Joshua Scott

Prayer: Steve Stoltz

Scripture: Kivil Brown

Monitor: Pete Shoulders

Nursery: Krista Teel

Children's Church: Duggin

Serving the Lord's Table:

K. Ashby T. Hampton

Tim Ashby Tim Scott

M. Wilkerson Titus Scott

Presiding: Terry Hampton

Sound Booth—Tim Teel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday PM Service topic: John 18:1-27 (Ronny)



We will have a **Special Contribution for West KY Youth Camp on Easter Sunday, April 21st.** It costs \$40,000 to build one cabin. The plan is to build 16 cabins, 8 girls' and 8 boys'. 4 have already been started on the girls' side! Pennyrile has been a long time supporter of WKYC. Let's continue the legacy for many generations to come!

Keep It Simple, Sisters! (K.I.S.S.)

A **Women's Brunch** has been planned for Saturday, April 13th, starting at 10am. Come join us for a time of fellowship and prayer. All ages welcome! Sign up on the bulletin board.

Sunday Morning Class Schedule

Sean's Class-Life After Exile
Quincy's Class-Life of David

Expecting Parents:

Shannon (Coker) & Boyd Barger—Aug 15 (girl)

April 7—Johnny Allen
April 11—Amelia Iliohan
April 13—Ashley Scott



CALENDAR:

April 13—Women's Brunch 10am
April 21—Easter/Special Contribution
April 23—Lifeline Screening
May 6—Ministry Meeting
May 19—Senior Sunday

When we meet:

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
Worship 10:30 A.M.

Sunday P.M.

At the building 6 P.M.

Small Groups Sept—May: various times;
contact Sean Niestrath

Wednesday

Bible Study 6:30 P.M.

Contact Us:

Office: 8:00-12:00 M-F
Phone: 270-825-0304
Email: pennyrilecoc@gmail.com
Mailing address: P.O. Box 161
Madisonville, KY 42431

-Bulletin Deadline: Friday, 10 am

Minister:

Sean Niestrath
269-352-9134
niestrath@juno.com

Youth Minister:

Landon Moore
731-676-3442
Lmoore1874@gmail.com

Missionaries:

Paulo Mirabelli
Via Pacchiarotti, 52
00139 ROMA-ITALIA

Marvin Rivera, Honduras
Email: marvinrivera1985@gmail.com



Love. Grow. Serve.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Bob Glover, Pete's brother-in-law, passed away.
Robert Atwell, Shirley's brother, fell and fractured hip.
Jeanne Roberts, Emma Jean's SIL, viral meningitis.
Reid Burgess, Brenda's BIL, potential heart attack.
Margaret Church, postponed surgery.
Remember the family of **Brad Whitledge**.

Honduran brothers and sisters Watata CoC in Homa Bay, Kenya Serious Illness/Injury:

Rita Frazier, lung cancer, Barbara's SIL
Bryce Alexander, leukemia
Michael Skultety, cancer, Jane
Mike Bright, health issues
Ruffin Chandler
Lynn Stevens, cancer
Keith Roberts, cancer, EJ
Betty & Kim Stanley
Makenzie Carson, L. Russell
Brady Cobb, intestinal problems
Barbara Lynch, Shelia
Charles Smallwood, Micki's father
Jonathan Allen, MS
Rodney Householder
Aaron Reding, ALS
Mack Shearn
George Utley, cancer
Audrey Davis, 4yr.old, leukemia
Barry Newton, Keith's cousin, cancer
Chip Stuart, Kathy's BIL, cancer
Wayne Warszawa, Parkinson's
Andrew Self, hit by a car
Jakayla Acker, lymphoma
Connie Armstrong, cancer
Mark Martin, mesothelioma
Andrea Kane, cancer
Denise Hawkins, lung cancer
Dan Evans
Sandra Hawkins, cancer
Amy Caulder, brain cancer
Ray Duggin, chemo
Lance Pace, cancer
Margaret Church, (Gaye), heart

Kim Feltner, Tim's sister
Rama Austin, chemo
Marvin Gallagher
Phil Keith
George Teel, cancer
Jon Riley, lungs
Kevin Cline, eye disease
Bruce Coleson, MS
Ed Wallace, liver transplant
Lowry Johnson, 4m old, cancer
Connor Peebles, back problems
Mike Burns, cancer
Mark Toomes, health
Tracy Thorp, cancer
Buddy Jenkins, Karen S. father
Jeff Travis, health
Ronnie Lear, COPD
Tracey Moore, illness
Hannah Gates, heart surgery
Sherry Mitchell, cancer
Pam Wiggins, cancer
Shelia Hampton, headaches
Barbie Kern, Carol's sister, cancer
Larry Jerome, Wendy's father
Sally Malik, lungs
Jonathan Walker, Cumberland Hall
Virginia Barron, Children's hospital
Kathy Lawrence
Bob Reis, MS
Eric Polley, heart attack
Richard Grogan, Barbara S.
Roberta Lynch, Shelia's mom
Marion Owens, terminal cx

Shut-Ins & Elderly:

Lee Townsend, Junie Peterson, Ewing Stubblefield, Anna Etta Brown,
Ruth Shoulders, Ann Alderson, Don & Judy Niestrath

Pennyrile Christian Counseling

Elizabeth B. Webb, LMFT, LCSW
To make an appointment, call 270-825-8746.

Deacons:

Jeremy Duggin, James Rust, Joshua Scott
Brock Shoulders, Steve Stoltz, Darin Swaidner
Tim Teel, Randy Travis

Elders:

Barry Webb— 270-339-8429 barry.webb@ge.com
Dan Rust— 812-746-5635 dbrust@bellsouth.net
Byron Pruitt— 270-841-7518 brpruitt65@gmail.com
Ronny Stubblefield— 270-635-5360
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