

October 05, 2025

EDIFIER

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RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class41

Attendance AM85

Attendance PM45

Wednesday PM47

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health:

Prayer for Health: Dana Grigsby; Mary Sanders; Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Phil Tydings; Jerry and Linda Thomas; Candence Lawson(brother Melson’s niece—Lung disease and LMA)

Traveling: Norris & Kelsey Cole, II

Prayers: Jaren and Kari Sutherlin; Carolyn Johnson

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Member Birthdays: October — 2– Virginia Robbins; 5– Rhea Wallace; 6– Kevin Gilbert; 9-Victoria Dudley; 12– Philip Tydings; 13-Norris Cole, II; 14– Patrick Cook; 16– Judy Arnett; 17– Mozella Tate, Nancy Weimer; 26 - Caden Vance

Anniversaries: October— 1– Tom and Mary Vance

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class October 16 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 12 in “Bible A’s for Ladies”

October 05

BRETHREN TO SERVE AM

BRETHREN TO SERVE PM

Opening Prayer

Song Leader

Lead Lord’s Supper

Server 1

Server 2

Scripture Reader

Sermon

Prayer for Responses

Closing Prayer

Announcements

Greeter

Usher

Usher

Patrick Cook

Michael Blanks, Jr.

Lyle Cole

Tony Moore

James Grigsby

Norris Cole, II

Richard D. Melson

Frank Brock

Jerry Thomas

Patrick Thomas

Samuel Jones

Anthony Grigsby

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 06

October 05, 2025

Issue 40

## LEAVING SELFISH AMBITION BEHIND (PART 2)

Kevin W. Rhodes

Christianity typically does not require leaving every aspect of your former life behind. For instance, it does not advocate your relocating in a remote compound in Montana—as appealing as that might sound at times! However, becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ does demand abandoning any ambitions or positions that create conflict with Christ. When the apostle Paul wrote his second epistle to the Corinthians, he explained his concern for their souls: *“For I fear lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I wish, and that I shall be found by you such as you do not wish; lest there be contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, backbitings, whisperings, conceits, tumults”* (2 Cor. 12:20). He feared that they were clinging to the world’s ambitions instead of adopt-ing God’s as their own. Whether giving up a secular position as Moses did (Heb. 11:24-25) or a spiritual position as the apostle Paul did (Phil. 3:4-8), Christians must let go of the ambitions held in high esteem in the world and instead aspire to pleasing God (1 The. 4:1).

Following Jesus therefore means giving up personal agendas and individual priorities to seek the whole of God’s cause and God’s will. Paul advised the congregation in Philippi, *“Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others”* (Phil. 2:3-4). Jesus’ disciples must cheerfully submit the ambitions they learned from worldly experience to follow the ambitions set before them from heavenly experience. Too easily we follow the world’s ambition for a church because we are out of touch with God’s ambition for us. We can then substitute the world’s ambitions for the church for God’s—failing to realize it at the time because we have lost the proper focus. We must stop reacting only to the needs the world sees and instead begin acting because of the needs God sees, because Jesus lived in such a manner as this (Lk. 19:10).

Therefore, discipleship demands per-sonal action—not personal ambition. It demands that disciples not only follow God’s will but adopt God’s will as their own through faith to the point where it becomes who they are. *“For we walk by faith, not by sight”* (2 Cor. 5:7). *“But someone will say, ‘You have faith, and I have works.’ Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works”* (Jas. 2:14- 18). Christians can get caught up in the trap of worldly ambition, trying to do big things on a grandiose scale so that all the world will notice. Instead, they need to start doing the right things on an individual scale so that the people they know and love notice.

Moses had a good life in Midian when he saw the burning bush. He gave a lot of personal excuses trying to stay right where he had been. But when he dropped his own selfish ambitions and instead took up God’s ambition, he achieved greatness through meekness (Num. 12:3). Following Jesus offers that same possibility today. *✍*

*What happens when men read the Bible determined to find the will of God —(John 7:17)*

[www.needmoreroadcoc.com](http://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](mailto: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

BEING THE NEW CREATION IN 2025 - 2 COR. 5:17

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

## Christians and Popularity

It was once stated that the candidate for presidency of the USA, Benjamin Harrison, said, "I'd rather be right than be President, but at any time I am ready to be both." Now this statement is also attributed to Henry Clay (1777-1852). Well for this illustration it does not matter who actually used the phrase first consider the following. Both Mr. Harrison and Clay recognized certain standards of right in their life, and was intent upon upholding them. They were not willing to sacrifice these standards, even for the honor of becoming the President of the United States. However, based upon what is attributed to Mr. Harrison, any time he could fill this noble office and retain his standards, he was willing to do so.

True Christians, have standards to uphold, which should cannot be sacrificed for the price of popularity or position. The Christian does need not seek to be unpopular. The Christian attitude ought to be: *I'd rather be right with the Lord than be popular with the world (Luke 6:26; John 8:29; 2Tim. 3:12).*

-R.D. Melson

### The Shortest Way There

Many years ago, "Which is the shortest way to London?" was the question for the best answer to which a London newspaper offered a substantial cash prize. The answer which won the prize was, "The shortest way to London is good company."

All travelers know how true that answer is. Good company shortens any journey, however long. In such company time flies, miles slip rapidly past, and the end is reached almost before one is aware of it.

The journey to heaven is very much shortened, the road made easier, when Jesus Christ is our Friend and traveling Companion. One may go thousands of miles in this life, but the **one and only route** to eternal Happiness is Him.

~Adapted~

John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. Acts 4:12 - Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

- Glenn Hitchcock & R.D. Melson

## Treating God as holy!

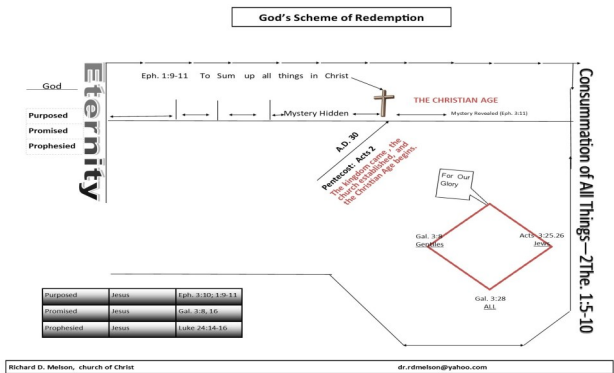


"So, I used a different fire than what God authorized for me to use. What's the big deal? Fire is fire, right?" "So, first God tells me to strike a rock and then He tells me to speak to a rock, so I just struck it the second time, too. What's the big deal? Striking the rock was acceptable to Him before, why not now? Besides, we got the water, and that's what matters anyway."

You recognize that these could be sentiments expressed by Nadab and Abihu (Lev. 10:1-3) and by Moses (Ex. 17:1-7; Num. 20:1-13). What do these two incidents have in common? On both occasions, these men of God disobeyed a direct command of God. Notice the common thread in God's response to both actions. "By those who come near to Me I will be treated as holy" (Lev. 10:3). "You have not believed Me, to treat Me as holy in the sight of the sons of Israel" (Num. 20:12).

To disobey God is to tread over the holiness of our God! Perhaps that is why we need to be reminded when we pray, "Hallowed be Your name" (Matt. 6:9).

David Sproule  
Thought for the Day



## Melson's Musings ...



## Dressed For Eternal Success

Whenever a young man or woman begins to look for their first job, there's a piece of advice that is nearly universally given. ***"Dress for the job you want, not the job you have."*** The idea is that you always want to convey to a potential employer that you take your work seriously and have ambitions beyond an entry-level position. You are committed to growing your skills and maximizing your potential.

What we wear says a lot about us. Humans are visual beings. Studies have shown that the human brain can process entire images that the eye sees for as little as 13 milliseconds. Within the blink of an eye, we can gain a ton of information about someone and make judgments about them. It should be no surprise then that we put a lot of time and thought into the things we wear. We want to make a good impression. So, we wear things that convey a certain message about ourselves or give the attention we desire. So, what message are we sending when we wear immodest attire?

The Bible teaches throughout the Scriptures that modesty is a mandate. In 1 Timothy 2:9-10, Paul gives three criteria for modest dress. He says, ***"I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting; in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works."*** Now, dressing modestly is not a command for women alone. Paul likens this command to the ones he gives to the men when praying publicly. This implies that the principles apply to the men, as well.

Notice the three criteria Paul gives. "Modest apparel" means "being appropriate for winning approval." The

emphasis here is clothes that signal your status as a Christian. "Propriety" means "the modesty of women; reverence or respect." These are clothes that demonstrate reverence. "Moderation" means "practice of prudence, good judgment...self-control." This word emphasizes dressing in a wise way, especially according to the virtues of decency and chastity. Together, these words give us a clear understanding of how Christians ought to dress.

**When Christians dress modestly, they demonstrate their Christian faith, their reverence for God, and their commitment to self-control.** If we can dress properly for the job we want, shouldn't Christians be able to dress for the eternity they want? So, the next time you take a trip to the beach, go out to dinner, or come to assemble for worship, ask yourself, is what I'm wearing proper for professing godliness?

- Robert Lupo

Amen! Amen! Amen! [ RDM ]

- ☞ We will resume the study Jesus Christ, The Master Teacher—adult class in the Auditorium at chapter 5 on Wednesday.
- ☞ Preteens and teens signup for the Lock-In on November 2
- ☞ Ladies Day—Sisters Needing Sisters—Nov. 15
- ☞ Fall is now here
- ☞ Check out the new tract titles in the rack
- ☞ Take a ***"Christian Gift Card"*** and give it away to someone you meet.



## NEWS AND NOTES

- Visit these online resources: [www.wvbs.org](http://www.wvbs.org) ; [www.apologeticspress.org](http://www.apologeticspress.org) ; [www.searchtv.org](http://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
- 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