

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	43
Attendance AM	71
Attendance PM	37
Wednesday PM	36

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Mary Rutland; Jerry Thomas; Dana Grigsby; Kay Feldman; Mary Sanders; Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Phil Tydings; Karia Sutherlin; Anthony Givens (LA) suffered a stroke; Geri Allen (LA)

Traveling:

Prayers: Sutherlin family

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Member Birthdays: December— 5— Herman Farmer; 11—Nina Netherton; 15—Dana Grigsby, Dwayne Eslick, Sr., Richard Melson; 23— Tony Moore; 24— Mia Gilbert; 26 – Theresa Wallace;

Anniversaries: December— 27—Tony & Princess Moore

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class Dec. 11 @ 6:00 PM
Chapter 13 in “Bible A’s for Ladies”

December 07	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Fran Brock	Frank Brock
Song Leader	Chris Poole	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord’s Supper	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Server 1	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Server 2	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas
Scripture Reader	James Grigsby	James Grigsby
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Closing Prayer	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Announcements	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Greeter	Samuel Jones	Samuel Jones
Usher	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Usher		

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 06December 07, 2025Issue 49

THE NEED FOR PERSONAL STUDY

Robert E. Guinn

Why has attendance been greatly stressed among God’s people in the past? We cannot ignore that the attendance changes between different Bible classes and worship services on Sundays and Wednesday evenings. Are elders and spiritual leaders just being “nit-picky,” or is there a deeper issue that concerns our fellow Christians when they see our lack of participation?

We have approximately 168 hours in a week. If we attend ALL of the regular congregational worship services and studies, we have made a four-hour investment in our spiritual development. That is roughly 2.4% of our weeks’ time that we dedicate to God. What about Christians that are a part of congregations that only meet once or twice a week? Then that percentage theoretically will go down. If we invest nothing else into our spiritual lives, these numbers look sad compared to the amount of time we spend on entertainment and other non-spiritual things.

It seems that, even though attendance has been the measure of faithfulness in the past, congregational worship and study should be viewed as the mountaintop of what we are consistently investing in our personal spiritual development. We know that faith is built upon our access to, meditation on, and devotion toward God’s word (Romans 10:17). The great salvation provided through Jesus Christ should provoke us to want an intimate relationship with the Creator, desiring to seek His ways over ours. As the Psalmist said: “I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you,” (Psalm 119:11, ESV).

Why is personal study so important? Faith is described in the New Testament as the starting point of spiritual development and growth (2 Peter 1:5-10). Faith is also the Christian shield that protects us against the flaming arrows of the enemy (Ephesians 6). What happens when that shield is splintered, shattered, and/or broken? It needs to be repaired. Like a plant needing maintenance and care, so our faith needs to be watered, tended, and matured. Consider these five reasons we need to develop and grow our personal study of God’s word:

1. Personal study enables us to have a better understanding of spiritual things (Psalm 119:99).
2. Personal study is connected to our salvation, and the salvation of others who witness our faith (1 Timothy 4:11-16).
3. Personal study can help us better protect our minds and hearts (Philippians 4:6 -9).
4. Personal study gives us experience to better handle God’s word (2 Timothy 2:15).
5. Personal study better prepares us for fighting off temptation (Matt. 4; Luke 4).

The bottom line, however, is that no one can do this for us. We are responsible for our own spiritual growth and development. Are you satisfied with your current spiritual investments? I know I am not always satisfied with mine. Let’s take and make personal study personal!

The Forest Hill News, Forest Hill Church of Christ Weekly Bulletin, November 13, 2019.

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

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

The Moral Unity of Life

“One thing have I asked of Jehovah.” (Psalm 27: 4)
“One thing I know.” (John 9:25)
“One thing I do.” (Phil. 3:13)

I. One thing to ask. The psalmist said his one desire and request was to dwell in the house of the Lord forever. In a word, to be a member of the Lord's true family and to have his place in the soul's true home. This request is always well-pleasing to God; it is always granted when people comply with the divine will; it is always soul-satisfying. (Matt. 7: 21; Rev. 22:14, 17).

II. One thing to know. The blind man had just received his sight from Jesus. Out of this blessing none could defraud him or cajole him as to how he had received it. Of one thing he was absolutely certain, namely, the identity of his great Physician. To the believing, trusting, obedient soul, the gospel of the Lord Jesus gives absolute certainty, a blessed assurance. Of the remission of all sins. Of spiritual sight. Of immortal life. (John 8:12; Acts 2:38; 2 Tim.1:12).

III. One thing to do. The apostle Paul's grand resolve as expressed to the Christians at Philippi follows naturally in experience to the unity of request and knowledge. God's answer to the soul brings it full assurance, and full assurance of him knits active life into practical unity. There is power in singleness of purpose. It makes for peace and joy unspeakable (Matt. 16:24).

WHAT IS YOUR NAME?

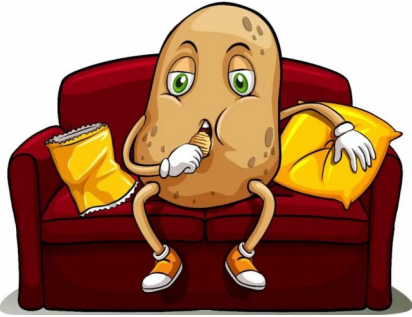
The Indians used to give their children the name that they earned. Thus, some girl might become Laughing Water, Timid One, or Sunshine. A boy might be named Running Feet, Wise Owl, or Black Hawk.

Suppose God gave each of his children the name that each earned? Some would be Helping Hand, Faithful Teacher, Lively Stone, Generous Giver. But, on the other hand, there would be many wearing names such as Unreliable, Lukewarm, Evil Tongue, Stingy Giver.

If God named you according to your life, what would your name be?

-Selected

Couch potato Christians

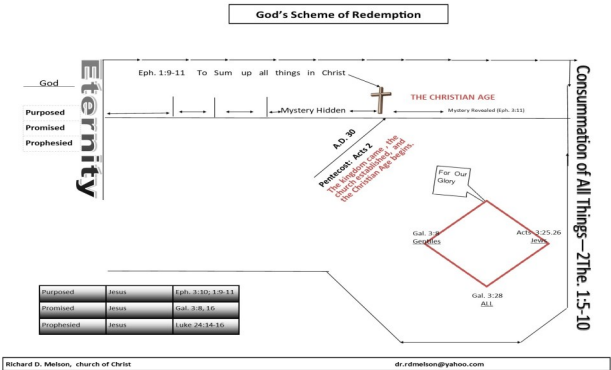


You know what a couch potato is, right? That term is usually used to describe a person who spends a lot of time sitting or lying on a couch and leads a life of little to no physical activity. This is a person who usually does very little for others, and instead, often needs or expects others to be doing things him. Quite a mental picture.

Is it possible that a Christian could become a spiritual couch potato? This is not necessarily someone who spends a lot of time sitting on a literal couch, but a person who engages in little to no spiritually-focused activity, and in fact, does very little for others (and therefore, for the Lord—Matt. 25:34-46). It can be easy to become lethargic as a Christian.

It can be easy to sit and watch other Christians “doing the work.” It can be easy to “let the younger folks step up.” But being a true Christian involves “giving all diligence” (2 Pet. 1:5), “always abounding in the work of the Lord” (1 Cor. 15:58) and doing “good to all,” especially our fellow Christians (Gal. 6:10). Am I a couch potato Christian or a “doer” Christian (Jas. 1:22-25)?

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson’s Musings ...



The Rich Man, the Eye of a Needle and Heaven

As far back as I can remember I’ve heard Christians say, “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter heaven.” In fact, in past years, this is what I said that Jesus said about this topic. I was wrong when I taught this. Let’s take a moment to carefully examine what our Lord said. Let’s take time to learn the importance of reading the Bible more carefully.

So, let me ask you, is the following statement true? “The Bible teaches that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter heaven.” True or false? Suppose I were to say that this is not what the Bible says. There is a context in which these words were said. However, we far too often fail to read the verses before and after a single favorite verse. Matthew, Mark and Luke record the words of Jesus in this way. “It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.” How then could I have said, “This is not what the Bible says”?

Take time to study the matter more deeply. Mark adds another aspect of the rich man which so many have overlooked. Just before Jesus spoke of the rich man and the needle, Jesus said, “How hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of heaven” (Mark 10:24). The kind of rich man Jesus had in mind when he spoke of the eye of the needle was the rich man who trusts in his riches. It was not the possession of the riches which was the problem, it was the trust rich men foolishly place in their riches.

Think about it for just a moment. How rich was David? How rich was young Solomon? How rich was Job? Have you not known Christians who were rich, yet their riches did not destroy their spirituality? We have failed to see

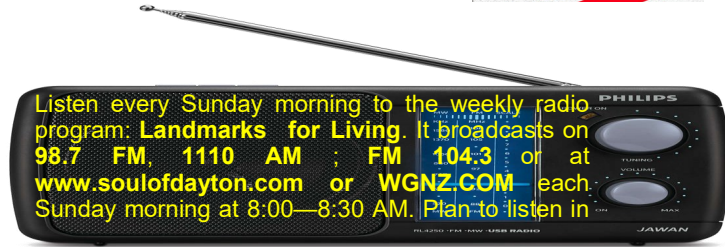
precisely what Jesus was saying. The dangers of riches is that because of them men begin to trust in their riches more than in God.

There’s one other thing we need to see about rich men and the eye of a needle. The passage is not discussing entering heaven but entering the kingdom of heaven. What is that kingdom? The Bible clearly shows that the kingdom of heaven is the church! Jesus was not saying that rich men have problems entering into heaven, but they have problems entering into the church. Those who trust in riches rarely become Christians, but if they truly die to self in their repentance, they become tremendous assets to the cause of Christ. When they die to self, their riches no longer control them. They control their riches! Let me encourage you to read the Bible more carefully. Read it more slowly. You may be overlooking great truths!

- Dan Jenkins



- ☞ Potter Children’s Home Coin Can— We have several empty coin cans in the office. Please pickup one to fill.
- ☞ 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 ; www.apologeticspress.org ; 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