

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	37
Attendance AM	61
Attendance PM	37
Wednesday PM	39

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Carlene Harley; Kay Feldman; Florine Thomas; Mary Vance; Pat Norris; Glenna Adair; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Virginia Robbins; Janis Bland; Rita and Ryan McGahee

Traveling: Richard Melson, Jr.;

Prayers:

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy: William Bogan, Poole and Holt families

Member Birthdays: March— 6 - Melody Angus; 9— Rita McGahee; 10— Samuel Jones; 11— Mary Vance; 17 - Pat Norris; 18— Layne Vance; 27— Karia Sutherlin, Lyle Cole; 28— Cynthia Lease, Rhonda Fox; 30— Timothy Angus, William Bogan

Anniversaries: March —

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class April 02 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 5 in "The Begging Place"

March 22	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Song Leader	Chris Poole	Michael Blanks, Jr.
Lead Lord's Supper	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Server 1	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas
Server 2	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Ryan McGahee
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Closing Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Announcements	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
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 07

March 22, 2026

Issue 12

BIBLICAL OCCUPATIONS

Ross Haffner

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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

One of the great things about the Bible is that God chose to use real life examples to teach us. We can better understand how to be Christians when we can relate a Bible truth to something we know already. The New Testament uses the following occupations to teach us what it means to live by faith (Gal. 2:20).

A Christian is like a builder. Jesus used the parable of the wise and foolish man to illustrate the point that only those who obey the commandments of God will be saved. The foolish man did not have the proper foundation for his house and so the rains destroyed it (Matt. 7:26-27). The wise man built his house on a rock so when stormy weather came the structure lasted (Matt. 7:24-25). Though salvation is received at baptism (Acts 2:38), we must be prepared to live a life of service and faithfulness to God. Jesus warned about builders who did not count the cost and therefore were mocked when their structure remained unfinished (Luke 14:28-30).

A Christian is like an athlete. The athlete must train to ready himself for the physical demands he places on his body. Spiritually, much is demanded of the New Testament Christian. Paul said that he had to train himself to be able to run the race (1 Cor. 9:23-27). The Hebrews writer uses the same imagery saying we must run the race with patience (Heb. 12:1). Christians are spiritual long-distance runners who recognize that endurance and steadfastness are going to be necessary to win the prize.

A Christian is like a soldier. The armor we must wear is not physical armor, but spiritual (Ephesians 6:11-18). This is because we are in a spiritual war (2 Cor. 10:3-5). We are commanded to be good soldiers who will not entangle ourselves in the cares of this life (2 Tim. 2:3-4). These cares will distract us from Christian living. Therefore, even after we are saved by the blood of Christ we have duties to perform.

A Christian is like a farmer. In Jesus' parable of the sower He related the spreading of God's word to the spreading of seed for crops (Mark 4:14). Our work is to spread the gospel to the entire world (Matt. 28:18-20). Sometimes the seed does not grow as the farmer intended. Despite many negative results the sower distributes the seed liberally over many types of soil in hopes that some will find the good ground that brings forth fruit (Mark 4:20). Even when many reject the teachings of the Bible, our duty remains the same. However, before we are ready to spread the good news we must first be partakers of the fruits of labor. Paul says, "The hardworking farmer must be first to partake of the crops." (2 Tim. 2:6). He taught Timothy that he must be obedient to the gospel before he is ready to teach it. We must do the same. So whatever occupation we hold in this life, let us first of all be Christians. *ss*

STRONGER THAN EVER IN 2026 - EPH. 6:10

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

A neglected power



Even uninspired poets have written about the power in prayer. Note the words of Alfred Tennyson. "More things are wrought by prayer, Than this world dreams of."

The words of James are quite familiar to most. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16b. Yet, those who recognize the power in prayer and pray fervently find themselves filled with questions. Why did God allow this to happen? Many Christians were praying so why didn't God answer our prayers? A basic attitude of one praying must be, " ... let him ask in faith." James 1:6. We need a disposition of heart that moves us to say, I trust God and I know He will answer prayer in accord with His ability to know all things.

When we make requests of our friends they may answer yes, no, or later. Too often we are found demanding of God that His every answer be what we think is best. We need more of Paul's attitude as he prayed about his thorn in the flesh. He prayed three times that it might depart from him. The Lord said no, so Paul concluded, "Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." II Cor. 12:9

God may answer our prayers in ways we least expect, as expressed in the following lines by an unknown Confederate soldier.

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve, I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey ... I asked for health, that I might do greater things, I was given infirmity, that I might do better things ... I asked for riches, that I might be happy, I was given poverty, that I might be wise ... I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men, I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God ... I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life, I was given life, that I might enjoy all things ... I got nothing that I asked for – but everything I had hoped for, Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered. I am among all men most richly blessed.

Bulletin Digest—1982
Jimmy Miller
Caruthersville, MO

The true sign of strength

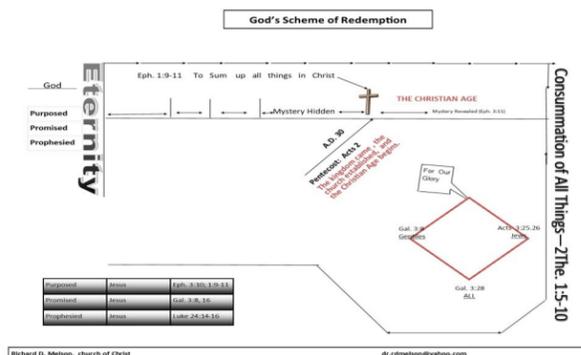


Do you ever get emotionally overloaded with the trials and hardships of life? Then, do you ever get emotionally over-overloaded when you look around at the dismal condition of the sin-filled world around us? Then, do you ever get emotionally over-over-overloaded when unexpected challenges face your family? Then do you ever get emotionally over-over-over-overloaded when friends or family unload their troubles and complaints and issues on you? Have you ever reached a point where you weren't sure how much more you could handle?

Great! You just passed the "I'm-Human-And-Have-A-Heart Test"! Now, here's your prize. You don't have to carry that load! See if you notice two key words in these verses: "In EVERYTHING by prayer...let your requests be made known to God" (Phil. 4:6), "casting ALL your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (1 Pet. 5:7). Did you catch the key words?

STOP trying to carry EVERYTHING that's going on and ALL of your anxieties on your own! Trust that when you "Cast your burden on the Lord" that "He shall sustain you" and "never permit [YOU!] to be moved" (Psa. 55:22).

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



Persistence



The Chinese bamboo tree is an unusual plant. The Chinese plant the seed; they water and fertilize it, but the first year nothing happens. The second year they water and fertilize it, and still nothing happens. The third and fourth year they water and fertilize it and nothing happens. The fifth year they water and fertilize it, and sometime during the course of the fifth year, in a period of approximately six weeks, the Chinese bamboo tree grows roughly ninety feet. The question is, "Did it grow ninety feet in just six weeks or did it grow ninety feet in five years?" The obvious answer is that it grew ninety feet in five years. Had the water and fertilizer not been applied each year, there would have been no Chinese bamboo tree.

What does all this have to do with us? It perfectly illustrates a Biblical principle. "And let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:9)... It's not so much what you do today that makes a difference. It's what you do consistently every day that will bear fruit in its own time. "So then, as we have opportunity, let us work that which is good..." Keep it up! The principle is persistence.

Worship and You

Prepare before you go. Appearing before God to offer Him glory and honor and praise is not something which can be done without thought and effort. The heart cannot express what it does not contain. Fill it ahead of

time with gratitude and humility and praise. Set your priorities and plan to be alert enough to pour out your heart to God.

Participate while you are there. Worship is an active word. No one else can do it for you. Examine your heart. Offer yourself to God. Pray fervently. Lift up your voice in praise. Meditate upon the Word. Follow the line of thought. Draw near to God. There is no way to do any of this without being actively engaged in worship.

Practice when you leave. Let what you have done in worship make a difference in your life. Bridle your tongue. Keep yourself unspotted from the world. Act with compassion for the helpless and downtrodden. In so doing you will prove that your faith is not in vain. And you will discover that worship prepares you for life as life prepares you for worship.

When it comes to making worship more meaningful, you are a key ingredient. May each one of us accept his or her responsibility in this matter.

Adapted from Bill McFarland

☞ Funeral for William Bogan, Jr. is at the House of Wheat Funeral home, Monday March 23. Visitation 9-11 a.m. Funeral at 11:00. Repass to follow in fellowship hall.



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; www.anchorofthesoul.com
- 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