

**RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE**

Bible Class	36
Attendance AM	67
Attendance PM	35
Wednesday PM	30

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

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

**Traveling:** Richard Melson, Jr.;

**Prayers:**

**Repentance:**

**Baptism:**

**Sympathy:**

**Member Birthdays: April**— 8 - Beulah Farmer; 11- Mary Sanders; 12 - Jacob Hoover; 23- Norris Cole, Sr. 25- Carolyn Johnson

**Anniversaries: April** — 1—Otis and Glenna Adair; 16 – Michael and Rachel Blanks

**Ladies Reading Group:** Zoom Class April 16 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 5 in "The Begging Place"

April 05	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
Song Leader	Michael Blanks, Jr.	Lyle Cole
Lead Lord's Supper	Patrick Cook	Patrick Cook
Server 1	James Grigsby	James Grigsby
Server 2	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
Scripture Reader	Ryan McGahee	Ryan McGahee
Sermon	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Prayer for Responses	Richard D. Melson	Richard D. Melson
Closing Prayer	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
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

April 05, 2026

Issue 14

[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

## JESUS, IS OUR WAY OUT OF RELIGIOUS CONFUSION

John Garza

Many people who genuinely desire to follow Jesus are sick and tired of the many denominations and conflicting teachings. Is it possible for people today to simply be Christians and not a part of denominational division of today? Absolutely! Jesus shows us the way out of religious confusion!

For a moment, let's consider Jesus' own example in the religious atmosphere of His day. When Jesus came to this earth, the Israelites were living under the Mosaic Law. In that law, God did not make any provision for the division of His people into religious sects or parties. Yet, by the time of Jesus, the Jews had formed several religious parties, and it was assumed that all who were serious about religion would be associated with one of these groups. To which did Jesus belong? NONE! Instead, He maintained a non-sectarian relationship with God to the very end. As an Israelite, living at a time when the Law of Moses was still in effect, He was simply an "Israelite." Even more so, He encouraged all to live by the Law while it was still in effect (Matt. 5:17-20).

Today, we avoid division by obeying the Law of Christ (Gal. 6:2). First, we began by obeying the same instructions that Peter gave on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38, 42). By being saved in this way, we know that the Lord truly adds us to HIS church just as He added them (Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:47) Then what? Since the early Christians joined no other religious organization, neither should we! By being in Christ, we are automatically united with all others who are in Him, but as members of the Lord's church, we should carefully study the New Testament description of that church. This description is found in the book of Acts and in the Epistles. It is here that we find instruction from the Lord's apostles regarding how to worship the Lord acceptably, how to be scripturally organized as local congregations, and how to live and work together as Christians, spreading the gospel of Christ through word and example. Since the apostles were guided by the Holy Spirit, we can be sure that their instructions were exactly what Jesus wanted them to be! If we mimic the early churches by following the apostles' instructions (Acts 2:42), we will simply be "Christians," and we can be certain the Lord is pleased with us (Luke 10:16). *✍️*

**STRONGER THAN EVER IN 2026 - EPH. 6:10**

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

## A Christlike Spirit

“Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” Stephen's beautiful attitude in the face of the abusive mob reflected his Christlike spirit. Confronted by the most severe antagonism and abuse, his example of love and forgiveness could only spring from his knowing the Christ. Few people are forced to confront a situation similar to Stephen's. But everyone has many opportunities to demonstrate the same Christlike spirit.

When a sales person is rude to us, how do we respond? How do we react on the job when fellow workers show contempt for our Christian standards? How do we meet the hostility of unfriendly neighbors? What do we do when the driver of the car behind us in traffic is impatient, rude, and makes obscene gestures at us? What do we do when our attempts at friendliness are rudely rejected? How do we respond to brethren who are hypercritical of our efforts? When a “friend” makes an unkind or cutting remark to us, what do we say in return?

We would not suggest that any of these situations is a parallel to that of Stephen. But we do suggest that they offer opportunities to express a Christlike attitude. To paraphrase a saying of Jesus, if you say and do nice things to those who are nice to you, how are you any better than the unbeliever. But the real test of the Christlike spirit is your ability to “love your enemy,” and “do good to those who use you wrongfully.” This is what Jesus did. And this is what Stephen did by the power of Jesus in his life.

*Bulletin Digest—June 1982  
Charles Moore  
Newark, Delaware*

## Sour Milk

I am reminded of a story I read one time which told about a little boy who watched his mother bake a cake. He noticed that one of the main ingredients was “sour” milk. This he couldn't understand and thought sure it would ruin the cake. When supper time came, he found, to his surprise, that it was one of the best cakes he'd ever eaten, because the sour with the sweet actually made the cake better.

How many of us today are much like the boy who did not understand? Sometime our disappointments are God's “appointments.” Our trials may seem bitter, but remember, it take the bitter with the sweet to make the good things in life.

## Do it for Jesus!

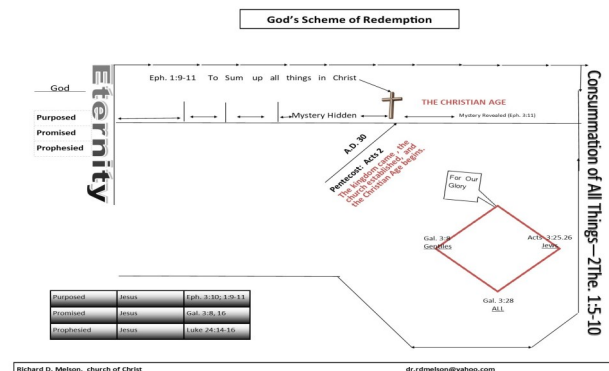


Sometimes Christians allow other people to affect their service TO the Lord and FOR the Lord. Sometimes Christians get frustrated with a preacher or with the elders, so they disconnect from the local congregation and stop serving in the church. Sometimes Christians get hurt by a fellow Christian, so they disconnect from the local congregation and stop being involved.

The nature of human relationships is that we are imperfect, even as Christians. Yet, the Lord, in His infinite wisdom and eternal plan, put these imperfect persons together in Christ and in His church (1 Cor. 12:12-27; Eph. 2:11-22). And the reminder that Scripture continually gives to us is that the church belongs to Christ (Matt. 16:18; Acts 20:28). Our connection to the church and our involvement in the church needs to be focused MORE on Jesus than on anyone else!

How involved are you in the church? Are you holding back because someone annoyed you, hurt you, pressured you, overlooked you, etc.? How about giving this a try: Jump in and be extremely active in the church—not for yourself or anyone else, but for Jesus!

*David Sproule  
Thought for the Day*



## Melson's Musings ...



## Seeking to Excel

At the Winter Olympics in Sapporo, Japan, several years ago Barbara Cochran of the U.S. defeated Daniele Debernard of France in a ski race by two/ one-hundredths of one second. Roger Bannister broke the mythical "four minute mile", the first ever, by running just a fraction of 1% better than what anyone else had done. The difference between a champion and an “also-ran” can be very small indeed.

Baseball is said to be "a game of inches". A home-run that clears the bases can be but a few inches away from a long fly caught at the wall. Sin is “missing the mark” (God's standard of perfection). One doesn't have to miss it much to be a sinner. Sometimes we look at this negatively and judge that we just can't measure up , so why try. On the other hand, we should see it positively, trying a little harder, seeking to excel.

In every sphere of life it is easy to be an “also-ran “, but hard to be a winner. If a thing is worth doing, it is worth doing well. This applies particularly to being a Christian. If the Christian life is worth living, it is worth living well. Our standard should never be one which is easily reached, but it should be a goal that challenges us. How much does heaven mean to you? Does it mean enough to try just a bit harder ... To give just a bit more ... to study, to pray, to work, to serve just a little more? Heaven is worth far more than all the gold medals ever won in the Olympics. Bobby Morrow, a New Testament Christian and Olympics champion in the 1940's, was asked what it was that enabled him to be best in a field of champions of about equal ability. He responded that the extra output of the adrenal glands which he called upon for that needed burst of speed was the difference. It doesn't take much,

but it takes enough. Wanting to win, qualifying to win and trying just a little bit harder can make a winner in the Christian life . God 's heaven is a real challenge and it will take some real spiritual fitness to win the crow

## It Really Happened !

Preaching styles and habits can carry over into everyday life. Henry Herren of Birmingham, Alabama writes of an Alabama preacher who was making announcements over radio station WWWB In Jasper, Alabama He said, “ ... Mary Jones is in the hospital, Room 14, Verse 12.”

However, according to brother Herren, he went back and corrected it quickly to ... Room 1412.”

☞ Today is our noon meal together and 1:00 PM afternoon service, no 5:00 PM service today.



## 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; [www.anchorofthesoul.com](http://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