

## ASSEMBLY TIMES

### Sunday

Bible Class 9:45am  
Morning Assembly 10:35am  
Evening Assembly 6:00pm

### Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00pm

## RADIO PROGRAM

### The Bible Speaks



Sunday 9:00-9:30a.m.  
KURM 790AM

## Downtown Church of Christ

P.O. Box 447  
201 W. Chestnut Street  
Rogers, AR 72757  
479-636-3575  
www.downtowncoc.net

**The more you grow up,  
the less you blow up.**



## CLASS SCHEDULE

**Today**  
All Classes  
Num 1-12

**Next Sunday**  
All Classes  
Num 13-15

This info is provided  
to help everyone stay  
in synch during our  
three-year study thru  
the Bible (Sunday AM).

# FAMILY NEWS

## PRAYER LIST –

*Preachers we support:* Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Canada, Mexico, Peru, U.S.  
*The sick:* Mary Lou Lewis, Shirley Cole, Kathy Fletcher, Sylvia & Arvis Tatom,  
Margaret Abel, Sandra Walsh, Richard Wike, Diane Willis and Nellie Shell  
*Shut-ins:* Betty Jo Young and Helen Weiser

**WE REJOICE** with Kadey Potter who was recently baptized into Christ!

Let's do what we can to support her in her new life as a child of God!

**ELDERS' REPORT & SINGING** – Tonight is our monthly elders' report and singing. Come if you can.



# DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

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ROGERS, ARKANSAS

*Contending earnestly for the faith since 1866*

February 4, 2018

## Tomatoes in the Fruit Salad

*“Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.”* One would be hard-pressed to find a better explanation for the difference between knowledge and wisdom. But clearly, wisdom is the superior virtue.

This is not to disparage knowledge. We are, in fact, commanded to “*grow in knowledge*” (2 P 3:18). Hosea wrote, “*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge*” (Hos 4:6). Knowledge is critically important; but, it is not an end in itself. It is important because it is a foundational building block for wisdom.

By itself, knowledge tends toward arrogance (1 Co 8:1 — though it may earn you a championship in a Trivial Pursuit game). As a building block for wisdom, knowledge provides the tools on which to make sound judgments. And, sound judgments can make you a world-class chef (no tomatoes in the fruit salad), or a wealthy investor — ***or a faithful child of God!*** How much is that worth?

Actually, I think it would be fun to put a few tomatoes in a fruit salad. But then, when it comes to food I am a fool.  
– *WKing*

## Through Ancient Eyes

Singing hymns is a wonderful way to praise God. They also can help us stay focused throughout the day. However, when we sing at church, God is not the only one listening. Remember we are addressing one another in our singing as well.

The reasoning Paul gives in Ephesians 5:15-20 to sing is not to give each other a warm feeling inside. He starts with acknowledging how easily the world can influence us to act unwise. He then writes “Therefore do not be foolish, but **understand what the will of the Lord is.**” (Eph 5:17).

This should focus us on a couple of levels. First, song leaders need to take special care that the Hymns are scriptural. Unlike our Bibles, hymn books are not inspired, and not every song in there reflects God’s

will. Secondly, it should encourage us to look around at each other. Look at how a three-year-old can teach the eighty-year-old through the words “Jesus Loves Me.” Look at how powerfully the one suffering sings, “Peace, Perfect Peace.” Look at how the elderly longingly sing, “It Won’t be Very Long.” Look how the joyful dependently sing, “O Thou Fount of Every Blessing.”

Each voice adds power and meaning to the words because it shows that following the will of God is not dependent on circumstance. It is based on each of our brothers’ and sisters’ devotion to our Lord.

-JVenuso



## Another Perspective

## Alien Sinners and the Law of Christ

In 1 Corinthians 5 Paul penned, *“I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators; yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world... I have written unto you not to keep company, if... a brother be a fornicator... with such a one, no not to eat”*. Paul distinguished between a fornicator *“called a brother”* and one that is *“of this world”*. We know how the fornicator ‘within’ became a fornicator. He violated the law of Christ. But, how did the fornicator ‘without’ become one? He also violated the law of Christ!

In 1 Corinthians 6 Paul wrote, *“Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers... shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you; but, you are washed...”* Prior to being washed, some of them were adulterers. How could this be? They were accountable to the law of Christ!

*“...where no law is, there is no transgression”* (Ro 4:15). If those in the world are not accountable to the law of Christ, and thus not sinners, the worst thing that could happen is for someone to preach the gospel to them. But, all ARE accountable to the law of Christ, and guilty of sin (Ro 3:23). Hence, all need the gospel and the blood of Jesus Christ.

- Glenn Melton

*(Note: this topic often comes up in a discussion of divorce and remarriage. Be aware! -wk)*

