

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

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Rogers, AR 72757
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CLASS SCHEDULE

Today
All Classes
Num 13-15

Next Sunday
All Classes
Num 16-19

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

WELCOME to Billie Pennington (Debi's mom) who recently moved to NW Arkansas and has joined with this congregation! Let's make her welcome!

SENTENCE SERMON – Some cause happiness wherever they go; others **whenever** they go. Let us “*show kindness and mercy to one another*” (Zech 7:9)!



DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE DOWNTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST
ROGERS, ARKANSAS

Contending earnestly for the faith since 1866

February 11, 2018

Do This

I say to this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”
- Mt 8:9

The centurion understood authority better than many today. After all, the military is no place for half-hearted commitment and an “*I’ll do it if I feel like it*” obedience. Failure to comply promptly with a direct order in the military can cost lives.

But, the same thing is true in the Lord’s army. Our fight is against “*the spiritual hosts of wickedness*” (Ep 6:12), and the enemy has your destruction as his goal (1 Pe 5:8).

Our Commander-in-Chief knows the enemy, and has provided the armor we need to defeat him (Ep 6); but, some only pay lip-service to their Commander — to them, obedience is not a priority.

Jesus said, “*Why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?*” (Lu 6:46). We can argue ‘salvation by works’ all day long, but in the end, refusal to “*do this*” when the Commander says “*do this*” (whatever ‘this’ is) is rebellion — and it will cost many their soul (Mt 7:21-23).

- WKing

Through Ancient Eyes

A hollow tree is hard to identify. Often it can bear leaves and fruit like the ones around it, until one day it suddenly wilts. One of the prevalent warnings throughout scripture is slow inner decay. The first Psalm gives insight into this very problem.

*Psalm one begins, "Blessed is the man who **walks** not in the counsel of the wicked, nor **stands** in the way of sinners, nor **sits** in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and **on his law he meditates day and night.**"*

Notice the progression in this passage. It starts with 'walking by', then 'standing with', and ends with 'sitting comfortably next to' the scoffer. If we are not careful, the council of the world can influence us, especially if we willingly go back to its wisdom every day. One

source that is incredibly influential is the news channel. A single group can sit and scoff at people and ideas, slowly shaping the viewers world-view, if we are not careful. We need to be aware of the influences we take in willingly.

This passage contrasts these various slow deteriorative influences with the single life-sustaining source of the law of the Lord. It compares it to a tree not about to die, but one near a stream of water. So, to keep from deteriorating we must let God's words influence our thoughts and actions throughout the day, meditating on them continually. *-JVenuso*



Another Perspective

It's a War Out There!

As Christians, we are engaged daily in a mortal battle over the eternal destiny of our souls (2 Co 10:3, 1 Ti 6:12). There is no truce in this war. Satan is ever testing our defenses, probing our weaknesses, and attacking us on every front. The Scriptures mention three areas where our defenses are potentially weak. Let's look at each of them.

Our Willingness to Forgive. If Satan can get us to hold a grudge, he's defeated us. He knows that "*if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses*" (Mt 6:15).

Controlling our Anger. Our wrath does not lead us to do what is right in God's eyes, no matter how justified we may feel when we vent (Ja 1:20). Anger cannot be avoided, but it must be controlled. "*Be angry and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil*" (Ep 4:26-27).

Abstaining from Fleshly Lusts. Virtually anything of a worldly nature that we have an inordinate desire for can be used as a weapon against us by Satan. It doesn't matter if it's money, material possessions, sex, food, fashion, glory or anything else. "*Beloved, I beg you, as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul*" (1 Pe 2:11).

We look forward to the day when Satan is destroyed. But until that day comes, we must not give in, give up or give out in this mighty conflict.

- Steve Klein (edited for space)