

## 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



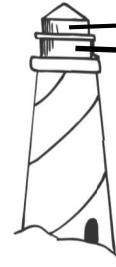
**When you meet up  
with temptation,  
turn to the right.**

## CLASS SCHEDULE

**Today**  
All Classes  
Mt 25

**Next Sunday**  
All Classes  
Jn 13-14

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



## DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

**PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE DOWNTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
ROGERS, ARKANSAS**

October 27, 2019

## FAMILY NEWS

### PRAYER LIST –

*Preachers we support:* Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Canada, Mexico, Peru, & U.S.

*Sick:* Mary Lou Lewis, Kathy Fletcher, Marsha Swim, Nellie Shell, June Self,

Richard Wike, Diane Willis, & Etta Frazelle

*Military:* Logan Dickey

*Shut-ins:* BettyJo Young, Helen Weiser, Shirley Cole, Margaret Abel, Erton Usrey

**Q&A** – Yep, it's that time again! Tonight, Will will answer some of the questions which our members have recently submitted. Come — and be edified!

**SENTENCE SERMON** – If you will feed your faith, your doubts will starve to death.

## Dangers from Without

God's people are engaged in a spiritual fight; and of course, this is nothing new. The war between good and evil has been raging at least since the days of Adam and Eve. But it is no less real today.

The enemy in this warfare is Satan; but Satan often works through people (2 Co 11:14-15, etc). And, while Christians are to be as "*harmless as doves*," in our dealings with others, we are at the same time to be as "*wise as serpents*" (Mt 10:16). We must be aware that the world is full of people who could not care less about our spiritual battles.

These "*ministers of Satan*" may be very blatant in their efforts to lead us away from Christ. They may mock our teaching (Ac 17:32) and scoff at our faith (2 Pe 3:3). Or, they may be more subtle — offering worldly allurements to distract us from our spiritual focus (1 Pe 4:3-4). Either way, we will lose the spiritual war.

This is why, at all costs, God's children must not be complacent or naïve in dealing with these external dangers. Stay spiritually smart. Stay alert. The threat is very real — and the stakes are for eternity.

- *WKing*

## Another Perspective

## Speak as the Oracles of God

One of the fundamental duties that we have as Christians is to be sure that we understand God's will (Ep 5:17). Peter further exhorts us to "*speak as the oracles of God*" (1 Pe 4:11). That is, what we believe, say, and teach must be in harmony with God's will and word. Not doing so brings one under condemnation. It is sinful and puts one in rebellion against God.

That is not to say that we should not ask questions. Questions are good and proper and help increase knowledge. Questions can lead one to salvation, as in the case of the people in Acts chapter 2, "*what shall we do?*"

But we must be sure that when we are studying or answering questions that we base our answers only on what the Bible actually says, not on our wishes, assumptions, or preconceived ideas. "*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*" (2 Ti 3:16-17). When we supply extra information and create new doctrine with it, we change God's word and are in sin.

– **Mike Walls**



## Faith in Context

Everyone will admit they don't appreciate others lying to them. But are we consistent with that principle when we share truth to others?

I admit that, sometimes, being honest can be very difficult. Truth can expose you or the person you must be honest with, and it may present difficulties. I suspect negative consequences is a large reason why some people won't be honest. However, regardless of the difficulties truth may bring, God has stressed to us that we cannot lie (Lev 19.11; Pro 12.22; Col 3.9, etc.), not even in life-or-death situations (Mt 10.28).

Next time, when the opportunity to lie or be honest is set before you, consider the negative consequences that are far worse than the small discomfort truth may bring.

When you lie:

1. It implies that another human being is unworthy of the truth. A lie stops them from being able to live their life based on all truth received. Would you like to make decisions in life and not be given the truth in all situations (Eph 4.25)? Lies ultimately lead to demise for all people.

2. It is to assume command over your own destiny. When you lie, you create events around you that will twist and pervert reality. Consider the damage the serpent brought to humanity when he perverted reality (Gen 3.4).

3. You now deny the reality that God provides for you and those around you. The word of your lie guides you into destruction, rather than God's truth (Ps. 119.105).

Tell the truth and be with God where no lie exists (Heb 6.18). Otherwise you will belong to devil who is the father of lies (Jno 8.44).

– **WHSmith**