

## 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



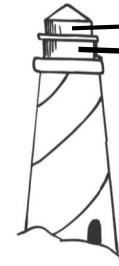
**Light shines brightest  
in the darkness.**

## CLASS SCHEDULE

**Today**  
All Classes  
Jn 13-14

**Next Sunday**  
All Classes  
Jn 15-17

**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**

November 3, 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

**SINGING & ELDERS' REPORT** – Tonight we are having our monthly singing and elders' report. Join us for this encouraging service!

**SENTENCE SERMON** – What we do for ourselves generally dies with us; it's what we do for others that lives on.

## Selective Outrage

It's an interesting phenomenon — a person gets angry over one thing but is completely apathetic over something else which is equally outrageous (or more so). They appear to be tuned in at times, voicing outrage at some perceived wrong; but at other times they appear to be asleep at the switch, yawning in the face of truly shameful behavior.

The Pharisees provide a good example of this selective outrage. They were incensed at the work of Jesus — His healing on the Sabbath day, His

willingness to associate with 'sinners', and His ignoring of the 'traditions of the fathers'. Yet, at the same time, they turned a blind eye to their own covetousness (Lu 16:14), they took advantage of helpless widows (Mt 23:14) and found no problem with the general hypocrisy which characterized their lives. So pronounced was their selective outrage that they would justify themselves even as they called for the crucifixion of Jesus.

And what causes such behavior? How is it possible to have such a double

standard? In the case of the Pharisees, it was party loyalty. They would remain true to the ‘party’, even if it required them to be inconsistent. We see the same thing today in politics (Democrats or Republicans who can easily find fault with the other side, while remaining silent about the egregious conduct of their own), in business (my company, right or wrong), and in religion (pleading with others for a greater love for God while ignoring His Word for themselves).

Others may have preconceived notions of right and wrong, acquired over time from various sources (parents, society, human reasoning, etc.), but having no consistent basis or unifying standard. Thus, the ancient pagans would fight to preserve home and family but think nothing of sacrificing a living infant in the fiery arms of Molech. Modern pagans argue long and loud for

‘justice’ while ignoring justice for the unborn. They have been conditioned by our culture to ignore the glaring hypocrisy.

Having a consistent standard should lead to a consistent response toward sin — whether in politics, the workplace, or our walk with God. Christians know what that standard is (2 Ti 3:16-17); and neither party loyalty nor our preconditioned ideas should ever trump that standard. *-WKing*



## Faith in Context

Is God’s standard of lifelong fidelity in marriage unreasonable (Mt 19:4-6, 9)? Society laments this expectation, and it is heartbreaking to listen to them say so. The truth is, there is something wonderful in God’s marriage standard that helps us learn a great spiritual lesson!

Marriage is not meant to be an end in itself. In fact, there is a symbiotic relationship between the marriage covenant and God’s covenant with His people. Marriage informs us about God’s relationship with His people, and God’s relationship with His people helps us better understand marriage. Paul shares with us this dual message in Eph. 5:21-23 as he instructs about the husband and wife union while at the same time providing significant

teaching about Christ and His church.

Understanding that the marriage relationship is the closest of any on earth (“a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh”, Gen 2:24), it serves as an example to help us see just how close He is with us! It is here that we understand the importance of a husband and wife’s lifelong commitment to each other: marriage between two people is a mirror reflection of how faithful God is to us!

It is so important to Him that we recognize this that He created that lifelong standard of marriage. It serves a purpose not only in our own faithfulness to each other, but also as the example of His faithfulness to us all.

“What therefore God has joined together, let no man put asunder” (Mk 10:9). *- WHSmith*