

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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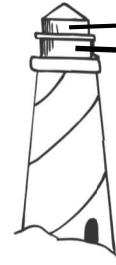
**To be great, one must
become a servant.**

CLASS SCHEDULE

Today
All Classes
Mt 26:1-35

Next Sunday
All Classes
Mt 26:36 – 27:10

**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 17, 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,

Diane Willis, Shirley Cole & Etta Frazelle

Military: Logan Dickey

Shut-ins: BettyJo Young, Helen Weiser, Margaret Abel, Erton Usrey, BPennington

WE ARE SADDENED at the recent loss of our brother, Richard Wike, who passed away on Veteran's Day. Our prayers are with Janet and the family.

SENTENCE SERMON – God doesn't call the qualified; He qualifies the called. (And just to be clear, God calls us by the gospel, 2 Th 2:14).

Fighting a Good Fight

“Fight the good fight of faith” – so Paul wrote to Timothy (1 Ti 6:12). That makes all Christians soldiers in God's army. You enlisted the day you were baptized, and you are to fight well until the day you die.

The enemy, of course, is Satan (1 Pe 5:8). The battle is a spiritual one, but God has made armor available to us which is highly effective in successfully combating the enemy – if we will use it (Ep 6:10-18). Every piece of that armor is intimately connected to the Word of God.

In addition to the spiritual armor, we are able to draw strength from our fellow soldiers — our comrades-in-arms. When Christians meet together it is, in part, to exhort one another to stay strong in this spiritual battle, and to fight well (He 10:24-25). We all need this encouragement.

And, like a soldier who has completed a dangerous mission, no higher compliment could be given a soldier of the cross when the mission is done than that they have fought well (2 Ti 4:7) — just like Richard. - *WKing*

Another Perspective

The Christian & Social Media

Social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Snapchat, WhatsApp, etc.) unfortunately dominate the time of most people these days. Many Christians may have one or more of these accounts. They are not inherently wrong, but like most things, how we use what we have will reflect our priorities and what's in our hearts.

Disciples of Jesus have an important responsibility to love Him first and foremost above all things and to love our neighbor as ourselves. When it comes to social media and how we use it, it's not different. We need to be careful that what we say, share, post, record, etc. reflect the values we claim to practice and observe.

Do we seek to encourage our neighbors and friends to serve God and love Him? Or, are we spending our time arguing with others, gossiping, engaging in lewd activities or sharing media that divides us as a people? Social media is a virtual world that can destroy lives if one is not careful and considerate. What we put on the internet will always be there and if it doesn't reflect the pattern of God's Word then we need to strongly consider where our hearts are.

Social media can be such a wonderful tool for us as Christians to share the Word and make new friends who we can reach out to and help in a variety of ways. If you are one of those people that does not bother with social media, these principles still apply to you as well. Are our actions and thoughts in line with God's will? Would Jesus approve of our behavior? Let's consider these things and make every effort to be pleasing to God.

– *John Pollard*

Faith in Context

The ancient Roman culture was obsessed with honor. Competition for patronage or benefaction or attachment to things deemed 'honorable' was pursued for the hopeful result that one would be held in high esteem by another.

Unfortunately, people in the church at that time were not immune to seeking honor for themselves. The church in Corinth provides the perfect example of brethren vying for higher honors against one another. It caused considerable divisions that Paul identified and worked to correct (1 Cor. 1:10; 11:18-19).

Rivalries were set in who was more closely attached to the 'better' teacher (1 Cor 1:11-13; 3:5, 21-23). It manifested itself in Christians using the law courts to win honor and 'damages' at the expense of other Christians (1 Cor. 6:1-8).

Spiritual gifts were used as a claim to status as well (1 Cor. 12-14). It even led to the expression of status during the Lord's Supper as the rich enjoyed their fine meals for themselves, while the poor were left with the basics (1 Cor. 11:20-21).

In many respects these divisions reflect the age-old problem of 'looking out for number one' rather than looking out for the interests of fellow believers — esteeming oneself rather than another. We may not live in an honor-culture today, but our minds can be rife with thinking, "I am better than others".

Paul wrote the first letter to the Corinthians to address this and sought to change the way they had been viewing one another in their life in this one body of Christ and in this world. Let us listen to Paul's plea, and follow Christ's example of regarding others before ourselves! – *WHSmith*

"In lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself"
– **Ph 2:3**