

ASSEMBLY TIMES

Sunday

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

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00pm

RADIO PROGRAM

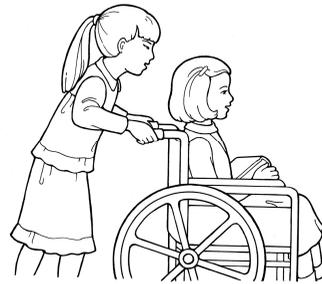
The Bible Speaks



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 price of greatness
is service.**

CLASS SCHEDULE

Today
All Classes
Jn 20

Next Sunday
All Classes
Jn 21

**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**

December 15, 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 & Betty Alley *Military:* Logan Dickey

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

MARRIAGE CLASS – The King’s will host a marriage class from January to mid-February. All couples, and couples-to-be, are welcome. Details to come.

SENTENCE SERMON – One reason dogs are so friendly is because they wag their tails instead of their tongues.

Bankrupt in Obedience

One philosopher recently observed, “Modern religion has made us billionaires in beliefs and bankrupt in obedience”. And he is sadly right.

When people are told that works don’t matter and that it’s all about grace, they will act on that philosophy. Searching God’s Word for God’s will becomes a meaningless exercise. They may even mock those who do, calling them ‘legalists’ and other unflattering names.

While it is true that Christians can fall into a Pharisaical mindset and be-

come proud of their own goodness (thinking they can be good enough to impress God), it is equally true that some Christians depend so much on God’s grace that they ignore God’s will. That’s a dangerous place to be.

It was not a Pharisee who said, “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord’ will enter into the kingdom of heaven but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven” (Mt 7:21). Those who ignore this simple truth do so to their own peril.

- **WKing**

Another Perspective

Preaching Jesus

“Preach the Man, not the plan.” Some think we put too much emphasis on what God requires of man to be saved. A loose application of the principles Jesus preached is thought to be more spiritual than the ‘legalistic’ approach of sticking with the inspired instructions of the apostles. Consider two passages that refute these shallow appeals.

Acts 8 relates the conversion of the eunuch. Verse 35 says, *“And Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.”* What did Philip preach? Who Jesus was, to be sure. But he must have also taught the conditions of salvation, for the next verse has the eunuch asking to be baptized. Indeed, that is what Philip should have preached. It is what Jesus said to preach (Mt 28:18-20, Mk 16:15-16).

Now consider 1 Co 2:2. *“For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.”* Is that limited to Jesus’ personal teaching? Unless Paul abandoned his stated determination, everything he taught the Corinthians was part of *“Jesus Christ and Him crucified”!* In this letter he taught them the fundamental facts of the gospel, but also about relations between Christians, about God’s standard of morality, about marriage and family relations, about their responsibilities to those in the community, about assemblies for worship, etc. Each of these subjects was included in preaching Jesus. The fact is, we cannot separate the Man from His plan.

– *Frank Himmel (edited)*

Faith in Context

“Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is my portion, that I not be full and deny You and say, ‘Who is the LORD?’ or that I not be in want and steal, and profane the name of my God.” – Proverbs 30.8-9

We are faced with choosing from two realities in our lives. The first reality is one in which we trust God, we remember His name and honor it in our lives, and remain humbled by the provisions we have been blessed with. The second reality is one in which we forget about our God and use sin as the means and support of our existence, whether that sin be in crime or pride.

As citizens of a highly affluent nation, we are burdened with feeling the possibility of ‘fullness’

that the proverb writer lamented. We experience many creature comforts, many pastimes, and many opportunities that can bring us to act out or even say out loud, “Who is the LORD?” This reality, in truth, is an alternate reality to the one God has established for mankind.

This is a reality that has no place for God, no need for righteousness, and no thought for salvation. It renders no time for the gospel.

Let us pause for a moment and consider how much we have imported the world’s alternate reality into our own lives. Satan may not bring in the whole world, but he may put a sliver of it in there. So be watchful!

Let us not disregard God even for a moment, lest we dare say, “Who is the LORD?”

- *WHSmith*