

ASSEMBLY TIMES

Sunday

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

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00pm

RADIO PROGRAM

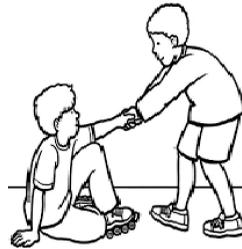
The Bible Speaks



Sunday 9:00-9:30a.m.
KURM 790AM

Downtown Church of Christ

P.O. Box 447
201 W. Chestnut Street
Rogers, AR 72757
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People may doubt what
you say, but they will
believe what you do.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Today
All Classes
Mt 28, Lu 24

Next Sunday
All Classes
Ac 1

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 29, 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 beginning this January, either Monday or Tuesday evening (*let them know your preference*).

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS – Tonight is our monthly QnA session. Again, thanks to all who have contributed questions to this effort!

Old Year Resolutions

If any resolutions are made at this time of year, they tend to be *new* year resolutions — things we plan to improve on in the coming year. But it's also a great time of year for some *old* year resolutions — things we need to do with the year just past.

1) We need to learn from our past mistakes. Looking back — even at our blunders — can be a profitable exercise. Repentance even demands it. Peter grew from a cowardly denier to a bold proclaimer in a matter of weeks. He was a fast learner.

2) We need to learn from our past successes. Taking stock of our victories can give us encouragement to fight again. Peter recalled the transfiguration and took renewed courage from it (2 Pe 1:16-18).

3) Once we have learned from the past, we need to forget about it (Ph 3:13). Dwelling on past failure can discourage us, while dwelling on past success may encourage us to rest on our laurels. Either way, we become useless for the present. Learn from the past — and then let it go! - *WKing*

Another Perspective

Yesterday

Yesterday — it exists only in fading memory, worn out photographs, and history books. And yet, it is one of the finest learning centers available to us.

However, although reflections upon yesterday's achievements can be encouraging, be careful. Yesterday is often larger than life. How we remember things being and how they really were are often two different things. Solomon warned against trying to live in the past (Ec 7:10). On the other hand, many would not want to live in yesterday. For them it is a haunted house filled with regret and memories of failures they would rather forget (Ga 1:13).

But, as wonderful or as humiliating as the past may be, it makes little difference how we were (1 Ti 1:19) or what we meant to do (Ac 24:25). God's standard for judging is not yesterday — one's acceptance before God is not described in the past tense. Regardless of past mistakes, God's grace and mercy are sufficient to forgive and forget, even if we struggle to (Ps 103:12).

Yesterday reminds us of how short life is (Job 14:1-2). Our rapidly growing collection of yesterdays makes us humble. *"True, today we are here, but tomorrow may see just a grave in the vale and a mem'ry of me."*

Yesterday. Our knowledge and memories of it can challenge and give courage, or depress and weaken resolve. Allow its power to aid you in living happier today — and in anticipating a better tomorrow.

-David Smitherman (edited)

Faith in Context

The book of Acts reminds us that, as disciples of Jesus, we are to be a community. The extreme growth of the church we find within its pages was not possible without the members being connected to one another. Giving our lives to Christ means giving our lives to other disciples, and together we grow in maturity and faith (Ac 2.22, 46-47). In other words, we cannot join with Christ without also joining the people of God as it is being formed and strengthened by Him.

The church of Christ finds fulfillment in the Old Testament ideal of Psalm 133.1, "brothers and sisters dwell together in unity." In this we get to enjoy the goodness, the peace, and the pleasantness God intends for humanity, and for

whomever wishes to be His child. We need each other desperately, and in seeking God together and spending a significant amount of time together in that pursuit, we find ourselves in harmony.

But how do you feel about your brothers and sisters in Christ? Do they bore you? Annoy you? Make you angry? Are they not what you expect? Do they make you not want to come around?

It is truly upsetting when we find out a Christian doesn't like being around the flock for reasons like these — upsetting not just to the brethren, but to God as well.

Our Father wants us to be together. There is no growth in Jesus if you are alone, and away from us. Consider your family here (Php 2.3). We need you, so that we may all come to the unity, maturity, and fullness of Christ (Eph 4.13).

-WHSmith