

## 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

## GOSPEL MEETING

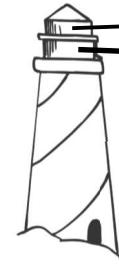
with  
**John Guzzetta**  
**March 29 – April 2**

## CLASS SCHEDULE

**Today**  
All Classes  
Ac 17-18

**Next Sunday**  
All Classes  
Ac 19-20

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**

March 1, 2020

## Ezekiel's Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37 has provided fertile speculation ground for theologians and theological wannabes for years. It records the vision of a valley of dry bones which, by the power of God, are given sinews and skin and breath. It seems to point to the resurrection of the dead. But God explained the vision to Ezekiel — and, He had another interpretation in mind.

Those bones represented the people of Israel who felt 'dead' in their Babylonian captivity (vs 11). God was promising that He would 'resurrect' them and bring them back

to their homeland (vss 12-13). It's a simple enough interpretation; and of course, that's exactly what happened.

But is this the complete story? God went on to say, "*I will put My Spirit in you*" (vs 14). The physical nation of Israel never achieved this type of spiritual 'resurrection'; in fact, they consistently **rejected** God's Spirit (Ac 7:51). In whom, then, did God place His Spirit? *In Christians* (Ro 8:10) — and that **spiritual** life that we enjoy now provides hope for our **literal** resurrection from the dead (Ro 8:11)!  
- *WKing*

## 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, & Rai Starr *Military:* Logan Dickey  
*Shut-ins:* Betty Jo Young, Margaret Abel, Erton Usrey, & Billie Pennington

**SINGING & ELDERS' REPORT** – Tonight we are scheduled for our monthly singing and elders' report. Come and join us – and be edified!

**WELCOME** – We are glad to have Bob and Dixie McKeel place membership with us! Let's welcome them into our family!

## Another Perspective

## Letter from an Adulteress

*"How can a mother explain to her children that, because of her unfaithfulness, their father left their home? How can she say, 'I'm sorry you'll miss the joy of a good Christian home,' because she was so wicked? How can she answer her child's question, 'Mommy, why did daddy leave us; why doesn't he come back home?' How can she say, 'I'm sorry?'"*

*"I've spent many months torturing myself with these thoughts. I wish there was a way I could reach out and help another mother who is listening to the world, and is about to make the same mistake I did."*

*"Three years ago I was a strong Christian, living and doing all I could to please God. But I started keeping company with people of the world. Soon, I met a man who convinced me that my good Christian husband was too strict with me. I needed to break loose and live, and I was weak enough to listen."*

*"Now today, I am raising my children alone. I don't have that wonderful husband to hold me when I'm hurting. I don't have the man I promised to love the rest of my life."*

*"You see, I committed adultery. I'm sorry, children, that I caused your daddy to leave home. I'm sorry that I hurt your daddy so much. I'm sorry that I found out too late just how deeply I love your daddy. But you see, children, now daddy doesn't love me."*

*Letter from a Christian woman – since reconciled to her husband*

## Faith in Context

The fullest way that we can get to know God is through the Scriptures. The opposite is also true, which is, to the extent that we **don't** know the Scriptures, we will **not** know God.

Any Christian (or anyone desiring to know God) ought to really let this sink in: the only way to know God, as He can be known, is going to be through the Scriptures.

Certainly, we can know a portion of God through His creation, as Paul points out in Romans 1 — but is that enough? No.

If we look at His creation, we will see that He is eternally powerful and is of a divine nature, but that is all. We will never know **who** this God of creation is, or **why** He

created us, or **what purpose** He is working towards.

In fact, if we look at creation it would be difficult to conclude whether God is good or bad (i.e., nature shows us wonderful things and fearful things). Is He compassionate because He allows our crops to grow? Is He vindictive because He sends natural catastrophes on us? If all we look at is nature, then who really knows?

Yet, if we begin to search the Scriptures, then we will know God. And as we come to know God, we will learn His character, we will find the reason He created us, and we will discover all that He is working towards.

For now, I leave it in your hands to search diligently. Look down, open that Bible, and come to know who this creator God is.

(to be continued...)

- WHSmith