

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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GOSPEL MEETING

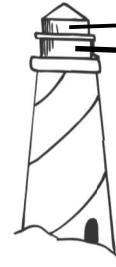
with
John Guzzetta
March 29 – April 2

CLASS SCHEDULE

Today
All Classes
Ac 19-20

Next Sunday
All Classes
Ac 21-24

This info is provided
to help everyone stay
in synch during our
three-year study thru
the Bible (Sunday AM).



DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

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ROGERS, ARKANSAS**

March 8, 2020

Good Man, Lost Man

The Bible relates the stories of numerous men and women, some good and some bad. One of the ‘good guys’ is described as a devout, God-fearing, prayerful man who was also very charitable to those in need. Certainly, we would want to emulate such a man. But this good man was lost.

We write, of course, of Cornelius. You can read his story in Acts, chapters 10 and 11. All of his good deeds and worshipful acts could not atone for his sins. He was still missing something — and that something was forgiveness. He was a good man; but he was a lost man.

Many people today embrace a similar notion of justification. If we simply do good deeds and acknowledge God’s presence in a respectful way, we surely will be saved. But it did not work like that for Cornelius, and it will not work like that for us.

The problem with Cornelius, and with us, is sin. We simply cannot ‘work’ our way out of it. Even baptism does not ‘earn’ salvation; but it **does** provide for the “*forgiveness of sins*” (Ac 2:38). And only when our sins are forgiven is our salvation possible. Think about it.

– *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 WEEKEND – We will have Dane Shepard and Tim Stevens with us April 17-19 for a Friday singing and Saturday singing school. Make plans!

SENTENCE SERMON – A smart person knows what to say, but a wise person knows whether to say it.

Another Perspective

Religious Division

If there is only one God, why are there so many churches? Why does each one have its own name, doctrine, and method of salvation? These doctrines agree on some points but contradict each other on other points, so they can't all be true. Is God the author of such division and inconsistency? Certainly not!

God desires unity. Jesus prayed "*for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one...that they may be perfected in unity*" (Jn 17:20-23). God is not pleased with religious division.

How can we unite in the way Jesus prayed for? Jesus revealed the answer in that same prayer: "*Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth*" (17:17). God's word is the standard; therefore, the unity God desires will come only when people cast off man-made ideas and submit to the truth revealed in the Bible. Jesus said, "*Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven*" (Mt 7:21).

Modern-day religious division has developed because people have decided that God's law is too strict and old-fashioned. For centuries religious groups have drifted further from the truth. People have gradually abandoned the Bible and turned to the ideas of men.

Let us unite upon the Bible, knowing that doing so will answer the prayer of our Lord Jesus Christ.

– *David Watson (edited)*

Faith in Context

(Continued from last week...)

One of the very first things we learn outside of the Bible is that we are relational beings. Our very first experience with relationship is in the family unit, and in it we become aware of things like dependency and caretaking, training and encouragement, love and sacrifice.

Amazingly, God has been teaching us who He is by the very family structure that He has designed, and we see this concept written in Scripture (i.e., He speaks to us in ways we can understand). He is a Father who trains and encourages us (Heb 12.5-6; Rev 2.10), who cares for us (1 Pet 5.7), who loves and sacrifices for us (Jno 3.16).

“But what about bad families?” you ask. Bad relationships? If some of

us grew up in negative homes, then are we to view God negatively as a Father? Certainly not!

One of the beauties behind God’s design of the family (or really any relationship at all), is that even if man creates a deficiency in that relationship, it then leaves room for those affected to desire that which is better [insert God here].

If our home was godly, then we can see what God really means when He says He loves and cares for us. If our home was ungodly, then we can see what we really need when He says He loves and cares for us.

When we begin to read the scriptures, let it be our goal to know and to trust more deeply God’s relationship with us through what He says and shows — He is our loving Father. – *WHSmith*

“Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called the children of God!” – 1 Jn 3:1