

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 business of our lives
is to please God.**

CLASS SCHEDULE

Today
All Classes
Philippians

Next Sunday
All Classes
Colossians

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

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

HANG IN THERE! The current pandemic will be over soon. In the meantime, remember to reach out to your Downtown family for any needs or concerns you (or they) may have. Our love is greater than this virus.

SENTENCE SERMON – A naturalistic view of the world yields no basis upon which to value human life. – David Posey



DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

**PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE DOWNTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST
ROGERS, ARKANSAS**

May 3, 2020

You Are the Body of Christ

“Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it” – 1 Co 12:27 (ESV)

Thus Paul describes the unity of the body of Christ. It is true in the larger sense of the church (universal), and it is also true in the smaller sense of the church (local) — which is the focus of Paul’s message here. We are individually members of His body.

In practical terms, this means we have a common **purpose**. Eyes, ears, hands, and feet all work in sync to accomplish that purpose. The problem at Corinth was that some people only wanted the visible gifts, the flashy gifts, the ‘look at me’ gifts — which put them in competition

against each other, and therefore against the common good. When we view our work in the kingdom in terms of who is greatest, **that** becomes our goal while the greater spiritual purpose gets diminished.

Being “individually members of His body” also means that **we matter**. Regardless of our individual talent or resources (or the lack thereof), we can make a difference in the local church where we are members. The big toe may wish it were an eye, and believe that it matters little — *but the body would desperately feel its absence*. So, to our big toes we say, “Be the best big toe you can be!” - *WKing*

Another Perspective

Do We Have All the Bible?

Following are four reasons why we know that the 27 books in the New Testament are all that God gave in the first century:

(1) Christ promised His apostles that the Holy Spirit would reveal unto them “*all truth*” (Jn 16:13). Thus, during the lifetime of these men (all of whom died in the first century) the New Testament was completely revealed to them, making the Bible complete also.

(2) During the first century, as the New Testament was revealed, the apostles were to preach or make it known to all the world (Mk 16:15-16); and they did (Col 1:23). They also performed miracles, thereby proving that their message was from God (Mk 16:15-20; He 2:3-4; Jn 3:1-2).

(3) The apostles also wrote down the books as they were revealed to them (Ep 3:3-4). This means that ‘all the world’ not only heard the 27 NT books distinguished from all others, they were also able to read from them, having been distinguished by the apostles from all other writings.

(4) The religious writers we have record of during the early centuries quoted from the 27 NT books in their catalogues, quotations of Scripture, and in their public worship. So heavily did they quote from the New Testament, that if all copies of it were lost, it could be totally reproduced from the quotations of these early Christian writers.

– *Willie Ramsey (edited for space)*

Faith in Context

Have you ever considered that part of the good news of the message of Christ, oddly enough, is that you are broken — that your life is accompanied by the misery of sin? That is because in this message we are given the revelation that our brokenness can be fixed; it can be satisfied in Christ Jesus.

Remember when Jesus said to Paul, “my grace is sufficient for you for my power is made perfect in your weakness” (2 Cor 12:9)? What this says is that our greatest attribute in this broken world is our own broken selves. But there is a catch.

Can you accept the fact that you are broken, and not strong? Can you bear this humiliation, and stave off worldly pride? Most importantly, will you humble yourself before

Jesus as your Lord? Your brokenness will ultimately be lost to the grace of Jesus in the resurrection (1 Cor 15; Rev 21:4). Your weakness will reveal His power, and you can present this very power for the benefit of others who are weak (2 Cor 12:9-11), just as Paul did.

And don’t forget that Jesus spoke these words to a Christian. This message is for you as much as it is for the alien sinner. As a faithful living Christian, you ought to continue in your understanding of just how broken you really are, so that you can continue knowing how much you need Jesus as your continual Savior.

Let us exalt Him in our weakness. Let us choose Him this day, and every day going forward.

– *WHSmith*

