

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

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**It's later than we
think – but most
people aren't
thinking.**

CLASS SCHEDULE

Today
All Classes
Colossians

Next Sunday
All Classes
I & II Thess.

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.

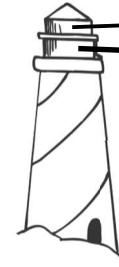
Sick: Mary Lou Lewis, Kathy Fletcher, Marsha Swim, Nellie Shell, June Self,

Diane Willis, Shirley Cole, Etta Frazelle, & Rai Starr *Military:* Logan Dickey

Shut-ins: Betty Jo Young, Margaret Abel, Erton Usrey, & Billie Pennington

BACK AGAIN! Today we will begin to meet again, using guidelines established by the state and our elders. Let's be respectful of those guidelines — and of one another — as we 'phase in' toward our regular assemblies.

SENTENCE SERMON — We have failed as a society if the only way we can help a woman in crisis is to kill her baby.



DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

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

May 10, 2020

Together Again!

It's not exactly like we want it to be, but it's better than we have had it for most of the last two months. And we'll take it!

But, were we ever really apart? Of course we were, in the physical sense. Smaller groups, online connections, phone calls and letters are helpful — but they don't take the place of face-to-face contact. And hopefully we have learned that lesson well and will not soon forget it.

But, remember what Paul wrote to the Colossians: "For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good

order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ" (Col 2:5).

Is it even possible to be "absent" and yet "with you"? Well of course — Paul was. It happens because of the **heart** that Christians have for one another. Like a husband and wife who are apart, their hearts are still closely bound to one another.

Some may discover in this truth a 'loophole' in Hebrews 10:25; but those who do have missed the point entirely. Like the man who leaves his wife alone constantly on the grounds that 'she knows I love her', he is soon in for a rude awakening! - *WKing*

Another Perspective

Dwell on what is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, and excellent (Phil 4:8). If we don't, we will almost certainly be overcome by worry (vv. 6-7). Instead, we can replace the worry with prayer and dwell on what is good and praiseworthy.

When we are constantly hearing the bad news, telling others about it, and dwelling on it, we will live in fear and worry. Anxieties will fill us with discontent and discouragement. But God has given us a different mindset, one that is set on things above (Col 3:1-2).

Stop the constant bad news feeding frenzy! Stop the divisive complaining, finger-pointing, and blaming! None of that makes us better as Christians.

What, then, is your focus today?

- *Doy Moyer*

Stop It!



Faith in Context

I am aware that many have heard that we no longer obey the Old Testament. Moreover, if we obey any of the commandments in the Decalogue, it is not because they are mined from the OT itself, but rather because they are repeated in the NT.

But, the NT writers never got the memo of the OT's newly devalued nature. In fact, the authors of the NT used the old scriptures extensively.

In 2 Tim 3.16, Paul wrote that the 'scriptures' (a word denoting the OT) are able to make one wise for salvation by equipping us for every good work.

Every Sermon in Acts is based on OT passages, of which many are from the Psalms.

In Mt 5.17, Jesus said that He did not come to destroy the Law and Prophets but to fulfill them, and they would not fade away until all was fulfilled (even here we should know not all has really been fulfilled since we ourselves are awaiting the resurrection).

How do we then reconcile passages like Col 2.14 and Eph 2.16 where it is stated that the OT was "nailed to the cross" and removed?

What must distinguish the old covenant from the old writings. In other words, the covenant made between God and the Israelite nation was done away with and was replaced with the New Covenant between Christ and his church.

Yet, this does not leave the OT writings irrelevant. Rather, in Christ Jesus we can understand them on the fullest terms, realizing that all of the 39 culminate in Jesus Christ (Lk 24.27).

- *WHSmith*