

## 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



**Don't put a question  
mark where God  
put a period.**

## CLASS SCHEDULE

**Today**  
All Classes  
1 & 2 Pet, Jude

**Next Sunday**  
All Classes  
1 Jn, 2 Jn, 3 Jn

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

**SCHEDULE:** We are continuing to meet in small groups for a time. Hopefully we will be able to meet at the church building soon. Stay tuned...

**SENTENCE SERMON** — One who only talks about heaven will not be going there.



## DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

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ROGERS, ARKANSAS**

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## Looking Through Other Prisms

*“The LORD said to Samuel, ‘Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature... Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.’” - 1 Sa 16:6-7*

We all tend to be egocentric. Not that we are all selfish, but we do all see the world through our own eyes — our own prism. It is one of those unavoidable realities of life.

It can become a real problem when seeing the world through my prism means that I am the only one I care about. That makes it impossible to be what God wants me to be. Love means empathizing with the feelings

of others, even if we are not looking through their prism (Ro 12:15).

And, while it is not possible to look through God's prism — to have the perfect insight into creation that He has — we should at least learn to look through that part of His prism that He has allowed us to look through (1 Co 2:9-13). Whether it's sin or salvation, if God has given us a peek at it, we should take a look. Even so, we see only a small part of what God sees. Hearts of humility understand that and are okay with it.

- *WKing*

## Another Perspective

## The Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5-7 contains the greatest body of instruction the world has ever known: Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. There are fragments of this Sermon found throughout the other Gospels; but nowhere else do we find such a comprehensive and powerful summary of Jesus' message to humanity.

In it, He speaks plainly about the dangers of materialism, hypocrisy, worry, empty formalism, sexual sin, and false teachers (oh, yes, Jesus could be quite negative). His instructions on how to manage our relationships with others, even our enemies, are unparalleled in their simple practicality — even if they are hard to implement. If we want a master course on developing character, the Sermon on the Mount is an excellent place to start.

Which may explain why the Sermon is found at the very beginning of the first book of the New Testament. Before we learn anything else about Jesus the Messiah, we are confronted with the core message He came to deliver. Maybe God is trying to tell us something here?

Reading this Sermon takes only a few minutes. Learning and internalizing its lessons takes a lifetime. Make the Sermon on the Mount a frequent part of your Bible study, and your life will be enriched.

"We live in a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants, in a world that has achieved brilliance without wisdom, power without conscience. We have solved the mystery of the atom and forgotten the lessons of the Sermon on the Mount" (Gen. Omar Bradley, Nov. 10, 1948). It's time we all get busy and rectify that deficiency.

- *David King (edited for space)*

## Faith in Context

A peculiar thing about fear is that all the sins that are manifestations of our fear have this tendency to become self-fulfilling prophecies. The very thing we fear and try to avoid becomes the very thing we cause to happen.

You see this at the Tower of Babylon in Gen 11. They built and built for fear of being scattered, and what happened? It was because they built this great city and tower that they were scattered...

"I don't want to be alone." Have you ever met the person who was so desperate not to be alone they wound up entangled in some immoral relationship? Unless they have a change of heart, they're going to be alone for eternity, because they feared being alone.

Do you fear dying? You haven't seen death until you see eternal, spiritual death. And God is the only way not to die. Of course, you will die physically but you will not die in the way that truly counts. And on and on it goes...

We can all draft a list of the many things we are afraid of — things we feel like we've got to do something about, or things we must do to make something happen else some problem comes toward us... yet all is driven by fear...

But all we simply need to do is fear the Lord. Put our trust in Him, and do what He says, and know that everything will work out for the best, because that's who God is. He is a loving Father who cares for us, and He will do what is best for us (Rom 8.28).  
- *WHSmith*

