

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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**Forbidden fruit will
lead to a bad jam.**

CLASS SCHEDULE

Today
All Classes
1 Jn, 2 Jn, 3 Jn

Next Sunday
All Classes
Revelation

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.

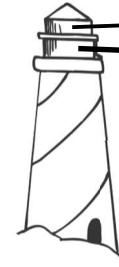
Sick: Mary Lou Lewis, Kathy Fletcher, Marsha Swim, Nellie Shell, June Self,

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

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

SCHEDULE – For the foreseeable future we continue to meet on Sundays at 9am & 11am. FB lessons are held Sundays at 6pm & Wednesdays at 6:30pm.

SENTENCE SERMON – Bad habits are like a comfortable bed; easy to get into, but hard to get out of.



DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

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ROGERS, ARKANSAS**

June 21, 2020

Who Knows?

“Who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”

- Mordecai to Queen Esther (Esth 4:14)

God’s providence is a topic of much discussion. On the one hand, some people see God’s hand in every minor circumstance of life — from the unexpected cash found in an old coat pocket to getting the ‘close up’ parking spot at Wal-Mart.

On the other hand, there are those who discount any Divine intervention. They believe God set the ‘clock’ in motion at creation and hasn’t touched it since.

The Bible clearly points to God’s care for His creation. He is aware of the smallest details (Mt 10:29-30) and continues to have His angels actively involved in it (He 1:13-14). And why would He direct His children to pray for Divine intervention (1 Ti 2:1-2, Ja 5:16) if help were not forthcoming?

How far does God’s intervention go? It clearly is **not** a Divine faucet, poised to satisfy our every desire (Ja 4:1-4). So how far **does** God’s providence go? It may not be the popular answer, but Mordecai probably said it best: “Who knows...?” - *WKing*

Another Perspective

Electronic Bibles

Faith in Context

Recently, I was asked about the ‘electronic Bibles’ so many are using — you know, the ones that are on a cell phone or some other handheld device. I have teased some of you about your ‘phone’ Bibles, especially when they did not work properly (my duct-taped and glued-back-together Bible does not need a battery or ‘service’ to operate!) But I know some preachers who love them. And, I have heard others express a strong dislike of looking up and seeing a sizeable portion of the congregation looking at their phones during the sermon. Of course, their dislike could be motivated by suspicion that their congregants are playing some electronic game, checking their Facebook page, or texting one another about the length of the sermon instead of following the sermon!

There are a couple of reality checks that seem appropriate here. First, technology will continue to march on, and many church members will happily join the ranks — so get over it. The Word of God is not ‘bad’ in any form that is accurate. Besides, it is not the form (parchment, vellum, genuine leather-bound, paperback, or electronic) that makes the text ‘sacred’. It’s the **Source** (1 Th 2:13). Second, church members who want to do something other than pay attention to the sermon were doing so long before electronic devices hit the scene, and they will continue to do so whatever particular distraction is employed. Such is a **heart** problem, not a **device** problem (Mt13:15).

– *Philip Strong (edited for space)*

“He has told you, O man, what is good: And what does Yahweh require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6.8). These are beloved words from the successful prophet; but what do they mean?

The first verses of Micah chapter 6 read like a lawsuit. God was bringing a charge against His people for their unfaithful heart. In particular, the Jewish people were not honoring the contract they made with God back in Deuteronomy chapters 27-28.

God pleaded with them to make their case, and to ‘answer [Him]’ in verse 3, knowing full well they had no legitimate rebuttal. Furthermore, it was never God who broke the contract (as some might say,

vs 3). He was the One who brought them out of Egypt, gave them competent leaders, and intervened on their behalf against those who would plot against them (Micah 6.4-5). He was faithful!

And then we get to the desire God had for His people in verses 6-8. Even the most extreme occasions of sacrifice and devotion to the Lord did not matter — if the heart was not faithful to Him in justice, kindness, and humility.

God then finally informed them in verse 8 that the justice, kindness, and humility He desired from them had been made evident through His very own character, in how He had dealt with them in times past (cf. Micah 6.5d).

Paying attention to the Lord’s work teaches us the Qualities of our God. Let us learn from Him so that our worship is not in vain like the Israelites of old, and let our hearts be His.

– *WHSmith*