

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



**Clean living: it has more
to do with our hope
than our soap.**

CLASS SCHEDULE

**Today
All Classes
On Hold**

**Next Sunday
All Classes
On Hold**

**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.

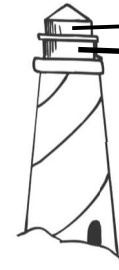
Sick: Mary Lou Lewis, Kathy Fletcher, Marsha Swim, Nellie Shell, June Self,

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.

WELCOME – We welcome Kalani Jormeah to our number! Let's do all we can to make Kalani feel welcome!



DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

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

July 19, 2020

Getting Comfortable with Covid-19

We will certainly never be totally comfortable with the Covid-19 virus – any more than we are ‘comfortable’ with a flu virus, or a polio virus. We are rightly wary of such pathogens, knowing their deadly potential.

We are concerned for those who have been exposed, for the carriers – knowingly and unknowingly – and of course, for those who have succumbed to it, including their friends and families. But as children of God, our concern with the current situation should be **far** more than physical. Covid-19 can only touch your body, not your soul – and Jesus already talked about that (Mt 10:28).

Let's not get so comfortable with all the new ways of doing things that we are okay with **not** assembling with the saints (He 10:25), that we are okay with our self-isolation and lack of association with brothers and sisters in Christ. It is **not** normal, it is **not** the optimum design, and we should **not** get comfortable with it.

For those who are **unable** to attend with the saints, we are grateful for technologies that can help them – in a small way – to stay connected. But for those who **are** able, yet are consciously **unwilling** to be with the saints, God will be your Judge – and we already know the verdict. - *WKing*

Another Perspective

O Lord, How Long?

Habakkuk looked at the social chaos of his day and asked, “How long, O Lord?” (Hab 1:2-4). The rest of this little book consists of a dialogue between the prophet and God, in which God lays out His plan for dealing with the lawlessness. The solution would come in the form of a military conquest. The mighty Babylonian Empire would sweep through and demolish everything, carting off the survivors into captivity.

It took a while for Habakkuk to grasp the wisdom of God's approach, but he finally came to realize there was no other solution. When a people become so godless, so depraved, that they reject even the most basic components of social decorum, they have become like rotten fruit that must be thrown away. And God has some very creative ways of taking out the trash.

God made good on His promise to Habakkuk, and the prophet's anxiety proved to be a minor blip in a much larger plan that he could not see. America's days are numbered, too; yet God's master plan will continue to unfold just as it always has.

What Habakkuk learned, we need to learn: No problem is too big for God. We may not like the answer, but He **will** fix it. Our task, in our tiny corner of the puzzle, is to remain faithful to Him and trust Him to do what is best, both in our personal lives and in the larger scheme of things.

- David King (edited for space)

Faith in Context

The saying, “A glass is half-empty or half-full,” is an analogy to help us understand where our perspectives in life may be, good or bad. Its point is to teach us that our attitude and perspective can change everything around us for better or worse, and it calls us to be aware of what we’re doing if we wish to change it.

At times we may go around thinking the whole world stinks when we have a piece of limburger cheese smeared under our own nose.

Unfortunately, the sinful self-absorption that we are cursed with smells a whole lot worse than any limburger cheese. And how we see such an attitude manifesting itself within the people of God is in how we view the rest of the world: an absolute vilification against all in sin

to the point that we don’t want to do anything for them, because – after all – that whole world they are in stinks (Lk 18⁹⁻¹²).

Sadly, some Christians refuse to place themselves in scenarios where they could share the gospel with the lost, because their perspective demands they cut themselves off from the world, all the while forgetting they are to be a light to the world (Mt 5¹⁴⁻¹⁶). It also may be a fear that who they talk to will bring that same charge the Pharisee’s accused Jesus of, “You eat and drink with sinners!” (Lk 5³⁰)

But remember, Jesus had done nothing wrong. And this other perspective stinks with sinful self-absorption. A child of God may convince *himself* there is no hope for the sinner, but that is ultimately God’s decision. We, however, must be a light to the world – else we lose our own hope (1 Cor 9²⁷).

- WHSmith