

## ASSEMBLY TIMES

### Sunday

Bible Class 9:45am  
Morning Assembly 10:35am  
Evening Assembly 6:00pm

### Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00pm

## RADIO PROGRAM

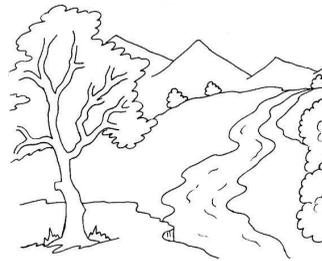
### The Bible Speaks



Sunday 9:00-9:30a.m.  
KURM 790AM

## Downtown Church of Christ

P.O. Box 447  
201 W. Chestnut Street  
Rogers, AR 72757  
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www.downtowncoc.net



**Following the path of  
least resistance makes  
rivers, and men, crooked.**

## 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).**



# DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

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

August 30, 2020

## FAMILY NEWS

### PRAYER LIST –

*Preachers we support:* Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Canada, Mexico, Peru, & U.S.

*Sick:* Mary Lou Lewis, Kathy Fletcher, Marsha Swim, June Self, Diane Willis,  
Shirley Cole, Etta Frazelle, & Rai Starr

*Military:* Logan Dickey

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

**WELCOME** – To Haley Youngblood Smith (and her husband, Will) who have returned from their honeymoon! Let's encourage our young couples!

**SENTENCE SERMON** – Pride is to a man what an attic is to a house: the highest part, and generally the emptiest.

## Enabling Bad Behavior

*“I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knows, because his sons made themselves vile, and he did not restrain them.” – 1 Sa 3:13*

Enabling is defined as “facilitating someone’s destructive behavior”. It is what Eli did with his sons; and many well-intentioned people do the same today.

We enable others when our loyalty to them blinds us to their ongoing misconduct (sin). Thus, our adoration for an actor, an athlete – or a family member – causes us to turn a blind eye to their sinful lifestyle.

We enable others by helping them in their sin. We give them our support by joining a fan club or giving them money or a pat on the back, just because we can't say ‘no’.

Enabling behavior stems from a misunderstanding of true love. The Biblical ‘agape’ is not a slobbering affection. Rather, it is the kind of love that holds people accountable. It is the love God shows to us – and it can seem brutal at times (He 12). It is called ‘tough love’; but it is the only love that can save one from drowning in their own sin. - *WKing*

## Another Perspective

## Once Saved, Always Saved?

A sorcerer named Simon had entranced the people of Samaria. But “*when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done*” (Ac 8:12-13). According to Jesus, Simon was in a saved condition (Mk 16:16).

Later, “*when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles’ hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, saying, ‘Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit’ . The apostle Peter responded saying, ‘Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money! You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you. For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity’*” (Ac 8:20-23).

God’s word tells us that Simon, **ONCE SAVED**, had sinned and lost favor with God. Peter commanded Simon to repent and pray for forgiveness (Ac 8:22), which is the law of pardon for a Christian. Thus, a Christian may fall from God’s grace. — *Boyd Jennings*



## Just Thinkin’

Some time back I went through my garage with my oldest son, discarding things I did not need (what WAS that gadget used for anyway?), and organizing what was left. It quickly paid dividends. Need a star bit? No problem! Bolt cutters? What size? My only question was, why did I wait so long?

In the same way, a lot of folks are in need of going through their lives. The garage of our mind, for example, may be cluttered with memories and regrets that no longer serve a purpose. Hopefully, they have led us to repentance; but if so, then we have been forgiven of past wrongs, and we should throw away those regrets (Ph 3:13-14).

Our minds may also be cluttered with worldly thoughts — some

perhaps sinful, and some perhaps not. But even thoughts that are not sinful in themselves can get in the way of developing a spiritual mind — one that is focused on being right with God and helping those we love to do the same.

Old habits also have a way of cluttering the garage of our mind. If we have developed the habit of lingering long in front of the television set or computer screen, for example (see Ph 4:8), or if we drop the occasional four-letter bomb (see Ep 4:29), it’s time to clean up the mess, and learn to do better.

And don’t wait for the proverbial ‘spring cleaning’. If your garage needs cleaned, **now** is the best time to get ‘er done! — *WKing*

