

## 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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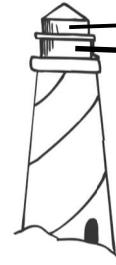
**To be angry with a  
weak man is to be weak.**

## 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**

November 1, 2020

## FAMILY NEWS

### PRAYER LIST –

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

*Sick:* Mary Lou Lewis, Kathy Fletcher, Marsha Swim, Rai Starr, Diane Willis,  
and Etta Frazelle      *Shut-ins:* Betty Jo Young, Margaret Abel, Erton Usrey,  
Shirley Cole, & Billie Pennington      *Military:* Logan Dickey

**SENTENCE SERMON** – One does not have to operate with great malice  
to do great harm; the absence of empathy and understanding are sufficient.

**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS** – This evening at 6 (on our Facebook page) we  
will address some of the questions our members have recently submitted.

## Empathy: Being More Like Jesus

“He was moved with compassion for them because they were weary” (Mt 9:36). “He was moved with compassion for them and healed their sick” (14:14). “I have compassion on the multitude because they... have nothing to eat” (15:32). And on and on it went.

Jesus was in tune with the struggles of people. He saw their difficulties; He felt their pain. He wept at the grave of Lazarus and had compassion on a widow whose only son had died. He even provided for the care of His mother as He hung on the cross, knowing that she was in for some difficult days.

If we look to Jesus as an example for how we should live (which we should, 1 Pe 2:21), then let’s try to follow Him in this. Let’s be more attuned to the difficulties of those around us. Let’s learn to “rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep” (Ro 12:15). Let’s learn to be more empathetic.

This is not a mandate for the government. It’s not a call for a local church to get involved in general benevolence programs. It is rather a call for you and me to open our eyes to the needs of others. Your King showed you **how** to do it. Now let’s get busy and do it.      - *WKing*

## Another Perspective

## Children and Self Esteem

Perhaps the one goal American parents and educators agree on for children more than any other is 'high self-esteem.' But John Rosemond, a professional family psychologist, wrote an article which cited "an extensive study" by professor Roy Baumeister of Case Western Reserve University which concluded, not surprisingly, that "people with high self-esteem tend to have low self-control." Criminals, he discovered, do not usually suffer from low self-esteem. What do the Scriptures teach about self-esteem?

In reality, children have two basic personality characteristics, and the predominance of one over the other will determine what kind of adult, from saint to criminal, that child will become. Little children are humble and therefore teachable (Mt 18:1-4). But at the same time, little children are extremely selfish – so much so that we measure a child's maturity by their selfishness, or unselfishness (Pr 22:15).

Our goal is to make them like Christ; and Christ was humble, not proud. "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Mt 11:29). Children must be taught by word and example to follow Him. "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself" (Ph 2:3).

And how do we achieve this goal of molding a child into the likeness of Christ? "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord" (Ep 6:4). Do you want to have children who are unselfish, humble, and self-disciplined, i.e., are like Christ? Then teach them God's Word, live that Word before them daily, and rebuke and chasten them when they do wrong.

– Keith Sharp (edited for space)

## Faith in Context

*By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, 'I have come to know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as [Jesus] walked. (1 Jno 2<sup>3-7</sup>)*

Some say, "When I turn the lights down low, and I hum and sway a little bit, I get a warm feeling! Then **I know** I have a relationship with God!"

But do feelings validate my relationship with God? Perhaps to a degree; but that isn't the whole picture. So, what really validates me?

John tells us it isn't something as subjective as our feelings. So what is it? He says there is something external to us; something that is

objective; something that establishes boundaries, and provides accountability and obligation.

And what is this? **It is the keeping of His commandments.**

"Oh great! Now there's obligation! There's boundaries and accountability! Now there's a challenge in my life that I don't want to hear!"

But John couldn't make it any clearer, brethren. This is what validates me as a follower of Jesus Christ: have I kept the commandments of God? Have I lived as Jesus lived? Have I walked as He walked? Have I loved others as He loves me?

My emotions certainly are strong, but I must only ever find their validity **after** the Word of God has directed them, and not before.

Let God's Word validate us first, and **then** let our emotions of gratitude and joy follow.

– WHSmith

***"By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments." - 1 Jn 2:3***