

## ASSEMBLY TIMES

### Sunday

Bible Class on hold  
Morning Assembly 9 or 11  
Evening Assembly on hold

### Wednesday

Bible Class on hold

## 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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The world is dangerous,  
not because of evil people,  
but because of good people  
who do nothing about it.

## 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

January 3, 2021

## Thinking About Children

“*Marriage is honorable in all*” (He 13:4) – so we should not be surprised that the products of marriage are honorable as well. Children were (and still are) considered gifts from God (Ps 127:3-5).

Parents are taught to love them (Ti 2:4, He 12:6-7), to provide for them (2 Co 12:14, 1 Ti 5:8), and to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ep 6:4 – to train them by example and by word). This demands a selfless and caring attitude on the part of the parents.

But our world should not center on the kids. Love for the Lord comes before any familial ties – even those of our children (Lu 14:26). And unlike the spouse we took “until death do us part,” children are ours for only a short time – “*therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother*” (Ge 2:24). Pity the child (and the parent) who never cuts those apron strings.

And what should be said about attitudes towards **grandchildren**? Well, we’ll get around to that discussion later – maybe.

- *WKing*

## 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

**CLASS SCHEDULE** – No in-person classes for now but hang in there! By God’s grace we hope to restart those classes soon!

**SENTENCE SERMON** – The church is the pillar of the truth, not the pillow of the truth – big difference!

## Just Thinkin'

## The Fountain Of Youth

## Faith in Context

*“You know the way where I am going... I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me” - Jn 14:4-6*

Ponce de Leon spent much of his life searching for the elusive ‘fountain of youth’. He believed that such a fountain existed somewhere in Florida (after all, Disney characters never grow old)! Of course, he died without finding the fabled fountain. And it only exists now in works of fiction, like *Tuck Everlasting*.

Or does it?

Was Jesus just speaking ‘pie in the sky’ when He promised the disciples that He was going to prepare a place for them? Was He delusional? They received their answer about three days later, when they found an empty grave, but not a dead body. In His resurrection, Jesus became the “*first fruits*” of the dead (1 Co 15:20) and, in so doing, began to make good on His promise.

Those “*mansions*” or “*dwelling places*” are prepared for all who will come to God through faith in Christ and obedience to His Word. And yes, this can include **you!**

- *WKing*

A New Year! New Resolutions! New Things! But is there anything new with you?

As our days go by on this earth, sometimes things get a little... tedious. This world is predictable; its ways are old hat. As I live my life, I sometimes just go with the motions of it all. After all, this is reality.

Believe it or not, Paul actually agreed with this sentiment to a degree when he said, “*our outer man is decaying*” (2 Cor 4<sup>16</sup>). This body is getting old! It’s wearing me down, and I’m getting really tired of it!

Yet, Paul brings to the attention of Christians that we are not to be solely focused on such things, but instead, “[to] *not lose heart...[because] our inner man is being renewed, day by day*” (2 Cor 4<sup>16</sup>).

And how? Because “*we look not at the things that are seen, but at the things that are not seen; for the things that are seen are temporary, but the things that are not seen are eternal*” (2 Cor 4<sup>17</sup>).

Keep in mind brethren that as we age in this body and with this world, God makes our spirit alive, younger, and **newer**, each and every day.

Where do we find this newness? God has revealed it to us.

Brethren we are a new creation (2 Cor 5<sup>17</sup>), and we are to seek His knowledge **daily** in order to effectively live this new life (Col 3<sup>10</sup>, etc.).

It may be that all of this is old news to you. But there is nothing more new than the redeemed life that Christ has provided for you.

So... what’s new with you?

- *WHSmith*