

ASSEMBLY TIMES

Sunday

Bible Class 9:30
Morning Assembly 10:30
Evening Assembly 5:00

Wednesday

Evening Bible Class 6:30

RADIO PROGRAM

The Bible Speaks



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

Downtown Church of Christ

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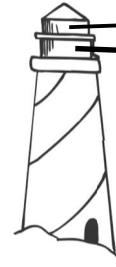
**Love gives –
and forgives.**

ELDERS:

Otis Hardin
Perry Johnson
Ken Parker
Alan Revier
GW Walsh

DEACONS:

TJ Burleson
Scott Hale
Joel Heiligenthal
Jason Hill
Chris Johnson
Brock McKeel
Randy Potter
Tim Roberts
Randy Shell



DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

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ROGERS, ARKANSAS**

January 23, 2022

FAMILY NEWS

PRAYER LIST –

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

Sick: Gary Fletcher, Tony Tolbert, Rai Starr, and Diane Willis

Shut-ins: Betty Jo Young, Billie Pennington, Shirley Cole, and Mary Lou Lewis

Military: Logan Dickey, Kyler Sullins, Sean Potter

DATES TO REMEMBER – March 27-31 (gospel meeting), April 22-24 (singing weekend), July 24-28 (VBS), and August 5-6 (youth lectureship)

SENTENCE SERMON – Life will always be complicated, so learn to be content right now – before you run out of time.

The Sexual Onslaught

We live in a sexually obsessed society, largely driven by the ready accessibility of sexual images everywhere we turn. And while it may seem a harmless, victimless obsession, it is far from it. From the criminal extremes of sexual assault, rape, kidnapping, sexual slavery, and stalking, to the wrecked marriages, dysfunctional relationships, and wasted hours turning into wasted years – to say nothing of it being sin, with its consequences – the sexualization of our society is taking its toll.

Men, and young men in particular, are especially vulnerable to this temptation (Mt 5:27-28). It can be successfully defeated, but not without the will to do so. Be aware of the situations and places which ‘trigger’ your lust and make a determined effort to avoid them. Find a mature accountability partner and ask them to hold you accountable. And pray often.

I highly recommend the article on the next two pages – especially for our young men.

- *WKing*

Another Perspective

The early part of Proverbs is dominated by four characters or groups of characters. One of these is the woman of folly, the adulteress. Though she is female (because the original audience of Proverbs was male) her characteristics can be applied to evil people of either sex, both married and unmarried. Here are some of the big ones:

She preys on the naïve. The adulteress doesn't go after the wise old father of Proverbs. Instead, in the words of Proverbs 7:7, she pursues "a young man lacking sense". Though Christians of any age or level of spiritual attainment can be vulnerable, the young and immature are especially so. Young disciples who think they know it all had better be very, very careful in avoiding sexual sin!

Profile of An Adulteress

She is flattering. All of us want to be pursued. All of us want to be wanted. The adulteress provides that. As Proverbs 7:10-13 reveals, she doesn't wait to be sought. She goes out seeking. She provides the naïve young man with validation that he is special. Of course, there is nothing special about being sought out by sin. The devil eagerly seeks all of us.

She is religious. According to Proverbs 7:14, she has come straight from worshiping God to seek sexual immorality. She's got that worship box checked; now she can pursue her desires. From this, we should learn that our friendships with other Christians are not 100 percent safe. Even Christians who desire to be righteous can lead each other astray through foolishness. How much more dangerous

are those who desire to be wicked! When we are surrounded by brethren, we still can't let down our guard.

She is sensually alluring. Thousands of years later, the come-on of Proverbs 7:16-18 is still provocative and powerful. Luxurious fabrics, beautiful colors, exotic scents, and the sultry whispers of the seductress combine to overwhelm the senses of the young fool. What could be more appealing?

Today, of course, sexual temptation appears in forms that are no less alluring. Whatever our buttons may be, Satan knows where they are and how to push them. We may have such a high opinion of our spiritual maturity that we think we're immune. We aren't.

She is crafty. In Proverbs 7:19-20, she tells her foolish lover-to-be that their sin together will be completely safe. The husband is long gone. He will be nowhere to

catch us. What could possibly go wrong?

In the same way, the devil wants us to believe that our sexual sin is perfectly safe. We aren't going to get caught. There will be no consequences. All of these comforting promises are, in fact, lies.

She is deadly. Proverbs 7:22-23 reports the sad fate of the young man: passing pleasure, then death. Today, sexual immorality is one of the most common ways for Christians to wreck their lives. Sexually transmitted disease, unexpected pregnancy, divorce, and heartbreak wait for the sinner.

All of this is to say nothing of the most significant consequence: spiritual death through separation from God. The practice of sexual sin ensures that God will be against us, and if He is against us, who can be for us? Seductive though the adulteress may be, the penalty for sin is more than any of us can afford.

- *Matthew Bassford*