

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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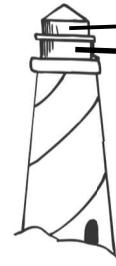
**Reality is not subject
to your preferences.**

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

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

January 30, 2022

FAMILY NEWS

PRAYER LIST –

Preachers we support: Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Canada, Mexico, Peru, & U.S.
Sick: Gary Fletcher, Tony Tolbert, Rai Starr, Diane Willis, James Swim
Shut-ins: Betty Jo Young, Billie Pennington, Shirley Cole, Mary Lou Lewis
Military: Logan Dickey, Kyler Sullins, Sean Potter

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS –

Tonight is our monthly Q and A lesson.
Once again, thanks to all who have contributed questions for this effort.

SENTENCE SERMON – People do not care how much you know until they know how much you care.

The Church of Christ

So, what went through your mind as you read that title? What exactly is “The Church of Christ”?

Depending on which part of the country you live in, you may have thought of the Mormons – “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints”, a cult which began in the 19th century. To others, it brings up the idea of “The United Church of Christ”, a denomination which started in the 1950’s as an ecumenical effort to consolidate several mainstream churches

into one. Still others may think of “The International Churches of Christ”, another cult begun in the 1990’s (sometimes called “The Boston Movement”). In the so-called ‘Bible Belt’ the term “Church of Christ”, to many, conjures up the image of just another denomination, similar to many other denominations, with a sign out front and its own distinctive theology. They often identify the “Church of Christ” as “those folks who don’t believe >

in music” and “those folks who believe they are the only denomination going to heaven”.

All such conceptions are, in fact, misconceptions.

Jesus promised to build His church (Mt 16:18). And He did. That church which He built is referred to in several ways in the Bible. It is called ‘the church of God’ (Ac 20:28), ‘the church of the firstborn’ (He 12:23), and (in referring to multiple congregations) ‘churches of Christ’ (Ro 16:16).

The church which Jesus built nearly 2,000 years ago is not a cult, and it is not a denomination. It is not the result of men conferring together and starting another religious body, complete with its own creed, man-made ordinances, and (soon enough) its own traditions. To think of Christ’s church in such terms is to totally misunderstand what Jesus did when He came to this earth.

The church which Jesus built is a spiritual body, comprised of those who have come to Jesus on His terms. They have believed on Him as the Son of God (Jn 8:24), they have repented of the sins they have committed against Him (Lu 13:3), and they have been baptized into that spiritual body, for the forgiveness of their sins (Ac 2:38, 1 Co 12:13, Ga 3:26-29). As a result, they have become part of an organization which will endure through the ages of eternity (He 12:22-24). In fact, it is sometimes called ‘the kingdom of God’ (Ac 8:12) — an eternal kingdom comprised of those who have enthroned Jesus as the King of their lives (Lu 1:31-33, 17:20-21), both individually and congregationally.

These concepts are not complicated — but they do require that we discard our preconceived notions of cults and denominations, and grow in a more perfect understanding of Christ’s church. *- WKing*

Another Perspective

You Encourage Me

I am thinking this morning of all those who go unnoticed in their faithful service to God — at least by other people. So, here’s a nod of appreciation...
...to all the husbands and wives who work hard at their marriage and honor their vows, even when it’s difficult ...to all the parents who sacrifice their time, energy, and sanity to not merely feed, clothe, and house their kids, but teach them to love and serve the Lord ...to those same parents who make hard decisions regarding priorities, standards, and morals despite the conflict that occasionally results (especially with pre-teens and teens) ...to the young people who are faithful to the Lord though in the minority — and are often ridiculed for such ...to the single folks who persist in faith even though lonely and frustrated, and would love nothing more than to make a life with a godly spouse ...to the men and women who maintain honesty, integrity, loyalty, kindness, service, and dedication in a work environment that encourages/promotes dishonesty, selfishness, and greed ...to those who grieve the loss of someone without losing their trust in a good and loving God ...to the folks who send cards, who take food, who find encouraging words to say, who serve silently and behind the scenes ...to the folks who never miss services ...to the preachers whose names are not known outside of their local work ...to the elders who stay up late praying and are constantly working to help the folks they are leading ...to the moms (and dads) who wrestle with toddlers throughout worship or Bible class, but keep on going ...to everyone who prays fervently and reads their Bible diligently ...to everyone who gets up every day and follows the Lord, no matter the circumstance or consequence Hebrews 11:35f notes “others” who served faithfully in great difficulty, yet whose names are unknown to us. But God knew them. And God knows you. You encourage me. Thanks. Keep it up. *- Russ Bowman*