

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

P.O. Box 447
201 W. Chestnut Street
Rogers, AR 72757
479-636-3575
www.downtowncoc.net

DATES TO REMEMBER

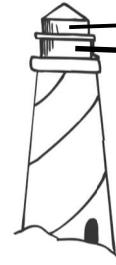
Gospel Meeting
Mar 27-31
Singing Weekend
Apr 22-24
Vacation Bible School
July 24-28
Youth Lectureship
Aug 5-6

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

February 27, 2022

Parachutes & Purgatory

'If at first you don't succeed, don't try skydiving.' Now, **that's** sound advice. After all, some things you only get one chance at.

The doctrine of purgatory argues that we **do** get a second chance. If the parachute doesn't open, it's okay – you may get bruised and battered, but you'll eventually heal. The only problem is, such a doctrine defies the laws of nature **and** the laws of God. The Bible says nothing of a 'place of purging'; instead, it teaches the permanence of our eternal condition (Lu 16:19-31).

One chance means we **must** get it right the first time. It means we **must** do our due diligence. Is the plane airworthy? Is the Pilot really qualified? Is the parachute packed properly? Is it fitted right? These are just a few of the questions a skydiver had better take seriously. After all, his or her life depends on it.

Some see no point in jumping out of a perfectly good plane; but jump you will, one day (He 9:27). The only question is whether you land safely – or in eternal splatter. So, **check your chute!** - *WKing*

FAMILY NEWS

PRAYER LIST –

Preachers we support: Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Canada, Mexico, Peru, & U.S.
Sick: Gary Fletcher, Tony Tolbert, Rai Starr, Diane Willis, Js Swim, Tricia Deen
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&A lesson. Thanks to all who have submitted questions – let's keep them coming!

SENTENCE SERMON – If the world hates you because of Jesus, that's to be expected; but, if the world hates Jesus because of you, that's a problem.

NINE RULES FOR A HAPPY MARRIAGE

- 1 - Say “I Love You” (Ep 5:25; Ti 2:4).
- 2 - Tell the Truth (Ep 4:25).
- 3 - Forgive (Col 3:12-13).
- 4 - Don’t Bring Up the Past (1 Co 13:5).
- 5 - Be Romantic (Pr 5:19; Song of S).
- 6 - Keep Your Promises (Ec 5:4-5).
- 7 - Laugh Together (Pr 17:22; Ec 3:4).
- 8 - Compliment Each Other (Ro 15:2).
- 9 - Enjoy Each Other (Pr 5:18; Ec 9:9).

How many of these are you following?

“Therefore, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.” - Genesis 2:24

*- from a plaque in Cracker Barrel,
scriptures added by Ken Weliever*

Another Perspective

What is a ‘Miracle’?

Be careful with the word ‘miracle’!

I see increasing numbers of references among disciples of Christ referring to events in their lives as miraculous, or even asking for a miracle. Perhaps it’s time for a reminder that we don’t live in the miraculous age. That fact almost used to be taken for granted in congregations I know and perhaps for that reason many have neglected teaching on it; therefore, we increasingly see loose usage of the word. It may be a result of the influence of postmodernism and its emphasis on feelings over reason.

By definition, a miracle involves an act or process that violates the laws of nature – in many cases the instant healing of permanent and visible defects (John 11; Acts 3:2; 13; Jn. 9, etc). Sometimes miracles were supernatural signs such as walking on water, turning water to wine, feeding the 5,000, etc.

But something that is marvelous is not necessarily a miracle. The design of our body – and especially our brain – with the amazing ability to fight disease, give birth and invent medicines, is a work of God that shows His infinite intelligence. But the wonderful function of our bodies is not a miracle in the Biblical sense.

The danger in applying the term ‘miracle’ to what is not truly miraculous is a cheapening of the concept. If we apply the word to gradually getting better from an illness or to having a tumor shrink with treatment, unbelievers will begin to see ‘miracles’ as no big deal, but something that commonly happens among nonbelievers as well as believers. We don’t want to cheapen the impact of the true miracles of Jesus and the apostles! Therefore, let’s be discreet and avoid applying that word so loosely.

- Gardner Hall