

## Light and Life

## A Peculiar People

The cares of this world can often be overwhelming. It's easy to get down when we turn on the news and hear about disease, corruption, injustice, or unrest. For the unbeliever, these things may seem to be what makes up a large portion of our existence. If one doesn't believe in life after death, then this is as good as it gets. As Christians though, we understand that this world is not our home, and we are just pilgrims traveling towards an eternal destination. Still, we are faced with extreme temptation to act like the rest of the world, to act as if this world IS our home, that our political situation is paramount, that death is a tragedy instead of a victory, or that thinking that we are right about something gives us permission to be rude.

The sanctity, sainthood, or set apart nature that should make us different from the world is a central theme in the Bible's description of Christian living. Most of Paul's epistles are addressed to "the sanctified" or those "called to be saints" (i.e., 1 Co 1:2). Peter addresses his letters to the "pilgrims" and those "having escaped the depravity in the world". 1 Peter 2:9 describes Christians as "a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people". What if God's special people didn't act so special? What if we were too busy being "entangled in the affairs of this life" to be any different than the world around us (2 Ti 2:4)?

As we go out into the world this week, let's remember who we are called to be – who we are!

- *Sam Bunyard*

## Just My Thoughts

## Room in the Kingdom

There is room in the kingdom.

This line from the song, Room in God's Kingdom, is one that is particularly moving to me. The premise of this song focuses on the role of Christians in the Kingdom of God. There is a special focus in this hymn on each Christian having their own job or service to fulfill.

This hymn assumes that every job and every bit of work, no matter how small, is valuable and necessary. Though these jobs may be small (one verse mentions something as minimal as offering a cup of cold water), they are all useful in the kingdom. We may not all be Bible class teachers, preachers, song leaders, elders, or deacons, but all of us have a role to play in the kingdom of God. Whether it be cooking meals for a brother or sister, making phone calls to those in need of encouragement, or writing letters to those who have been absent, there are jobs for every believer.

Satan may tempt us to believe that the small jobs that we do are worthless or unnecessary, but this song should remind us that we are all servants of the Most High King, and we are all blessed with the ability to do something in service of Him.

So, whatever we may do in service of God and His kingdom, let us do it with all our might, for we are all valued and loved servants – no matter how small our job may be.

- *Hayden Cathey*

## 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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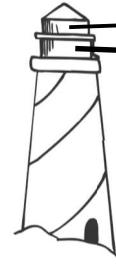
Your words are a  
window to your soul.

## 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

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## 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:* Kyler Sullins, Sean Potter

**DATES TO REMEMBER** – Our Vacation Bible School with Bubba Garner will be July 24-28. Our Youth Lectures with Phillip Shumake will be Aug 5-6.

**SENTENCE SERMON** – You are in God's plans (Jeremiah 29:11 ESV) – but is He in yours?

## Never Give Up on God

In his song *Remind Me Who I Am*, Josh Kasinger sings, “When my heart is like a stone, and I’m running far from home, remind me who I am. When I can’t receive Your love – afraid I’ll never be enough – remind me who I am”. It’s a song of struggling faith – a place many have been before. And at times like that, we do need to be reminded.

We need to be reminded that Jesus did not come to save ‘good folks’; He came to save those who are lost and broken – and know it (Mt 9:13).

We need to be reminded of the promises of God to His people –

promises like, “I will never leave you nor forsake you” (He 13:5), “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 Jn 1:9), and He will “show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us” (Ep 2:7).

We need to be reminded who we are – that if we are Christians, we are His children (1 Jn 3:1), and that that’s a very precious relationship.

When you are tempted to give up on God because “I’ll never be enough”, don’t – because your Father will never give up on you. - *WKing*