



# THE MESSENGER

## MAY 14, 2023

### NEWS AND NOTES

#### **Congregational Meeting**

June 11

#### **Our Next Gospel Meeting**

June

#### **Weekly Bible Studies**

Thursday at 1 on Zoom

Friday at 1 on Zoom

#### **Times of Service**

##### **Sunday**

Bible study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

##### **Wednesday**

Bible study: 7:30 PM

(Immediately followed by a  
short worship service)

#### **First Friday of Month**

##### **Singing**

February 3, 7:30

#### **Address and Contact**

University Heights Church of  
Christ

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### “LET ME GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE”

Most of us have been in conversations that started this way, both on the receiving and giving end. The giver believes they know the best course of action to pursue in a given situation. Sometimes they are right and sometimes they are wrong. When I first began preaching, I was offered advice by an older preacher. He said, “When someone criticizes you, take what’s of benefit and discard the rest.” While that’s easier said than done, I have found it good advice. It isn’t good because an experienced preacher said it, but because what he said really is good. I have also received advice from experienced preachers that I have found to be poor, even sinful. We must be careful with the advice we accept and how we determine its value. Let’s consider three examples from Scripture.

Perhaps the most well-known of our examples is found in the case of Rehoboam and his advisors. (1 Kings 12:1-15) Older, more experienced counselors offered wonderful advice while their inexperienced counterparts offered poor advice. Rehoboam, perhaps fearing to be seen as a pushover in the early days of his reign, hitched his wagon to the brash young men he’d grown up with and the rest is history. “Wisdom comes with age” is often true and only the fool ignores it without considering it carefully.

And yet, age and experience does not automatically make advice good. Take a moment to read 2 Samuel 10. David sought to comfort the new Ammonite king, Hanun, after the death of his father. The “princes of the Ammonites” told the new king that this was a ploy by David designed to spy out the city for an overthrow. There is no reason to believe all of these men were young and inexperienced. Some “hoary heads” among them no doubt served as advisors to his father. The disastrous advice led

## Members Needing Our Prayers

John Thompson, Mary and Riley Mae Weatherholt, Joyce Bolton, Rick Small, Benny Poynter, Janet Brundige, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

## Others Needing Prayer

Alyse Robinson, Mary Bishop, Helen Thomas, Patty Hill, Eli Kempton, Sophie Brown, Fay Thomas, Glen Perkins, Edra Bernard, Valari Jones-Butler (Valari is Gina Seabolt's former co-worker. Her daughter is undergoing chemo for breast cancer. Her 21 year old nephew was killed in a shooting), Charlie Hoy, Marc Nations, Janice Parsons, Veronica Bowman, Charles Bishop, Allison Walker, Mark Nickles, Dwayne Harrod, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Ron Harmon, Patty Hill

## To Our Guests

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to Ammonite defeat and a broken pact with Syria. Even experience can offer poor, even disastrous, advice.

Our third example comes from Acts 5:17-42 where the advice of Gamaliel preserved the life of the apostles. Gamaliel was "a teacher of the law held in honor by all." I believe his words demonstrate at least curiosity in Jesus and "this undertaking." And yet, his "wait and see" approach, though belying the vitriol of his fellows, wasn't without its flaws. Are we to accept that every movement that doesn't melt away almost immediately is from God? Gamaliel's advice suggests so. Not even the most honored and experienced are perfect in knowledge and wisdom. They, too, can lead astray.

It is good to have "an abundance of counselors." (Proverbs 11:14) It is even better when such counselors are not blinded by traditions of the past (Eccl. 7:10) or have eyes only for the future, but "know the times" they are living in and are willing to face them head on. And yet their advice can, and probably sometimes will, be flawed. We must learn how best to evaluate its worth. The only surefire way is deep immersion in the word of God. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105) Measure *everything* by it. So, let me give you some advice. Read your Bible often! Adam Litmer

<b>Elders</b>	<b>Deacons</b>	<b>Evangelist</b>
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
	Marcus Lake	
	Adam Litmer	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	

