

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Randy Ellis

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Bryan Garlock Jerry Schnelle
Mark Davis

Prayers

Wendell Mobley Jack Calvert

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Announcements

Daniel Allgor

Song Leader

Clay Morris

Prayers

Randy Ellis Jon Barry

Invitation

Clay Morris

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Mike Davis Clay Morris

Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.

Monday (Zoom)

Bible Study7:00 P.M

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 P.M.

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GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

- Hear** the word of truth Romans 10:13-17
- Believe** the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24
- Repent** from all sins Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38
- Confess** the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10
- Be Baptized** in His name Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12
- Walk** in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10



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Issue 28

Looking Forward to His Appearing

Travis Starling

2 Tim. 4:7-8 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved his appearing."

My daughter recently went to a party where the children played pin the tail on the donkey. Simple game to understand but difficult in practice, especially when spun around after being blindfolded. My daughter enjoyed the game, so she requested that our family play that evening. When it was my turn to display my skill at poking holes in the wall that would eventually require putty and paint, I stood roughly five feet from the wall, put the blindfold on, spun around, and then started for the target.

To possess a goal is to have a target to point ambition and effort towards. With goals we have direction. With

expectation we have purpose. When there is an emptiness of meaning and purpose in life, deterioration follows, and it is unavoidable and expected. Though progress was formally present, regression reigns because there is no vision. Where there is no vision, we quickly lose our way. Paul's own goal and expectation was to wear the crown of righteousness. The hope in this future award from the righteous Judge burned in Paul's mind on a regular basis, and so it drove him to display magnificent acts of faith and countless honorable actions of April 25, 2021 unselfishness. Paul ever yearned to be with Christ in Heaven, but for the sake of God's kingdom, he was willing to stay for a while longer. When the end was nearing, Paul made it his goal to prepare others, such as Timothy, to aim for the crown of righteousness.

Paul understood that simply setting the goal did not and does not suffice, when it comes to staying on the straight

working-class people. But did they ever make a difference! And so can you and I!
 A little salt can go a long way. Just a sprinkle on bland food makes it palatable. But the salt must not remain in the shaker – it must contact the food to produce the desired result.
 Just a small light gives guidance in an otherwise pitch-dark room. The psalmist said God's word was a lamp to his feet and a light to his path (Psalm 119:105). As our behavior models God's word and as we share His word with others, we illuminate a world darkened by ignorance and sin.
 Be not dismayed; you are salt and light!

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins/sometimes shut-ins: **Bonnie Allgor, Pat Buls, Maxine Burnham, Ann Thomas, Sonny & Cathy Monaghan, Pete & Beth Rowland, and Francine Davis.**

Bible Study: 9:30 AM (and Zoom)

Services: 10:15 AM (and Zoom)

Monday Class: 7:00 PM (Zoom)

Wednesday: 7:00 PM (and Zoom)

We are trying to update our Directory. If you have updated information or would like a new picture, please get with **Bill Brittenham** by the end of July.

and narrow. A continuous refocusing on the goal must take place to stay on course towards the destination. Call it whatever you like: grit, diligence, persistence, or determination; this is essential for a follower of Christ but would be especially vital for a man like Timothy who came to the faith at a young age.

Jesus told his disciples that it will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. And that they must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him. Paul wrote a very similar message to Timothy when encouraging him in the second letter.

“Now you (Timothy) follow my purpose and perseverance. Continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned

them. But evil people and imposters will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.” That is a paraphrase from the letter of course, but the language holds true. Notice the imagery Paul uses. He was encouraging Timothy to continue forward while warning him of those that would regress and fall further and further off the straight and narrow path. Throughout the book, the language is active. Notice the following phrases throughout the letter:

- Kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you
- Hold onto the example of sound words
- Protect the treasure which has been entrusted to you
- Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus

• Suffer hardship with me

• Remember Jesus Christ

• Be diligent to be approved by God

• Avoid worldly and empty chatter

• Flee youthful lusts; pursue righteousness

Paul’s message to Timothy still rings true today. We too can have hope and confidence in a crown of righteousness, if we will actively keep our target in focus. What are you doing to stay focused? How are you preparing, so that you finish the race strong?

When I took the blindfold off, it was immediately evident that I was nowhere near the target. The loss of both sight and focus altered my path, and by the time I could see clearly again, it was too late. My pin had been placed, and in this game of pin the tail on the donkey, there were no second chances.

Luke 16: 24-27 “And he cried out and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me

and send Lazarus, so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set, so that those who want to go over from here to you will not be able, nor will any people cross over from there to us.”

Five Fingers of Prayer

Glenn Hitchcock

The fingers on our hands can help us remember for whom to pray.

1. The thumb is nearest to us. Begin prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. Praying for loved ones is a sweet duty.

2. The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct, and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, ministers, and church elders. They need wisdom in pointing others in the right direction.

3. The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of secular leaders. Pray for our president and the Congress, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion.

4. The fourth finger is the ring finger. It is the weakest finger, as any piano teacher will explain. This reminds us to pray for the weak, those in trouble, and those in pain. They need prayers day and night.

5. Last comes the little finger, the smallest of all. This is where we should

place ourselves in relation to God and others. The Bible says, “*He who is least among you will be great*” (Luke 9:48). Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective, and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

“I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men.” (1 Timothy 2:1)

What Can One Person Do?

Joe Slater

7.9 Billion people now inhabit this planet! What difference can one person (you) make? Oh, sure, the President of the United States is only one person, but he can make a huge difference. A multi-millionaire can make a noticeable difference. But ordinary folks like you or me – do we really matter?

In Matthew 5:13-16 Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” Our Lord was talking to men whom the world would classify as nobodies. They weren’t rich, famous, or highly educated. They were ordinary