



Cancer

Ruby Bradd. 6 years old.
Brad Hurd. Liver cancer & spreading to lungs.
Steven Kelly. Friend of Lovell's. Stage 4.
Brenda Mitchem. Friend of Martin's Breast Cancer.

Special Needs

Ryan Kendrick. Special needs.
Jaydan Patrick. Special needs.

Need for Prayer

Drew Clifton. Dixie's grandson.
Pete Lovell. Health concerns.
Prayers for our Country, Military.
Prayers for Israel, Palestine, & Ukraine.

Nursing Home

Sibbie Byrd. Health issues.
Sharon Teschendorf. Dementia .

Long-Term Health Issues

Brandi Beavers. Health concerns.
Jack Beavers. Health concerns.
Simon Beavers. Health issues.
Jo Anne Hairfield. Health issues.
Norman W. Hill. Health concerns.

Hester Hollandsworth. Health issues.
Matthew Hollandsworth. Health issues.
Troy Hollandsworth, Jr. Under hospice care.
Anita Hopper. Health concerns.
Rita Lawless. Health issues.
Odell Moran. Health concerns.
Viet & Victor Nguyen. Son's of Anhchi Nguyen. Friend of Nancy's. Viet receiving bone marrow transplant from Victor.
Phyllis & Wayne Youngblood. Health issues.
Prayers for Caregivers.



Let's Connect

www.cocva.org/connect
www.facebook.com/CCOCVA
Telephone: (276) 647-8454
Fax: (276) 794-4940
Message Alert: (276) 794-4035



The Collinsville Herald

A Weekly Publication of the Collinsville Church of Christ.



Collinsville Church of Christ
 P.O. Box 158
 2115 Daniels Creek Rd
 Collinsville, VA 24078
www.cocva.org
 (276) 647-8454

Times We Meet:
Sunday:
Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.
Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Thursday:
Ladies' Class
 Coffee & Donuts: 9:30 a.m.
Class: 10:00 a.m.
Mid-Week Virtual Bible Study: 12:30 p.m.

February
 ♥♥♥♥♥

Vol.14 February 25, 2024 No. 08



God is So Good

You might notice over your heading of Psalm 107 that it begins "Book Five." You also do not see David's name over this psalm. There may be clues pointing to this being one of the later psalms, even after Babylonian Captivity (1-3). Many believe this was a song sung by Jewish pilgrims who sang it on their way to Jerusalem for one of the major feast days. It is full of parallelism, where the writer says the same thing two similar ways (nearly every verse contains this, except 3, 12, 26, 34, 37, and 40).

But as we pay attention to its structure, it looks like it contains four main "strophes" (poetic stanzas). Each strophe ends with the same chorus or refrain: "Let them give thanks to the Lord for His lovingkindness, and for His wonders to the sons of men" (8, 15, 21, 31). It covers the full range of human distress and problems and God's gracious response. We struggle, God delivers, and for that we should always be thankful! Truly, God is so good!

God is Good When We Wander (4-9). Historically, we would think of the wilderness wandering or even being scattered by captivity. But this seems bigger than just one occasion. *Continued on Page 2...*

Continued from Cover Page... Whether we wander by sin, wander because of struggles and distresses, God is still so good to be our beacon and compass. He will help us find our way home, which should fill our hearts with gratitude. He can lead us back from any and every direction we have gone.

God is Good When We Are Oppressed (10-16). Sometimes our struggle is not of our own making and choosing. Sometimes, though, it is the result of our rebellion. Either way, when we face darkness and death, chains and misery, He brings us out and breaks us free. No one has to stay in spiritual prison. God offers freedom. That should draw our gratitude, He's so good!

God is Good When We Are Hurting (17-22). He writes of afflictions and distresses, again some of which are self-inflicted and others which are brought upon us. It doesn't matter which way it happens, God can heal our wounds. His word is medicine and He is the Great Physician. There is salvation and deliverance.

God is Good When We Are in Danger (23-32). Perhaps one of the most graphic illustrations of danger is of being storm-tossed at sea. Stormy winds and waves threaten to capsize us and expose us to the deep. We may at times feel like we're hanging on by a thread, in desperation.

This psalm makes me think of the hymn, "Does Jesus Care?" The writer brings up four different scenarios where we hurt or struggle, and we are reminded of how much He cares! There's a good chance you are struggling right now or you have just been through struggle or are about to go through it. Please remember the goodness of God and His ability to help you through it. But He hushes the winds and stills the storms. God is so good!

The writer closes by speaking of all the ways God turns chaos into calm (33-43). He may not have mentioned your specific trial in this psalm, but he covered it. Remember, no matter what you face, He will bless you and help you through it all! No doubt, it will make you sing, "God is so good!" —Neal Pollard



The Challenge

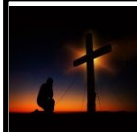
The challenge comes to Christian men;
The world demands new proof again.

Material might, with ugly mien,
Defies the power of things unseen.

The church, the Book, must stand the test,
To show the world God's truth is best.

The cause of Christ must suffer loss,
If Christian men bear not the cross.

No longer words nor empty creeds;
The world demands new proof in deeds. —Grenville Kleiser

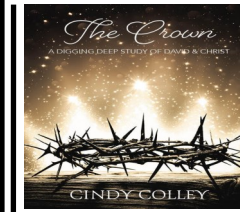


Good Advice

- WALK like Enoch
- WORSHIP like Abel
- WORK like Nehemiah
- WEEP like Jeremiah
- OBEY like Job
- LEAD like Moses
- PRAY like Daniel
- WIN like Paul
- LIVE like Christ



—Robert A. Glass



Digging Deep Bible Study!

Our next Digging deep ladies' class is March 3rd from 2-4 pm in our Fellowship Hall.



Thursday Ladies Bible Class!

Coffee & Donuts at 9:30 a.m. and class starts at 10:00 a.m.

Class Resumes On March 7th!



Mid-Week Virtual Bible Study!

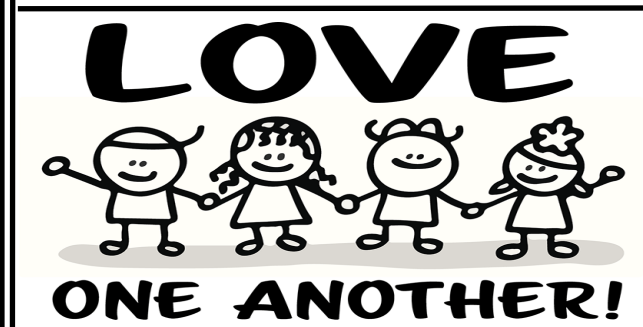
Is on a temporary hiatus, due to our streaming technician caring for his sick father.



Blood Drive!

Mark you calendars for our next blood drive with the American Red Cross. Friday, May 31, 2024! Schedule your appointment at:

redcrossblood.org





Matthew 3:7-12



1. Groups of people that John called a brood of vipers.
2. "Therefore bear __ worthy of ___..."
3. "And even now the __ is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the ___."
4. John said he was not worthy to carry Jesus' __.
5. "His __ fan *is* in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His __ floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the __ with unquenchable fire."

Solution: Pharisees, Sadducees; fruits, repentance; ax, fire; sandals; winnowing, threshing, chaff



Richer Than Rockefeller

One time John D. Rockefeller was one of the richest men in the world. It is said that once he was being interviewed for a newspaper article, the reporter asked: "Mr. Rockefeller, what is the secret to becoming rich?"

JDR responded, "There are three simple rules for anyone who wants to become rich: 1. Go to work early. 2. Stay at work late. 3. Find oil."

Basically, Rockefeller was saying that becoming rich included hard work...and lots of luck.

But we can have the promise of better riches than Rockefeller's spreadsheet. We can be spiritually rich!

I doubt that I will ever be known as a "rich man" by the world's standards. But I do want to be spiritually rich. If you want to be spiritually rich, too, then here is what God tells us to do: Success comes from doing things God's way.

Jesus said, "...seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these

things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:33). Seek God's kingdom and His righteousness, first. Make that a priority. Then, God will always reward us. We will be spiritually rich. God has promised.

—Larry Fitzgerald



Your Worst Sin

In no way would I ever claim to be a prophet, psychic, or prognosticator. But I can tell you what your worst sin is. Now, I know you're wondering how I know. Has someone told me that they saw you doing it? No. Have I been looking in your windows at night or following you with notebook in hand recording all that you do? Of course not. And yet I still know the very worst sin you have in your life at this very moment.

Your worst sin is the one for which you will not repent. Our worst sins can become our worst enemy in that they will keep us out of heaven (cf. Luke 13:3). John mentions that there is a sin that leads to death (1 John 5:16). This is any sin that one is living in that one is not willing to give up for Christ. By living unrepentantly in known sin, we crucify Christ all over again and, in that state, it is impossible for us to be saved (Heb. 6:6; 10:26-27).

But God wants us to come to repentance and be saved (2 Pet 3:9). He wants us to be sorrowful over our sins and to truly repent (have a change of heart) concerning them (2 Cor. 7:10). For in repenting and being baptized, all past sins are washed away (Acts 2:38; 22:16). Then, in faithfully walking the Christian life, and continually living a repentant lifestyle, Jesus' blood continues to cleanse us (Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:7-9).

Even though washed in the blood of the Lamb and even though having some noble qualities as followers of Christ, the Christians at the church at Ephesus still needed to repent. Jesus sent word to them "Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works..." (Rev. 2:5). The message rings true for us today: repent and do the first works.

Here's another important thing to note: Your best friend can take care of your worst sin. Jesus is your best friend (cf. Pro. 18:24; John 15:13), and He is the only one who can remove all your sins (Eph. 1:7; 1 John 1:9). **Cont. on Page 4...**

Continued from Page 3... Take a turn for the better by turning away from sin and turning your life over to Him, and He will turn your worst sin into something that is harmless and unreachable (1 John 3:5; Micah 7:19).

“Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord” (Acts 3:19).

—Edd Sterchi



We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise

Hebrews reads to a people who have taken their eyes off of the prize. The writer threw them a lifeline with this book as an exhortation to remain faithful, to hang in there. The sum way they accomplish this is by keeping their eyes focused on Jesus, listening intently to His message from the Father (Heb. 1:1-4; 12:1-3). At the last chapter of the book, the writer gives some very practical commands for these people to keep their eyes on Jesus. Of note, is the command given in Hebrews 13:15, “Therefore, by Him, let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.” Consider for a moment principles for consideration from this verse.

All praise we can offer to God is made possible by Jesus. All beauty in the heavens or on the earth is attributed to God by Jesus (Col. 1:16-17). Consider the goodness of the plan of salvation by God through Jesus (Jas. 1:17-18). These things were set in motion by the Father, revealed by the Spirit, but were accomplished ultimately through the willingness, obedience, and ability of the Son. By the Son, we have access to the Father in prayer, in grace, in salvation, and in praise (John 14:6; 2 Cor. 5:18-21; Heb. 13:15).

When we offer praises, we are offering sacrifices to God. Worship to God demands that we bring Him something. In fact, man is never to approach God in worship without anything to give Him. Among the sacrifices we offer are: ourselves, our generosity, our tender hearts,

Continued on Page 5...

Continued from Page 4... our finances, and our praise in word and in song (Rom. 12:1; Heb. 13:16; Psa. 51:16-17; Phil. 4:14; Heb. 13:15). Give God the very best of the fruit of our lips as sacrifice because of our Perfect Sacrifice.

Our sacrifices of praise are to be offered continually. The Old Testament priests were working continuously in offering sacrifices, because the problem of sin was never fully dealt with. When Christ came, He offered a sacrifice once for all and sat down: His work as High Priest was done forever (Heb. 10:12-13)! What greater way could we show our appreciation for the work of Jesus than to speak and sing praises for God continually?

When praises are offered to God, they are to be coupled with thanksgiving. Giving praise can be generic, but it is more meaningful when it is specific. A father can tell his child, “I’m so proud of you,” but how much more meaningful is it when the father praises something specific, “I’m so proud that you shared your toy with your sister. You’re becoming just like Jesus!” When we offer songs of praise and thanks to God, thanksgiving must be a part of our worship. The songs we sing should always tell of His excellent greatness and let Him know specifically how thankful to Him that we are to be His people and to call Him our Father. Such will keep Him near to our hearts and keep us near to His.

—Andy Baker



Journey Toward Eternity

Life is a journey toward eternity. We are on a path. “The path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day” (Proverbs 4:18). There are only two destinations (Matthew 7:13-14). This world is not our home (Hebrews 11:13-16).



Available on:
YouTube

**Scattered
Abroad
Network**



CONNECT
OUR DAILY GATHERING PLACE

facebook.com/digitalbiblestudy1

digitalbiblestudy