



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.
Ken Moran. Odell's son. Stage 4 cancer.

Special Needs

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

Need for Prayer

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.
Dixie Clifton. Health concerns.
Drew Clifton. Dixie's grandson.

Jo Anne Hairfield. Health issues.
Norman W. Hill. Health concerns.
Hester Hollandsworth. Health issues.
Matthew Hollandsworth. Health issues.
Anita Hopper. Health concerns.
Rita Lawless. Health issues.
Pete Lovell. Recovering from prostate cancer surgery.
Odell Moran. Health concerns.
Viet & Victor Nguyen. Health concerns.
Phyllis & Wayne Youngblood. Health issues.
Prayers for Caregivers.

Have You Seen Our Web Site?

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.



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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.



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What Kind of Church Should We Be?

Play a word game with me. What comes to your mind when you see or hear the word church? Do you picture a steepled building, dark wooden pews, crosses, offering plates? Do you hear hearty singing? Or does church trigger childhood memories of wiggling through sermons, playing tag on the parking lot, and Sunday school teachers telling stories about Samson and David and Daniel and, of course, Jesus?

Or do you experience again the flat taste of the bread and the sweet taste of grape juice at communion? Do you remember a particular Sunday morning when a sermon gripped you as though you were the only one in the crowd, or the day you became a Christian through baptism? Or does church bring other pictures on your mind? A wedding, funeral, evangelistic services, going forward, committee meetings, suppers served in Tupperware dishes, that time at camp when you determined God would have all of your life.

When you see the word church, do you have good feelings? Like laughter? Warmth? A quietness? Acceptance? Happiness? Awe? Love? Closeness to God? Or are your feelings negative? *Continued on Page 2...*

Continued from Cover Page ... Like boredom? Anger? Confusion? Guilt? Rejection? Does church remind you of arrogance, hostility, manipulation, anger, or irrelevance? Do you think of it as a poor substitute for a picnic or a ball game? Church dredges up memories and emotions from deep within you, doesn't it? Some are healthy, some painful, most somewhere in between.

Have you noticed that when Christians think negatively about church, they think of "them" not "I"? Church is an institution out there, a group apart from them. But we are the church, aren't we, you and me? We may have a personal faith, but it is next to impossible to have an individual faith. God did not intend for us to be Christians by ourselves, every Christian to be complete, must be a member of a body of men and women who are followers of Christ. Therefore, whether we are part of a vital, growing, glowing assembly of believers depends in some measure upon us.

When it comes to the church, our role in it and our effectiveness at being God's people, it is time to stop blaming others for our lack of personal and numerical growth. We need to put the blame where it belongs if we are not growing as we should individually and congregationally, we are to blame. If we hope to make a difference in our churches and for our churches to make a difference in the world, we need to know what a healthy church looks like and perhaps even more importantly, we need to know how sick churches can be made well.

—Brian Mitchell



'ASLSP'

Let me start off by saying that 20th century classical music is, by and large, "weird." John Cage, a late 20th century composer, wrote an 8-page organ piece called "Organ2/ASLSP." The "ASLSP" means "play it as slow as possible." Usually this organ piece takes more than an hour to complete. Yet, in 2009, an organist played the piece for 14 hours and 56 minutes. In 2022, the piece was played for over 16 hours. Not to be outdone, a custom organ was built in Halberstadt, Germany to play this piece. **"ASLSP" Continued on Page 3...**



GEORGE NEWS



March Birthday!

29TH JAYDAN PATRICK



March Anniversary

24TH TERRY & RUBY MASON



5th Sunday Potluck!

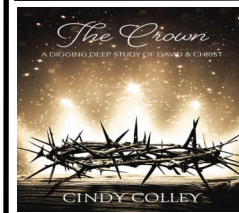
Following our morning gatherings on Sun, March 31st we will be hosting our 5th Sunday Potluck Luncheon.

Please bring your favorite dishes and desserts to share.



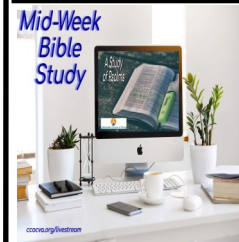
Thursday Ladies Bible Class!

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



Digging Deep Bible Study!

Our next Digging deep ladies' class is April 7th from 2-4 pm in our Fellowship Hall.



Mid-Week Virtual Bible Study!

Is on a temporary hiatus. We plan to resume on Thursday, April 4th.

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

BIBLE WORD SEARCH! Solution

C	C	B	B	M	U	A	B	N
P	B	D	E	A	C	S	L	W
E	V	I	L	T	R	S	I	I
S	E	B	I	U	O	I	D	C
M	T	U	E	D	W	M	E	K
U	R	R	V	R	N	P	P	E
A	O	I	E	T	E	L	A	D
C	O	N	S	I	D	E	R	S
T	P	R	U	D	E	N	T	S
S	V	B	U	A	C	T	S	W

ACTS CROWNED PRUDENT BELIEVES DEPARTS SIMPLE CONSIDERS EVIL WICKED

CrossWORD Solution





Matthew 3:13-17



1. Jesus came from __ to John at the __ to be baptized.
2. "And John *tried to* __ Him, saying, 'I need to be __ by You, and are You coming to me?'"
3. Jesus said His baptism was to fulfill all __.
4. "When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the __; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a __ and alighting upon Him."
5. The voice from heaven said, "This is My __ Son, in whom I am well __."

Solution: Galilee, Jordan; prevent, baptized; righteousness; water, dove; beloved, pleased

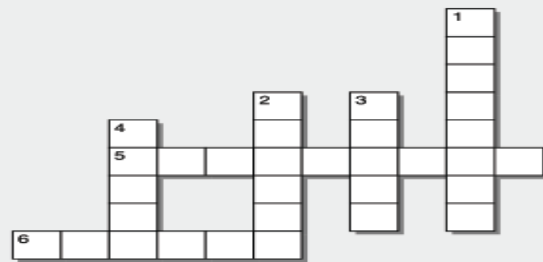
BIBLE WORD SEARCH!

Wise Decisions (Proverbs 14:15-19)

C	C	B	B	M	U	A	B	N
P	B	D	E	A	C	S	L	W
E	V	I	L	T	R	S	I	I
S	E	B	I	U	O	I	D	C
M	T	U	E	D	W	M	E	K
U	R	R	V	R	N	P	P	E
A	O	I	E	T	E	L	A	D
C	O	N	S	I	D	E	R	S
T	P	R	U	D	E	N	T	S
S	V	B	U	A	C	T	S	W

ACTS	BELIEVES	CONSIDERS
CROWNED	DEPARTS	EVIL
PRUDENT	SIMPLE	WICKED

CrossWORD



Pray for All Men

1 Timothy 2

Across

5. Kings and all who are in __.
6. __ apparel.

Down

1. There is only one __.
2. "Therefore I __ first of all..."
3. Women should be clothed with good __.
4. God desires all men to be __.

"ASLSP" Continued from Page 2... The performance on this custom organ began in 2001 and will not end until the year 2640 (an estimated 639 years). This is notable because on February 5th of this year, the organ piece changed chords for the first time in two years! How exciting for the listeners, I think.

I wonder if we treat our spiritual life and disciplines like this organ piece—"as slow as possible." When knowing that we need to change behaviors and habits, we want to hold on to the old just a little longer and try to milk the patience of God in not changing right now (cf. 2 Peter 3:9).

I wonder if we don't look at the end of our faith and move with urgency and diligence to get to that end of being spiritually mature, thus we move "as slow as possible" (cf. Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Peter 1:3-8).

I wonder if we treat church work as elders, deacons, preachers, and members as if it is not imperative to move with purpose and so churches end up moving "as slow as possible." One preacher described the church work where he was as, "waiting on snails" (cf. Romans 12:10-13).

I wonder if we treat the church's obligation to reach the lost as something that can happen tomorrow and so we end up moving "as slow as possible." We treat our friends and neighbors, family, and coworkers as an "I'll-get-around-to-sharing-the-gospel-with-them-sometime" prospect and therefore we procrastinate until it's too late (cf. 2 Cor. 6:1-2).

The God of Heaven is, of course, not John Cage. What He tells us to do, He tells us to do "diligently, urgently, fervently, zealously" because there IS an end coming. The hour is late. What we spend so much time lazily approaching, God counsels us, compels us, and implores us to get busy doing, growing, and maturing (2 Peter 3:18; Revelation 22:20).

—Andy Baker





Are We Like Christ? By: Harry Middleton

Some years ago, Brother G. F. Raines wrote about a young Buddhist who had made a very careful study of the life of our Lord said to a Christian: "Your Christ is wonderful, oh, so wonderful; but you Christians, you are not like him." Could it be that the Christian was left speechless by the accusation, because the force of the young Buddhist's remark lies in the fact that he almost "hit the nail on the head"?

Christ was a prayerful man (Luke 6:12); but too many "Christians" pray either infrequently or not at all. If we were like Christ, we would continue "instant in prayer" (Romans 12:12).

Christ came "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10); but do we "Christians" lose any sleep because of the impending fate of the lost?

Christ's primary concern was his "Father's business" (Luke 2:49); but the work of the Lord is the thing about which many "Christians" are least concerned.

Christ had no place "to lay his head" (Matthew 8:20); but too many "Christians" are so fond of luxuries that they will not contribute liberally for the propagation of God's will.

Christ fervently prayed that Christians might be "made perfect in one" (John 17:23; cf. 11:20-22); but too many "Christians" bite, devour and consume one another.

A certain lady accurately expressed what real Christianity is when she said: "Christianity is putting Christ on inside, then letting him show on the outside."



You Cannot Out-Give God

Our attitude will improve toward giving when we realize you cannot out-give God (Mark 10:28-30). Here Christ is talking about an investment that yields a return of 10,000%. We give and God blesses (Prov. 11:25). *Cont. on Page 5...*

Continued from Page 4... We need to understand that God owns it all (Hag. 2:8; Deut. 8:18; Psa. 50:10; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; Eze. 18:4) and that we have been made stewards (Luke 16:10). As a steward I am to make decisions based upon what the owner wants me to do. If I ignore the owner, I place myself in a position of owner.

A preacher noticed a little girl in a department store with her face pressed up against the glass at the candy counter. It was obvious that she longed for some of the candy. The preacher gave the clerk some money and instructed the sales clerk to give the girl some candy. When the little girl received the candy she stuffed her mouth full of it. Then the preacher asked if he might have a piece of candy. Immediately the girl clutched the bag and ran out of the store shouting, "it's mine, it's mine!" We often talk of "our money," "our house" or "our car." It is difficult for us to grasp the concept that it all belongs to God.



Forgiving Those Who Sin Against Us

There are those who are going to hurt us. But as Christians we are not to hold grudges, for these become heavy weights to pull us down and away from God. In the "Lord's Prayer," Jesus taught us to ask God for forgiveness as we have forgiven those who sin against us" (Matthew 6:15).

If we are to be like Him, we must have a forgiving spirit. This should be our spirit, the spirit of love which made Christ say on the cross, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34). If Jesus could forgive those who falsely accused him and spit upon him, and nailed spikes into his hands and feet, surely, we should forgive those who mistreat us.

In this world of turmoil and tears, we often find that we are mistreated by those who should care for us. We see anger, fear, lies, jealousy, and cruel mistreatment from those we should love and trust. However, Jesus calls us to forgive these people. And, in forgiving, we will find our lives are blessed by the God who said: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy" (Matthew 5:7).
—Larry Fitzgerald

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