

October 16, 2016



HIGHWAY 32 MESSENGER

Highway 32 Church of Christ
1688 Tri-County Highway
P.O. Box 642
Williamsburg, OH, 45176
www.highway32coc.com

Elders
Lowell Smith
Frank Norvell
Minister
Marc Curfman
(513) 553-3703

Sunday Bible Class 10:00AM
Sunday Morning Assembly 11:00AM
Sunday Evening Assembly 6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study 7:30PM

Privileged to Serve

Announcements: Lowell Smith
Song Leader: Tom Mayes
Prayer: Caleb Watkins
Lord's Table: Les Smith
Assist: Jeremy Schrunk
 Harley Carrothers
 Rich Book
Scripture Reading: Alex Watkins
Sermon: Marc Curfman
Closing Prayer: Frank Glover
Song Leader Evening: Lowell Smith

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	39	38
Morn. Assembly	66	67
Sun Eve.	32	29
Wed. Study	14	19
Contribution	\$1359.00	\$1476.00

"you shall be My witnesses..." Acts 1:8

We live in an age of more technology, more tools and resources that can be used for evangelism than ever before. No Bible class today seems complete without some electronic help. Churches broadcast services, Bible studies are offered on the internet and lessons can be listened to while traveling to and from work. Yet no one should ever think that the face to face, one on one witness to the Gospel is a thing of the past. God's greatest and most powerful tool has always been and will always be you.

With all the modern advancements, nothing can present truth better than God's people. As imperfect as we are, we are still God's first choice for sharing the Gospel. Remember that road to Damascus? Although our Lord Himself confronted Saul through a miraculous vision and display, Saul was told to go to the city and it would be told him what he must do. Faith in Christ was not complete until the man Ananias entered Saul's life and shared the message of hope.

Cornelius received visions from God, Yet the Holy Spirit did not share the message. Instead, this Roman Centurion sent for that fisherman called Peter. The Spirit compelled Philip to run to the Ethiopian and explain the passage he was reading. In fact, there is not one case of someone in the Book of Acts coming to faith and obedience without a face to face encounter with a man or woman of faith.

You would think that our Lord's meeting Saul would have been superior to anything that Ananias could do, or that the Holy Spirit would be better to teach that first Gentile convert than that Galilean fisherman. Why trust the future of the great evangelist Apollos to a husband and wife team of tent makers? Yet it was and still is today God's choice that people hear the gospel from your lips rather than a miracle or technological gismo.

Go ahead and plug into the latest electronic help, print the most professional brochures or invitations. Hang that well designed banner in front of your building but first and foremost, be that witness of faith and hope.

John 3:16 tells us that God so loved the world that he gave the world His Son. In Matthew 28:18-20 that same Lord and Savior lets us know that he so loves the world that He sends you. Ever since the beginning, God has used people to share the message. People need to see how God has changed our lives and how we trust in Him with all our being.

Our success has never depended on things but on people. Jesus, in Luke 10:2 said; ***"beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers."*** Notice we are not told to ask for better sickles or more modern tractors but more laborers.

Time and again, Jesus instructed those whose lives he touched to go and tell what the Lord had done for them. The purpose today remains the same. We are those who go and tell what God has done for us. It isn't necessary that all of us travel afar to share the word but it is imperative that all of us speak a good word for Jesus.

marc

Welcome to Highway 32 Church,

We are a group of Christians worshipping God according to the Teaching in the New Testament. May we all worship our loving Father today with sincere hearts, open and receptive to His Spirit and His love.

October Teachers

Pre-K thru 3rd Jessica Mayes
4th- 6th Myrna Smith

Sunday Morning Adult classes:
Tom Mayes

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury



October Teacher:
Sue Curfman



**Building & Communion
October
Steve & Donna Wright**

Note: Children will go to Bible Hour during the song before the morning lesson. Children ages 2 thru the 6th grade may attend.

Sermon notes: The Heart of God – Choosing a Master

One of the great debates among Christian groups is that between salvation by grace or salvation by works. It is not a new debate but goes back to the first century church. Yet as you read the New Testament; Romans and Galatians in particular, you see that there are serious flaws on both sides of the issue. Perhaps the greatest failure is in that both arguments center on a system of religion whereas God focuses on relationship between Himself and us. He is our God, our Lord, our Father, and our Savior. It is not a topic of debate that we must seek but a relationship with our God.

There are those verses we seem to pick and choose depending on our stand on doctrine; Eph. 2:8-9 on grace and faith. James 2 on works as a necessity. Scriptures on faith, belief, baptism, works and deeds are throughout the New Testament and people pick which one suits their position. Far too often, both sides seem to fail to recognize that God's central concern is unity, a bonding and the relationship. What was lost in the Garden is what God calls us back to reclaim; to walk with God (1 John 1:7)

Our joy, our hope, and our purpose is found not in a set of regulations but in a walk with our Lord. (1 John 1:1-4). It isn't that the commands do not matter but that in truth, the commands are the path to that relationship and bond with God.

It is a matter of choosing who or what will be your Master. You cannot serve two (Luke 16:13).

The Greatest Command is one we must constantly refer back to as we live the life of faith. ***"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart... 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself."*** (Matt. 22:36-40).

God calls us not to a religion but a marriage. To favor anything or anyone over that marriage to God is to break the bond of marriage (Luke 16:18). God will not take second place. (Mark 8:36-38).

Each of us must choose what matters most in our lives. We must choose a master. Only when that relationship with God as Savior and Jesus as our Lord is made can we find hope, purpose and joy now and forever.

Choose not a religion but a relationship. Choose the Lord as your Master. In such, choose to believe and to obey. Choose life.

October Birthdays

10/1 Mary Parker
10/2 Bob Parker
10/5 Bristyn Simpson
10/8 Lynn Prickett
10/10 Carol Basham
10/18 Donna Beard

October Anniversaries

10/3 Elmer/Jean Wilkey
10/8 Jason/Leah Simpson
10/14 Chris/Stefanie Hahn

Prayers: Huey Jones is at home recovering from knee replacement surgery. Joyce Norvell is home recovering from her broken foot. Carol Basham will have her 2nd knee replacement surgery 10/31/16. Wesley Baldwin, Judy Paul's brother in-law is having treatments for cancer. Elmer Wilkey's neighbor, Troy Strode passed away last week, remember their family.

Continue to remember: Mark Book, Joe Cassinelli, Mary Chapman, Megan Chapman, Mary Carrothers, Josh Cornett, Karen Creamer, Ray Curfman, Sara Davis, Maralah Morgan, Clayton Wagner, Laura Wilkey, Our church family.

"The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much."