

October 9, 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: Ron Smith
Song Leader: Lowell Smith
Prayer: Frank Glover
Lord's Table: Don Salisbury
Assist: Larry Paul
 Steve Wright
 Tom Wright
Scripture Reading: Daniel Beard
Sermon: Marc Curfman
Closing Prayer: Harley Carrothers

Song Leader Evening: Ron Smith

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	38	40
Morn. Assembly	67	74
Sun Eve.	29	27
Wed. Study	19	15
Contribution	\$1476.00	\$1339.00

The Gospel According to You

Salvation Army evangelist, Gypsy Smith once said; *“There are five Gospels; Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and the Christian, and some people will never read the first four.”* I believe that may be truer today than ever before. Fewer and fewer people know the word of God or even consider the Bible relevant to the world we live in. Another unfortunate truth is that the example of Christian lives that they may encounter may cause them to confirm in their own minds that Christianity holds no answers for what matters in this life.

You and I have our religion and our doctrinal teachings along with a list of rules and regulations. God’s will in all areas of faith is vital. It was Jesus Himself who said; *“Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.”* (Matt. 5:17). Yet to reduce faith in God to a mere list of rules is to do injustice both to the Gospel and to those searching for hope. What we need to ask ourselves is do we also have Good News?

When Jesus announced his presence in our world, he did so by quoting Scripture. From the book of Isaiah, Jesus read; *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set free those who are oppressed, To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord.”* (Luke 4:18-19) From that day forward, Jesus didn’t just talk about it, he lived the Good News each and every day of his life.

Those were exciting times. Yes, there were miracles performed by the Son of God as never before. Yet it was also the birth of a new way of life where people mattered. Not just some people but all people. Beggars, blind, poor, rejected and outcast found a community where their lives were considered precious. It may have started with the “Gospel” story but it grew exponentially throughout the world. People, who never saw a miracle, never heard the voice of this Jesus gravitated to this Gospel message. But I don’t think it was those rules, regulations and commandments that changed lives. As radical as it may seem, I don’t think it was even the message of hope or the cross that turned the world upside down. Instead, it was the messengers of this Gospel. People heard the right words, contemplated the teachings but time and again, what seemed to make the difference, what caused people to stop and consider this new religion was the people who lived that message.

We are not mere couriers of the message of God. We embody hope in our own lives, our own values and our own words and actions. Paul reminds us *“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels.”* (2 Cor. 4:7) We are those who have been changed by the Gospel. Such change must be on display for all to see. *“Now no one after lighting a lamp covers it over with a container, or puts it under a bed; but he puts it on a lampstand, so that those who come in may see the light.”* (Luke 8:16)

Our modern world seems to insist that we keep our religion private, and to ourselves. And many Christians find this the easier path to take. No conflict, no controversy and no rejection. Yet if you truly do believe in the Gospel found in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, then you also need to help the world believe in the Gospel found in you.

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: A Man After God's Own Heart

One of the most perplexing characters in all of Scripture is King David. Although he is the great hero of the nation of Israel and the sweet singer of Israel, who wrote so many psalms, his life is also riddled with contradictions and flaws. His sins are shocking. Still, God repeatedly in His word tells us that David was a man after His own heart. (1 Sam. 13:14; 16:7, Acts 7:46...)

What is distinctively different about David is that in spite of his sins, flaws and imperfections, David loved God more than anything else. David turned to God in times of struggles and blessings. David attributed all success to God and all failures to himself.

Facing the giant, David relies on God (1 Sam. 17). Confronted by his failure as a leader, he finally stops and "strengthens himself in the Lord (1 Sam. 30:6). When administering justice, David does not listen to the majority or reason with men, he turns to God's heart for guidance (1 Sam. 30:23).

When David repented of the horrors of his sin, his concern is first and foremost his relationship with God (Ps. 51). When God took even the life of David's son, he begged God in prayer in fasting to relent. But in the end, he worshipped God even in the depths of sorrow. (2 Sam. 12:20)

You and I live in a world that seeks its own. Even religious speakers preach a Gospel that will give you all you want and need. God is seen by most as a God who punishes the bad and rewards the good. God is to be feared and obeyed. What most fail to understand is that hope is not in a law or action or prayer or ritual. Salvation is found in the heart of God as we walk with God. Hope is anchored in fellowship with God.

Far too many see salvation as a set of rules that help you choose the right door at the end of life. Scripture teaches us that salvation is found in loving God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength (Matt. 22:37).

We walk in the light of God and forgiveness is only natural. (1 John 1:7). But salvation is first and foremost a relationship and love of God. It is what you truly desire that matters. When your desire is the heart of God, nothing else matters.

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 10/30/16. Wesley Baldwin, Judy Paul's brother in-law is having treatments for cancer.

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."