



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, Morris Wright
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 Frank Norvell
 Song Leader Bruce Curfman
 Prayer Rich Book
 Lord's Table Assist Lowell Smith
 Steve Wright
 Harley Carrothers
 Ashton Hutchinson

Sermon: Marc Curfman

Closing Prayer: Don Salisbury

Song Leader Evening: Ashton Hutchinson

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	36	28
Morn. Assembly	58	52
Sun Eve.	21	30
Wed. Study	27	17
Contribution	\$1042.00	\$1357.00

"I want to know Christ"

For some reason, there are some people who fail to see the conflict between belief and desire. Although in their minds, they may believe that Jesus is the Christ, in their hearts, they do not choose Him as Lord. These are people who know the right path yet they choose to ignore it. Such ones follow a belief that as long as you know the truth, nothing else matters. With the right understanding of doctrinal issues, they are convinced that their hope is secure because intellectually, they believe that Jesus is the Son of God. Like a student who has the correct answers on the test, they feel that such insight is all one needs to be saved.

Scripture repeatedly recognizes this dichotomy between belief and desire. Cain offered a sacrifice to God but he did not seem at all to be motivated by generosity or thanksgiving. Instead, it seemed to be an offering of begrudged obligation. He believed in God (in fact, he conversed with God) but his desire was not God. Balaam spoke for God as a prophet yet avarice was his true lord. Then there is Sampson, who fought God's enemies but he himself seemed constantly drawn to them in his heart. He is known to have been with three different women, each from the enemy's camp. In every case, regardless of their public declaration of faith, the desires of their hearts ultimately destroyed what could have been.

In Acts 8, a magician named Simon sees the miracles of Philip, hears the preaching of the Gospel and he along with many others believes and is baptized. Yet upon later seeing James and John impart the gifts of the Spirit to others, Simon offers them money as a bribe to also receive this heavenly authority. Peter rebukes Simon because Simon's old nature had returned. He believed the Gospel but wanted fame and power. In his mind he knew the truth and believed but his heart was still in love with the world.

Today we need to remind ourselves that faith is about more than knowledge and understanding. Faith that fails to consume your heart is empty and worthless. It is James who reminds us; ***"You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless?"*** James 2:19-20.

The follower of Christ knows the truth but also believes the message and wants Jesus as Lord. As Paul said; ***"that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead."*** Phil. 3:10-11.

The word Paul uses for 'to know' expresses more than just an acquaintance with information. *ἰσχυροῦς* (*Ginosko*) refers to an intimate knowledge. It speaks of relationship and not just information.

In a world with so many conflicting doctrines and teachings, let us stand for the truth but never believe that that saving truth could ever exist apart from the heart and the life lived for our God. We along with Paul choose to know Christ intimately. Such knowledge only comes from walking with Christ, listening to His voice and sharing his life. May you know all the right answers and have a firm understanding of the information found in God's word but above all of that, may you and I have that fellowship with our Lord. May your deepest desire be the glory of God. Choose the faith that is true and don't forget to bring along your heart.

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.

April Teachers

Pre- K thru 5th Sue Curfman

Youth

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Lowell Smith

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury



April Teacher:
Sheila Gelter



Building & Communion
Month of April

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

Congratulations to Yvonne Glover on her decision to be baptized last Sunday night.

Sermon Notes: - Colossians 3. Living the Resurrection

This day much of the world remembers the empty tomb of Jesus. It is a day of friends and family, good food and celebration. That empty tomb so many years ago is the source of our hope and our forgiveness.

Yet forgiveness is a word not always well understood. Forgiveness assumes a guilt. Guilt is not a word most embrace. We are quick to say; "don't judge me!" Yet if there is to be forgiveness, first we must accept our guilt.

The abhorrence of guilt dates back even to the garden. When confronted by God, Adam quickly passed the blame ***"The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me..."*** Gen. 3:11-12.

For forgiveness to enter our lives, we must lower our excuses, face the truth and accept our guilt. Not in some casual statement but one that understands that with guilt come consequences. ***"All sin and fall short of the glory of God."*** Rom. 3:23. And ***"Your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God."*** Is. 59:2.

The empty grave give us hope for living the life of the resurrection. But it starts with that confession of sin (Acts 2:22-24.)

Col. 3:1-4 calls us who have believed to also embrace the message of the empty tomb. We too have been raised with Christ. We seek that which is above. For the child of God, belief in the empty tomb calls us to life the resurrection.

"Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry" Col. 3:5.

"So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity." Col. 3:12-14.

For God's people, the empty tomb is a call to not just believe in the resurrection but to live the resurrection even here today.

March Birthdays

3/29 Graci Book

April Birthdays

4/8 Caleb Watkins

4/11 Brandon Benton

4/13 Lucille Smith

4/18 Annie Norvell & Harley Carrothers

4/19 Yvonne Glover

4/25 Karen Smith

4/26 Josh Mercer

4/29 Lindsey Smith

April Anniversaries

4/17 Steve/Donna Wright

4/18 Brian/Amy Wright

Prayers: Juanita Benton is having heart rhythm issues. Carol Basham is home recovering from knee replacement surgery. Nancy Cassinelli's son, Tony has had a procedure to clear his arteries.

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."