

# HIGHWAY 32 MESSENGER

**Highway 32 Church of Christ**  
 1688 Tri-County Highway  
 P.O. Box 642  
 Williamsburg, OH, 45176  
[www.highway32coc.com](http://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          | Tom Mayes  |
| Prayer               | Lowell Smith   |
| Lord's Table Assist  | Don Salisbury<br>Alex Watkins<br>Frank Glover<br>Caleb Watkins |
| Sermon:              | Marc Curfman   |
| Closing Prayer:      | Harley Carrothers  |
| Song Leader Evening: | Bruce Curfman  |

**Attendance**

|                | Last Week | Week Before |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|
| Sun. Bible     | 41        | 36          |
| Morn. Assembly | 67        | 66          |
| Sun Eve.       | 31        | 31          |
| Wed. Study     | 19        | 15          |
| Contribution   | \$1028.00 | \$1480.00   |

**Truth beyond the Classroom**

*"I don't believe in organized religion. I believe in a higher power of some sort, but I don't need church."* That was what one man told me recently. I have my pockets filled with responses to such statements. I can show what Scripture teaches about the right church. I can show who God is through prophecy and comparing world religions. I can prove that the church is part of God's salvation. But I merely smiled and hoped for another opportunity in the future to have a conversation with this man.

You see, this man's problem with God is not really seen in that statement of his. This man's problem is he feels failed by both God and religion. As a boy, his mother died of breast cancer when he so desperately needed a mother. As a young man, his young bride passed away, leaving him to struggle with the children alone. At this time, he is doing pretty good in his life. Things are back to ok. But where was God when he needed him and what good did all that religion do when life was falling apart?

There are times when our standard, memorized answers can be completely true and correct but powerless to penetrate the heart of those to whom we speak. In fact, had I not previously talked casually to this man, I would have no idea what his real issue was with religion. His statement that appeared snub and self-assured was really one of deep struggle over a long period of time.

Although truth, doctrine and correct religion are important, life is about more than that. God is about more than that. Faith must matter not just when all is good but when your whole world seems to be unraveling around you. Our standard doctrinal arguments often fail at the greatest need; the heart. We want to explain the unexplainable. We tell the doubter to just believe or the sad to just rejoice or the fearful to be brave. What people often need is for you and I to have mercy on that doubter and for us to walk with them, showing quiet faith. The Sad do not need a lecture but comfort and an embrace. The fearful need assurance not just in a quote from the word, but when they see you walking in the fire in confidence.

One of the greatest answers to those harder questions of life is your own life, living there with the weak, the confused, the angry, the hurt and the lost. When people see you involved in their lives, going through the same assaults of Satan yet you trust God, then arguments and debates are won without a word. Yes, the time will come for that doctrine and truth. Such is our anchor. But maybe in the battle for souls, we need to first place our heart in the middle of that battlefield before we just shout out answers.

Jesus came in the flesh to die for us. He also came in the flesh to live among us.

***"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth."*** (John 1:14) John says that what he saw was glory, full of grace and truth. What John saw was the very heart of God on dusty roads and crowded streets, in homes or during a long night in a garden. John saw the heart of God among the sick, the broken, the angry and the sad.

Study and know God's truth. If you fail at this you are like a dull sword, worthless for God's battle. But when you go off to win souls for eternity, to rescue the perishing, don't forget to bring your heart. How else will you be able to understand the hearts of others? How else will you be able to see the real struggles in other's hearts unless your heart lives among them?

*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.

### June Teachers

Pre- K thru 5<sup>th</sup> Sue Curfman

Youth: Tom Mayes

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Lowell Smith

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury



June Teacher:  
Karen Smith



Building & Communion  
Month of June  
Tom/Jessica Mayes

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

Thank you for all those who helped with the food for the Wright family during this difficult time.

### Sermon notes: To Worship

Far too often, what we call worship is little more than manmade traditions. With or without the best of intentions, what we need is not our opinions or wants but God's guidance, direction, command and design. To command men to follow our wants and wishes is to violate God's authority (Matt. 15:1-9).

So what is worship? Rather than turn to Webster's Dictionary, we must turn to God's word. In Hebrew there are two principle words used for "worship": *shâchâh* - to bow down and *'âbad* - to serve. *shâchâh* being the principle word. Although we see rituals, sacrifices, prayers and singing, the idea is a heart and life that surrenders to God. (Isaiah 29:13; Psalm 51:16-17).

Although as Christians we no longer worship in the temple, neither can we consider worship whatever we choose to do. We must worship God in spirit and in truth (John 4:20-24)

The New Testament Greek words for worship reflect the same emphasis of those of the Hebrew Old Testament. *proskuneō* is also to bow down (Rev. 22:8-9) and *latreia* is to give divine service (Rom. 12:1-2). Yet neither of these are used specifically concerning our Sunday assemblies. We are the temple of God individually (1 Cor. 6:19-20) and corporately (1 Cor. 3:16-17). To see an hour on Sunday as worship is to ignore the command to bow down with our lives on a daily basis as we honor God in all we do.

We do not meet on the Sabbath as the Law of Moses commanded (Col. 2:16-17, Gal. 4:10) But we meet on the Lord's Day, Sunday, the first day of the week. Our Lord was raised on the first day of the week. That day was soon referred to as "the Lord's Day" (Rev. 1:10).

Although there is no direct recorded commandment, we see the scriptural practice in the New Testament (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:2). It is when we assemble to partake of the Lord's Supper, when we listen to God's word taught, sing and pray and take up our offerings. Although Christians can gather any day they wish (Acts 2:46) The Lord's day, the first day of the week is God's design that we stop and come together to praise our Lord. So we do not forsake our assembling but encourage one another as we gather each Lord's Day to break bread, sing, pray, encourage and devote ourselves to one another and to our Lord. (Heb. 10:25)

### June Birthdays

6/1 Savana Beard  
6/4 Bruce Curfman  
6/4 Makenzie Hahn

### May Anniversaries

5/30 Ron/Myrna Smith

### June Anniversaries

6/3 Frank/Yvonne Glover  
6/21 Cotton/Marian Blakley  
6/22 Joe/Sandra Sena  
6/24 Carl/Donna Beard  
6/25 Lowell/Karen Smith

Prayers: Karen Smith's coworker, Christian Jet is 31 weeks pregnant and doctors may have to take the baby early.

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."*