

January 22, 2017



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: Frank Norvell
Song Leader: Lowell Smith
Prayer: Alan Springer
Lord's Table: Don Salisbury
Assist: Larry Paul
 Harley Carrothers
 Steve Wright
Sermon: Blair Schroder
Closing Prayer: Bob Parker
PM Song Leader: Bruce Curfman

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	37	38
Morn. Assembly	64	62
Sun Eve.	23	25
Wed. Study	14	15
Contribution	\$1156.00	\$1274.00

The Want of Faith

One of the greatest misnomers in Scripture is found in the average person's understanding of the fall from the Garden in Genesis 3. We all know the story (although I don't know why people think it was an apple). God commanded the man and the woman to eat of any tree they desired except the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. They disobeyed and the fall of man for all generations ensued. But what really was the horrible sin committed? Was it their disobedience of a regulation? Was it the act of eating that forbidden fruit? Centuries later in the book of Romans, Paul reflects on that sin in the Garden and the fall of all of mankind. **"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned."** (Rom. 5:12)

So what really was that sin? It was the failure to trust, the failure to believe that God's way was and is what is needed. It is the sin of the want of faith. Eve and Adam trusted what they could see at that very moment. They trusted in their own reasoning and desires. It was not a random test case of obedience. Their disobedience was the core or root of the entire relationship with God. Today, when we sin, is it really any different? Is not our sin also a rejection of God's wisdom, God's providence and God's love?

God has clearly revealed to us in His word that holiness is the fruit of truth; and it is one of the plainest inferences from that principle, that the exhibition of the truth is the best means of promoting holiness. God's way is truth. Such is what Jesus explains in John 8 when he declared; **"If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."** John 8:31-32. Fulfillment of life only occurs when we live God's design, God's truth. And there is no better way to convince the world of truth than for the world to see the holy results of living that path. To be a Christian is not about a list of rules and rituals in and of themselves. Instead, walking and living according to God's truth brings about a holiness that affirms our relationship with God and affirms our faith.

The want or lack of faith is seldom felt to be a great sin. Yet it is the greatest sin of all. As David repents of his horrible godless acts that involved lust, adultery, and a plot of murder, he mentions none of these. Instead, David bows before the heavens and declares; **"For I know my transgressions, And my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, I have sinned And done what is evil in Your sight,"** Ps. 51:3-4. David is not making light of his actions nor is he ignoring them but he is recognizing where his trouble began. His lack of faith in God's ways, his failure to hold firmly to that relationship with God is where all trouble and destruction began.

The rich young ruler was so much like most people today. When he asked; **"Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may obtain eternal life?"** Matt. 19:16. For him, it was all about rules and even he recognized that rules alone were not enough. Jesus, seeing the man's troubled heart told him to sell all and follow. The man left sorrowfully because of his great wealth. Yet what was Jesus calling him to do? Jesus was calling him to repent of the sin of the want of faith.

In our world today, with all the rapidly changing views and opinions, the reinterpreting of what is right and wrong, is it really any different? Are we too not dying for the want of faith? Truly, there is no greater sin than the want of faith.

"However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:8.
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.

January Teachers

Pre-K thru 3rd

4th- 6th Kacie Smith

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Tom Mayes

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury



January Teacher:

Sue Curfman



Building & Communion

January
Les/Lashanda
Smith

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

Ladies Class/Breakfast - Mark your calendars for Saturday January 28th for 9:30am.

We are in need of a Bible Hour Teacher for the month of February. See Sue

Sermon notes:

January Birthdays

1/4 Les Smith
1/8 Sue Curfman
1/21 Tom Mayes
1/22 Juanita Benton
1/26 Makayla Paul
1/28 Jenni Book

January Anniversaries

1/02 Tom/Jessica Mayes

Prayers: Our upcoming year and how we can serve our Lord. Karen Smith's treatment for her breast cancer. Juanita is still recovering from her jaw surgery. Mary Carrother's niece, Heather has had a double mastectomy.

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."