

July 2, 2017



HIGHWAY 32 MESSENGER

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

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

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

Privileged to Serve

Announcements: Frank Norvell
Song Leader: Lowell Smith
Prayer: Jeremy Schunk
Lord's Table: Don Salisbury
Harley Carrothers
Larry Paul
Les Smith
Sermon: Blair Schroder
Closing Prayer: Bob Parker
PM Song Leader: Ron Smith

Attendance

| | Last Week | Week Before |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|
| Sun. Bible | 36 | 38 |
| Morn. Assembly | 67 | 61 |
| Sun Eve. | 20 | 23 |
| Wed. Study | 18 | 18 |
| Contribution | \$1287.00 | \$1227.00 |

The Abundant life and the Voice of God

John 10:10 is a verse that comes to my mind so often in describing the Gospel. Jesus seems to shout out as he says; ***"I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."*** Truly, that is what Christianity is all about. No better choice could be had than that of following Christ. It isn't so much a life untroubled or without conflict or hurt. Such things are the realities of life on this planet, that is; life until one day we go home. In the eternal home there is no sickness nor dying nor darkness. Yet Paul, Peter, James, Stephen, Lydia, and so many others heard the call of Christ and confirmed that to follow Christ is the abundant life in every day they lived. Paul even goes as far as to say that in comparison, this world only offers rubbish. The treasure is in walking with Christ. (Phil. 3:8).

Yet if you opened your own Bible and read John 10:10, you noticed that I skipped over the first part. The entire verse reads; ***"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."*** ^{John 10:10.} Jesus refers not to many thieves but to one; Satan. A character often ignored or even denied in our modern culture. Yet this thief is so well embedded into our world and culture today. He offers so much but destroys so many. He comes in the form of religion, or the form of wealth, or security, or power, or fame. We find this thief in our political system, in our schools, and even in our homes. One thief. Countless avenues. It is perhaps his subtlety that is the most disturbing. Everyone recognizes the danger of the thief in crimes such as robbery or murder. We all know just how destructive he can be in fits of rage or unbridled passions. Where we often fail to see the danger is in our simple decisions of life.

A father may bring home a paycheck to support the family but does he also bring home his self-loathing for all to see and hear? A girl may be able to quote scriptures to her friends but does her gossiping tongue belittle or judge unfairly? One might attend church regularly, yet be known as divisive and quarrelsome. Maybe our spiritual fervor is seen in the break room but on the work site or office cubical that "saint" is known to be lazy or slothful.

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy;" And is so often the case with Satan, you do not notice the damage until it is far too late. Such destruction usually comes years or even decades later as we wonder where we went wrong in our family or why do I feel so lonely or useless. Often, in our semi allegiance to God we ask; How could this happen? I was faithful. I went to church. I even tithed on a regular basis.

I truly believe that the thief does some of his most creative work, not on a battlefield or movie studio, not at the nightclub or some dark alley. His most creative and destructive work is often as he convinces the so-called religious that we can be faithful on the outside without surrendering the inside. I believe Jesus used the term; ***"whitewashed tombs."*** ^{Matt. 23:27.} So deceptive was it that such religious people even deceived themselves.

The abundant life Jesus calls us to rejects completely the ways of the thief. In that same lesson, Jesus tells how the sheep know his voice. (John 10:1-7). Therein is our greatest challenge. We must be sure that the voice we hear is the voice of Christ, not the voice of this world, the voice of false promises and the voice of the thief. I cannot stress it enough. If you and I are bombarded by the voice of this world minute by minute but fail to take time to listen to God's word, study God's word and know God's word, then soon the voice of the thief will seduce our hearts. The abundant life follows the voice of God.

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.

July Teachers

Pre-K thru 3rd Myrna Smith
4th- 6th Ann Shanklin

Sunday Morning Adult classes:
Ron Smith

Young people's class: Tom Mayes

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury



July Teacher:
Kacie Smith



Building & Communion

Ron & Myrna Smith

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

VBS Youth group will arrive July 15-21. We will be serving food to them as last year. Myrna Smith has put up a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the back for volunteers to help.

Ladies Breakfast/Class - Saturday, July 29th - 9:30am - Teacher: Ann Shanklin

Sermon Notes:

July Anniversaries

7/2 Tom/Becky Wright
7/12 Steve/Teri Gilliam

July Birthdays

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 7/1 Frank Norvell | 7/15 Lyman Smith | 7/15 Kellie Wright |
| 7/16 Heather Nash | 7/17 Jean Wilkey | 7/18 Don Salisbury |
| 7/25 Elmer Wilkey | 7/26 Carl Beard | 7/27 Nancy Cassinelli |
| 7/31 Ray Curfman | | |

Prayers: Jean Glass/Karen Smith/Donna Beard/Toni Layman's treatment with cancer. Megan Chapman continues to receive chemo-therapy for leukemia. Annie Norvell is at home recovery from a broken foot. She will be in a cast for 1 more week. Nancy Cassinelli's daughter Mary is in the hospital.

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."