

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: Frank Glover
 Lord's Table: Tom Mayes
 Les Smith
 Caleb Watkins
 Bruce Curfman
 Sermon: Marc Curfman
 Closing Prayer: Jeremy Schunk
 PM Song Leader: Alex Watkins

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	44	30
Morn. Assembly	76	60
Sun Eve.	27	25
Wed. Study	19	17
Contribution	\$1449.00	\$1491.00

Faithful

It was a good day. The weather was nice. The thunderstorm the night before passed without incident, at least at my house. I did hear of homes that were flooded about an hour's drive from away. My bills are all paid up for now and the news is on the TV told by a well dressed journalist as he speaks of the terrors that have taken place in other places or lands but not here. Dinner was being prepared and I had a few minutes so I opened my Bible, sat on the comfortable couch and read a chapter of God's word.

I read Mark 13. A difficult passage to decipher with all the references of the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. and other references to the end of the ages and the second coming of our Lord. But what is not difficult to understand is the intense suffering and fears that took place in those days; fear for those who are with child, the loss of homes and any physical security, and the absolute abandonment of all that we normally hold dear in order to merely survive. The warning of our Lord after all of this shocking prediction is simple; ***"What I say to you I say to all, 'Be on the alert!'"*** Mark 13:37.

I think it is vital that we today examine the depths of our own faith. Perhaps there will be some epic struggle of faith, perhaps life will be peaceful. Regardless, believers must have that same anchor of faith as others throughout the century have had in the most devastating of struggles for the kingdom. Will we stand firm with Christ or will we choose the temporal promises of this world?

Paul wrote; ***"neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*** Rom. 8:38-39.

Such cannot just be words memorized but must be convictions of the heart and soul.

Is our brand of Christianity just a spiritual wish list for life here on earth or do we truly take up our own cross and follow? How will you respond to such challenges of life? It starts today as you honor Jesus as Lord. We will not wait until someday to live for Christ and die to this world. We must see our faith in our lives even now in the calm if we hope to weather the storm. Look at your prayers. What is it that you see? See your faith in how you schedule your day. See your faith in your wallet or purse. See your faith in how you respond when challenged by even the most subtle of temptations. Daily walk by faith and not by sight 2 Cor. 5:7. So go ahead and enjoy that cup of coffee and that comfortable couch but at the same time, ***"Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself..."*** Phil. 2:5-8. We seem to love to talk about faith. Maybe we need to also talk about that even more dangerous word; "Faithful."

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.

August 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



August Teacher:
Sue Curfman



Building & Communion

Don Salisbury

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 will be Saturday 8/26/17 at 9:30am.

Former Members Mary Crist passed away in June and her husband Richard Crist has terminal cancer. Two years after Highway 32 was established Mary and Richard became members. If you would like to send him a card; 2310 Kingston Pike Circlevile, OH 43113

Sermon Notes: Romans 8:31-39 No Fear, No Excuses

Nothing in life seems more Crippling than fear. Fears touch our relationships, our goals, our daily lives through other emotions such as sadness, depression, anger, even things like indifference that all seem to be triggered by the underlying fear. Yet hope, real hope brings about courage, bravery, joy, love and a way of life that rejects any judgment this world casts before us. In Christ, we throw off the chains of fear and live life as God intended, the abundant life (John 10:10).

In Romans, Paul has laid before us man's various attempts to deal with sin, death and that fear that accompanies. All has failed miserably. Yet "in Christ" we have life, we have purpose and meaning and life eternal. Not in a system but in the arms of "Abba Father" (Rom. 8:15). But just how secure is this path? What if we lose our hope?

To this, Paul answers; **"If God is for us, who is against us?"** (8:31). The real question is, what kind of God do you trust? He is Almighty, all loving and you are to focus of His very existence. The God who sacrificed His very own Son, will not now abandon us. The greatest fortress we have is the fortress of God's love (8:35). In Romans 8:35-39 Paul goes on a journey of imagination. Who or what stands stronger than the love of God in Christ? Tribulations, distress, persecutions, famine, extreme poverty, or even wars are no match for the love of God.

8:37 - **"But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us."** It is not a matter of survival but a matter of a decisive victory over all this life attacks us with. So where is that fear that cripples us so badly? That fear is an illusion. **"There is no fear in love; but perfect love cast out fear.."** (1 John 4:18).

The only real question at this point is what is it you seek for your soul? Is this world your hope, even with all proof that here we do not have a lasting hope (Heb 13:14)? Or is life with Christ the life that satisfies, enriches and secures hope? Paul's final encouragement is that nothing, absolutely nothing can tear the relationship apart between you and God. There is no condemnation for those in Christ. God's love is dedicated to you. There is no fear.

Yet Paul failed to mention the greatest danger and the only danger to your faith; you! There is no fear in Christ and therefore no excuses either. Although Rom. 8 is a powerful proclamation of hope, it also is a warning that there is no excuse. You make the choice of faith completely based on your true passion for life. When that passion is God, in Christ, Nothing can thwart such a union of love.

August Birthdays

8/6 Mark Book
8/23 Alex Watkins

August Anniversaries

8/3 Bob & Mary Parker
8/9 Frank & Joyce Norvell
8/28 Rich & Jenni Book

Prayers: Karen Smith/Donna Beard/Toni Layman's treatment with cancer. Family of Jean Glass; our beloved Jean passed away Wednesday 8/9, services were conducted in Lynchburg Friday 8/11. Sandra Sena is recovering from surgery on her wrist.

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."