

September 24, 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: Alan Springer
 Les Smith
 Bruce Curfman
 Tom Wright
Sermon: Marc Curfman
Closing Prayer: Bob Parker
PM Song Leader: Bruce Curfman

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	36	34
Morn. Assembly	61	70
Sun Eve.	27	36
Wed. Study	**	8
Contribution	\$1349.00	\$1387.00

Who will Carry Forward?

The letter of Hebrews was written to a group of believers who seemed to be on the verge of retreat. Some wanted to go back to the old ways of Judaism. During the ministry of Jesus, our Lord referred to such hearts "old wineskins." To not grow, to not change but to remain in the old ways or traditions was the easy choice. The path of Christ has never been the promise of ease. Instead, we press on, we fight the good fight and aim for the prize of the upward calling. In day to day reality, such means making hard choices. We pray when we are without words to pray. We speak even when no one listens. We touch lives that refuse comfort. We don't give up, even when all those around us surrender.

So the Hebrew author spends 13 chapters calling on strength, resolve and hope. He gives theological reasons and doctrinal explanations but above all, he gives reasons of life here and now, pointing us to others who refused to quit. That letter was written nearly 2,000 years ago. Generations have come and gone and the message still rings out with hope and the call to obedience. It is now God's word for our generation. In Hebrews 5:12, the writer puts forth an honest assessment of the people of faith that confronts who they are at that moment. He says; **"...by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food."**

I wonder how long the recipients of this letter had been Christians? Had it been 10 years? 20 Years? Or maybe even less than 10? What we know is that the struggle of faith had little to do with the outside challenges but instead, the inside vacuum of their knowledge of God's word. Time had passed. Years had gone by and in their commitment to the word, they were still just babes. Such a choice was the real reason why some had left and others were weak and dying.

It is a wonderful blessing to be able to attend church and listen to the prepared lessons of able teachers. Such is a part of God's design. But since the days of Moses until even now, God has called on each of us to know His word, live according to His word and teach his word to others. Never in the history of God's people has this been a simple task and never has it been relegated to the few. When we read the great commission of Matthew 28:18-20, we see the task of each one knowing, each one learning and each one obeying. Furthermore, we see the demand of each one teaching.

The day will come when those we depend upon to teach us will be no more. Will you take up the demand? Are you able even now to pass the message to the next generation or the next friend or stranger? It is time now for you to be that teacher, that leader, that godly example. The church will not continue because of nice buildings or paved parking lots. Your work, your knowledge and your commitment are all that God has ever depended upon.

"Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you, and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith." Heb. 13:7. In other words, it is now your turn. Do well, teach truth and live the faith.

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.

September Teachers

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

Sunday Morning Adult classes:
Lowell Smith

Young people's class: Tom
Mayes

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury



September Teacher:
Sheila Gelter



Building & Communion
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.

October 7th the Wright family will again have a team to walk to end Alzheimers in Memory of Morris. If anybody would like to join or donate see Tom.

ALL Ladies - Pick up a flyer from Kacie Smith and we will have a small meeting after services.

Thank you to all the Ladies that were able to attend Ladies class yesterday.

Sermon Notes: Romans 10:6-15.

It is easy to fret over who is saved and who is lost but to take action is rare. In Paul's day, the concern over the salvation of another was a hot topic of discussion. Paul calls for us to make the call to salvation the core of our own faith.

"...Go therefore and make disciples..." Matt. 28:18-20. Was our Lord's last command. Not just for the Apostles but for all who call on the name of the Lord. Yet today we find churches and Christians who debate the issue but rarely take on the challenge. According to the word, we are those **"approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak..."** 1 Thess. 2:4.

Romans 10 continues with the protest of some that the way of the gospel is not fair. After all, not everyone is believing and obeying. Jews in particular saw this as unjust. After all, Israel was the nation of God. How could those of the nation of Israel not find salvation in the kingdom of God?

So Paul answers with a series of Old Testament verses, showing that the problem is not God nor the message of the gospel but the hearts of those who choose to reject God's design for hope.

Rom. 10:6-8 loosely quotes Deut. 30:12-14, changing the text to point to the Messiah. Israel's problem in the days of Moses was not one of a lack of information nor understanding but one of the heart that rejected the way of God even then. Today the same tragedy exist. It is not that the gospel is too difficult to understand or that we need further proof but God's way is rejected by most as too intrusive into man's ways. Most do not want a Lord. They only want a Savior.

It was and has always been a matter of the heart; **"the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart that you may observe it."** Rom. 10:8.

Rom. 10:9-13. Then as today, hope, salvation and the good life are based on obedient faith in Christ and his will. It is through Christ and Christ alone that mankind has hope.

But still, some may see this as unfair. The world is so large with so many people. How can a just God expect people to obey what they have never heard? Surely a miracle or sign from the heavens is needed. So Paul addresses this for each believer who thinks the gospel equation is not fair.

Rom. 10:14-15. **"How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed?... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news..."**

Yes, we are God's answer for a fallen world and the lost soul. But it is a matter of our own faith. If we truly believe, then we are the ideal solution to a world of darkness. **"I believed, therefore I spoke,"** 2 Cor. 4:13.

September Birthdays

9/4 Steve Wright
9/23 Sheila Gelter
9/30 Madi Book & Lowell Smith

September Anniversaries

9/19 Harley/Mary Carrothers
9/24 LaShanda Smith
9/27 Lorelei Mayes

Prayers: Karen Smith/Donna Beard/Toni Layman's treatment with cancer. Kim Wright's Son in-law, Robert Hall is battling with cancer. Donna Beard will be having surgery Tuesday @ 11:00. Cards are welcome but calls & visiting will be after she is feeling better.

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."