

AUGUST 23, 2020

CHURCH *of* CHRIST



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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY:

Bible Classes.....9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Evening Worship.....6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....7 p.m.

Minister, John Keith

(304) 266-9027

WELCOME!

We of the Cambridge church of Christ
invite you to all our services.

"...the churches of Christ salute you" (Romans 16:16).

WHEN DOES MY FAITH GROW? WHEN I SERVE.

Heb. 12:28-29; Mt. 20:20-28

INTRODUCTION:

1. Have you ever wondered, “When does my faith grow”?
2. Let us turn to the Bible and two particularly important ways we might respond to the question, “When does my faith grow?”

DISCUSSION:

I. WHEN I SERVE MAN WILLINGLY (MT. 20:20-28).

- A. The Request (20-21): James and John desired the choice place the kingdom.
- B. The Response (22-23).
 1. Jesus says such a position of grandeur is not His to Give (23b).
 2. The chief seats would be given by God to the faithful.
- C. The Resentment (24).
- D. The Requirement (25-28).
 1. Example of the Gentiles (25).
 2. Role reversal (26-27):
 3. Example of the Suffering Servant (28; cf. Isa. 53).

II. WHEN I SERVE GOD ACCEPTABLY (HEB. 12:28-29).

- A. Admonitions: Our service to God must please Him!
 1. God promised to bless people for acceptable service (Exo. 23:25).
 2. Therefore, our service to God should be in the attitude of joy (Neh. 12:43; Psa. 40:8).
 3. Our service to God should also be in the attitude of “reverence and godly fear”.
 4. Be sure it is our faith in God that is growing and not faith in ourselves
- B. Application: Saul’s sacrifice (**1 Sam. 13:1-15**; cf. 1 Sam. 10:8).
 1. Saul may have thought he would be closer to God if he offered the sacrifice in Samuel’s absence.
 2. Saul was wrong on so many points but primarily because he trusted his own wisdom more than he did the command of Jehovah God.
 3. God is a consuming fire (12:29) and so, Saul lost the kingdom (1 Sam. 13:13-15).

CONCLUSION:

1. My faith will grow when I learn to serve God acceptably in His eyes rather than in my own.
2. My faith will grow when I serve others joyfully, rather than myself primarily.

REPENTANCE: A Conscious Change.

Repentance involves a change that the individual consciously makes, and which likely will be noticed by others. Paul preached, “that [people] should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance” (Acts 26:20). One cannot obey this command without being conscious of it.

Repentance may involve changes which are somewhat automatic while other changes require constant (daily and even hourly) awareness. For example, the social drinker can just stop drinking all together while alcoholic may struggle for years.

Long held character traits which are not of God’s ideal will for His children will require day-by-day; hour-by-hour, or even minute-by-minute consciousness of self—our actions, and especially our reactions.

If one is the type to simply blurt out any brand of offensive speech, whether it be profanity, sexual inuendo, constant criticism, gossip, etc., it will require being on guard against ourselves any time we are in a position to let our voice out. This includes not only person to person contact, but also, social media posting. Some people speak before they think, and it seems some can type before they think as well.

To be always on guard, always conscious about oneself may cause some to feel self-centered. Don’t! In this context, one is not utilizing self-awareness for ego’s sake, but for the sake of others immediately and for the salvation of one’s own soul in the hereafter.

Consciousness of self for the sake others means we discipline ourselves to not divulge each and every dissenting opinion or dislike which comes to mind. This necessarily includes facial expressions, “eye roles” and body language which communicate as much information as do words.

Positive self-consciousness means that we literally *think before* we react. Blurting out reveals who we *are*, while thinking carefully and responding appropriately (which sometimes means not responding at all) reveals who we *want to be*—it will most certainly do more to reveal “Christ in you” to those about us.

As we endeavor to change bad habits to good (repentance) the effort we make will have to be conscious, but over time it can become our nature. We will be more pleasing to our family, friends and acquaintances, but more importantly, we will be more pleasing to God —*JK*.

REMINDER: "All individuals in Ohio must wear facial coverings in public at all times when ... at an indoor location that is not a residence". The order only requires those 10 years old or older to wear a mask" (<https://ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/site/media-center/news-and-events/covid19-update-07222020>)

Additional exclusions are posted on the foyer bulletin board.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Jerry & Erma Endly, Cathy Jackson, Bruce Johnson, Gary & Debbie Jones, Rick Lambert, and Flavil Miller.	SHUT-INS: Audrey Burns, Jack Mitchell, and Shirley Patterson.
FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Nellie Bichard, Weston Boulet, (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), Carter Campbell (John and Marys Smith's grandson), Bob & Donna Henthorn (Laura Jamiel's parents), Collene Keister, (Mo Smith's sister), Linda Potts (Joyce Starrett's sister-in-law), Mona Stoffer (Flavil Miller's daughter), Mitch Vick, Bob & Marge Watson and remember to pray for one another.	

Welcome!

To our visitors, please fill out one of the blue cards and place it in one the collection boxes at the rear of the auditorium.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **CONGRATS** to **Megan Warne** for passing her *Board of Certification* exams and is now a Certified Athletic Trainer. She has a couple of job options on the table.
- **Norm Behrendt** had a cardioversion on Monday and is doing much better.
- **Rick Lambert's** surgery on Tuesday went well and the tumor is out. He expects to be discharged from the *James Cancer Center* this week.
- Please submit any questions you have ASAP for next Sunday evening's lesson, "Questions You Have Asked"—*JK*.

REMINDERS:

- ✓ Don't forget about our library.
- ✓ If there are any changes needed to our **Family & Friends** prayer list, please let John know. Thank you.

TODAY'S LESSONS

AM: When Does My Faith Grow? When I Serve (Mt. 20:25-28).

PM: Holy Spirit Baptism (Acts 2:1-4).

Sun. Am Class	Sun. Worship	Sun. PM	Wed. Class	Collection
34	62	34	30	\$2349