

DECEMBER 4, 2022

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.....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....6:00 p.m.

Minister, John Keith

(304) 266-9027

WELCOME!

We invite you to all of our services.

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

A WOMAN OF GREAT FAITH

Mark 7:24-30

INTRODUCTION: What may we learn from this episode in the life of Jesus. Consider with me why our Lord described this Gentile lady as a woman of *great faith*.

I. THE NARRATIVE.

- A. Jesus Comes to the Gentiles (24).
- B. A Gentile Comes to Jesus (25-26).
 - 1. Mark explained that she was a Greek-speaking Gentile.
 - 2. She *kept on asking* (Greek imperfect tense) him to cast forth the demon out of her daughter (Matt. 15:22-25).
- C. Jesus Prioritizes the Jews (27).
- D. The Gentile Pleads For Her Daughter and Her People (28).
- E. Jesus Praises Her Faith and Heals Her Daughter (29-30).

II. OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THIS WOMAN OF GREAT FAITH.

- A. This lady had great spiritual insight.
 - 1. Not asking Jesus to change God's plan (Acts 3, 10).
 - 2. She was simply asking for a "crumb."
 - 3. Faith is founded upon knowledge—not mere emotion.
- B. This mother illustrated the connection between faith and unfavorable circumstances.
 - 1. Those w/ "Great faith" will rely upon the Son of God.
 - 2. Faith becomes stronger in times of distress (cf. **James 1:2-4**).
- C. This woman demonstrated that great faith seeks the welfare of others.
- D. The Gentile lady showed the relationship of faith and humility.
- E. The Syrophenician woman taught us that great faith endures (cf. Luke 18:1ff).
- F. The distressed mother exemplified that great faith in the Son of God will result in a great deliverance.
 - 1. Not miraculous today (cf. 1 Cor. 13:10; John 20:30-31).
 - 2. Today, everyone who follows the Lord with obedient faith can be delivered from sin!

CONCLUSION:

- 1. What a relevant message!
- 2. We need to cultivate *great* faith so that we may obtain the *greater* deliverance through the *Great* Physician—the salvation of our soul.

WATCH YOURSELF

Roger Rush

Paul wrote: “Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test” (2 Corinthians 13:5 ESV).

What would happen if we looked at ourselves through the same lens we look at others? Would it be a humbling experience? Isn’t that what we are told to do?

Jesus warned His disciples, “Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you” (Matthew 7:1, 2 ESV). Some folks have a much higher standard of conduct for others than they have for themselves. They criticize and condemn others while at the same time they are guilty of far worse crimes. The Pharisees (a first century Jewish sect) were especially guilty of such judgments. Jesus advised His disciples, “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat, so practice and observe whatever they tell you—but not what they do. For they preach, but do not practice” (Matthew 23:2, 3 ESV). The Pharisees did not play by the same rules. They made greater demands on the people than they were willing to meet themselves. Their religion was an act. They appeared to be righteous, but underneath the façade they were wicked and vile. Jesus saw them for what they really were.

Jesus also sees us as we really are. What does He see? Do we practice what we preach, or do we preach a better religion than we live? We know what is required of us. In the words of the apostle Paul: “you then who teach others, do you not teach yourself? While you preach against stealing, do you steal? You who say that one must not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? You who boast in the law dishonor God by breaking the law” (Romans 2:21-23 ESV).

We must not demand of others what we do not expect of ourselves. God sees through our hypocrisy, and so does the world. Therefore, we must watch ourselves. To the best of our ability, we must make sure we practice what we preach, and that we do not hold others to a higher standard than we hold ourselves.

Welcome! To our visitors!

We are thankful for your presence. Please fill out one of the blue cards and place it in one the collection plates.

AM Bible Study: Philippians 4:17f.
AM Sermon: A Woman of Great Faith (Mark 7:24-20).
PM Sermon: The Cost of Serving God (Job 1:1-5).
Wednesday Bible Study: Revelation 8:1f.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Tina Keith** got good news: the skin cancer under her eye is gone.
- **Bev Singleton** is in ICU at *Southeastern Med* recovering from gall bladder surgery and pneumonia. She is off the ventilator and doing well.
- We have new (to us) books in the library which were donated by **Floyd Bates, Debra Bates-Philabaum's dad.**
- We will be making our annual Christmas donations to the veterans, through the *Cambridge Community Development Corp.* Items are due by December 11. There is a list of needed items on the bulletin board for those wishing to participate.
- **Holiday Baskets** will be packed on December 21st at 5 p.m. There is no need to sign up; bring items anytime: all items should be pre-packaged, various snacks, cookies, candy, etc.
- John will take questions for his *Questions You Have Asked* series. Submissions will remain confidential. Write them down and give to John.

REMINDERS:

- ❖ There are just a couple change cans left for *POTTER Children's Home.*
- ❖ Please inform **John** of any changes to the prayer list, or directory

IN OUR PRAYERS: Diann Bachmann, Betsy Cook, Erma Endly, Mike & Karen Grove, Cathy Jackson, Bruce & Kim Johnson, Gary Jones, Rick Lambert, Jody Main, Carol Mitchell, Linda Steele, Helena Tewksbury, Jean Whitley and Randy Yost.

SHUT-INS:
Debbie Jones,
Nancy Love,

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Weston Boulet (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), **Rachell Cook** (Angela Herald's friend), **Tiffany Endly** (Jerri Mackie's niece), **Trudy Kerby, Colleen Kiester** (Mo Smith's sister), **Linda Potts** (Joyce Starrett's sister-in-law), **Kellie Price** (Richard Mayo's cousin), **Addy Reed, Rodney Reeves** (Erica Cunningham's father), **John Rockhold, Wilma Roe, Bob & Marge Watson, the U.S.A., Ukraine** and remember to pray for **one another.**

AM Study	AM Worship	PM Worship	Wed.	Contribution (Budget)
29	42	27	26	\$2,011 (\$2,420)