

**Clarksville Church of Christ**  
 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy  
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649  
 (812) 944-2305  
[www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org)

**Sundays**  
 Bible Study..... 9:30 AM  
 Worship.....10:30 AM  
 Worship.....6:00 PM

**Wednesdays**  
 Bible Study.....7:30 PM

**Elders**  
 Allen L. Morris.....812-967-4536  
 Stephen W. Nale.....812-948-9917

**Deacons**  
 Jeffrey B. Hunt.....502-931-5766  
 Elbert Metcalf.....812-246-5938  
 Rondal O. Thompson Jr....812-944-8295

**Evangelist and Editor**  
 Luke Capps.....317-220-9829  
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**Beginning Our 66th Year Dec. 3, 2023**

**GOALS FOR 2024**  
**Theme**  
**“Respecting Bible Authority!”**

- Giving:** Meet Our Yearly Budget
- Invitations:** 130
- Every Member Committed To Daily Bible Reading
- Every Member Committed To Daily Prayer
- Every Member Committed To Each Assembly
- Support the Work in Vincennes, Indiana
- Hold A Men’s Training Class
- Hold A Gospel Meeting
- Converting 10 People Per Month

-Like us on Facebook-View us on YouTube at Clarksvillechurch

Luke Capps  
 will be preaching today.

**We are on week # 47 of our daily Bible reading.**

**Prayer List**  
 Don Dennison, Luann Metcalf, Ivan Rochner, Sharon Thompson, Peter Hunt, Mary McAfee, Sharon Nale, Polly Ward, Macon Ward, Debby Spears (Roseanna’s sis), Pam Caudill, Brooke Thomas, Cathie Hall, Debbie Lewelle, Jimmy Wilson

**THEME THIS MONTH: Authority in the World (Our Example)**  
 1 Timothy 4:12; 5:1-16

**Who Have You Invited To Services This week?**

**Lord’s Supper Reading**  
**Isaiah 53:7-12**

**Scripture Reading**  
**AM:** 1 Timothy 3:14-16  
**PM:** 1 John 2:1-2

**Encouragement Tally**  
 Invites this month 18  
 Invites last month: 18  
 Visitors YTD:

Place Stamp Here

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Our Theme for 2024...  
**“Respecting Bible Authority”**  
 Matt. 28:18  
 Clarksville Church of Christ  
 407 W. Lewis & Clark Pkwy.  
 Clarksville, IN 47129  
**First Service December 7, 1958**

**The**  
**Clarksville Beacon**  
 www. Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org



Volume 36 Number 46

Clarksville Church of Christ

November 17, 2024

**A Successful Church**

**Characteristics of a New Testament Assembly #4**

**I. Success In A Local Church Is...**

- A. NOT Quantity of people but the Quality of people in it (Rom. 12:1-2; Titus 3:4-8; Rev. 2-3).**
- B. NOT Progressiveness but Progress of it (Eph. 4:16; 1 Pet. 2:2; 2 Pet. 3:18; 2 Jn. 9-11).**
- C. NOT a primary focus on Social Issues but Spiritual Issues in the church (Luke 4:16-30; Rom. 8:6-8; Eph. 4:1-6; 1 Tim. 3:15).**
- D. IS striving to well reflect the God-pleasing examples of local churches in the New Testament, never losing that focus, and growing in it (1 Thes. 4:1, 10).**

**Luke Capps**

**Welcome!**  
 If you’re visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and we want you to feel like our honored guest! We also want you to know that all we’re interested in here at the Clarksville Church of Christ is the Truth. Jesus said, “You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” John 8:32. The truth He’s talking about is God’s word. Jesus said, “Sanctify them by thy truth, Thy word is truth.” John 17:17. Therefore we hope you’ll appreciate that we’ll give you book, chapter and verse from the Bible, the word of God, for everything that we say or do here today, so that everything that we do may bring glory unto God, 1 Pet. 4:11.

**VISITORS**

Please fill out a visitor’s card or scan the QR code below and provide the information requested.



**Last Weeks’ Answer:** Demas  
*Good job: Elbert Metcalf, Sharon Thompson, Steve Nale*

(Submit your answers before the next bulletin is published revealing the answer)

**WHO AM I IN THE BIBLE?**

- I am a Levite and a priest
- I was used as a “speaker” for Moses
- I had two of my sons die in irreverence before God

# An Advocate For Sinners

1 John 2:1-2

## I. How Jesus Advocates For Sinners

**A. He secures salvation for His disciples at the cross (1 Jn. 2:2; 4:10; cf. John 1:12; Heb. 2:14-17).**

**B. He remains our High Priest who intercedes for us (1 Jn. 2:1; cf. John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7).**

## II. How The World Advocates For Sinners

Supporting sin / Minimizing Christ's Sacrifice / Defending Sin Over Truth

## III. Jesus, The Advocate and Me

**A. Jesus is the Advocate—no one else (1 Jn. 2:1).**

**B. Jesus is the only Advocate we need (Heb. 7:23-28).**

**C. Jesus will only advocate for those who submit to Him (Rom. 3:21-26; 1 Jn. 1:7-2:1).**

**Luke Capps**

## Spiritual Food for Spiritual Thought What Are You Thinking About?

**Giving more consideration to something other than God is, frankly, not giving Him enough!** We understand this, yet how hard is it to keep life's distractions from consuming our attention? We must understand, if we give more of our attention to worldly pursuits then our goal is not truly being with our heavenly Father in eternity - it has shifted, perhaps unknowingly, to something else.

When discomfort, pain, and sorrow creep in it is very easy to succumb to anxiety or despondency. The subtlety of these temptations is that, once we slip into them, negligence of spiritual matters turns into a trivial thing.

Certainly, there are catastrophic afflictions that can plague us from time to time, but remember the

words of Paul, "*For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison*" (2 Cor. 4:17a). This statement is even more powerful when realizing that he says this while having personally suffered imprisonments, beatings, incessant persecution, shipwrecks, concern for Christ's church - to name a few (2 Cor. 11:23-27). For Paul, even these things were "light" afflictions. How in the world could Paul possibly think that way? Well, he was thinking about heaven!

How do some of those afflictions compare to that of the 21st century? 1st century Christians suffered, generally, far weightier afflictions than we do in modern times. Yet, so many today can hardly deal with these, truly, **lighter** afflictions.

This is a terrifying thing. Why? Well, if one cannot deal with these lighter afflictions today it is not because our hope is lesser or weaker than what Christians had in the 1st century. Likely, it is because, unlike those Christians, our hope is not fixed on the heavenly but on something earthly; we are simply not focusing on heaven enough - or at all.

There is a beautiful hymn written by Ada Powell and Benjamin Beall entitled, "Sing to Me of Heaven." The first verse in particular says, "*Sing to me of heaven. Sing that song of peace. From the toils that bind me it will bring release. Burdens will be lifted that are pressing so. Showers of great blessings over my heart will flow...*" Should this not be the Christian's constant mindset?

When we sing about and consider heaven, shouldn't all of our concerns begin to vanish? Not because they weren't actually difficult in the first place, but they just pale in comparison to the grander themes we read about in Scripture. Or at the very least, like Jesus calms the storm, they are brought into submission of a holy perspective. Such a perspective, a spiritual one, sees past the "momentary" or temporary issues which surround.

**So the main question is: Are you thinking more about the spiritual or the physical?** If you knew that you were going to meet God in eternity this very night, would you be focusing on the same things that you've been focusing on today or the last few weeks, months, or years? or would that change? Obviously, we can't know when we will leave this earth, so we're not going to live like today's our last day - we have responsibilities. However, if we did have this knowledge we would without a doubt rid ourselves of the distractions from worldly pursuits.

Still, it is hard to be undistracted when all around us is temptation, stumbling blocks, and chaos. While the devil delights in using these things to steal our attention from heaven, Paul What Are You Thinking About? Spiritual Food for Spiritual Thought November 17, 2024 says they don't have to as they're only "*light and momentary*." But we'll only view them as such "*while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal*" (2 Cor. 11:17b-18). Are we looking for the eternal or temporal?

We forget that the visible things (outward circumstances) are only temporary, while the invisible things (heaven) are undoubtedly our eternal future. Christians must remember that we "*walk by faith, not by sight...*" (2 Cor. 5:7; also see Heb. 11:1). But does this mean that we have, as some call it, blind and baseless faith? Quite the opposite! Our faith is based on what we know. From the fine tuning of the universe which proclaims its Creator, to the very attributes of God evidently embedded in His masterpiece, we have powerful testaments of the Almighty (Ps. 19:11; Rom. 1:20).

There is a very real sense in which the things that are everlasting (yet invisible) are more deeply based in reality than the things which fade away (yet visible). In the end, our souls will go on in eternity while everything else is forgotten. So once again, what is more important to be mindful of today: (1) Eternal things which will remain and will guide us to heaven? Or (2) Passing glories of this world which will fade and lead us to oblivion? You get to choose everyday. What will you decide from here on out?

**Luke Capps**