

Times of Services

Sunday

9:00 a.m. Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Worship

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Bible Study

Other Study and Worship Opportunities

- The Pines/Cady Hills Bible Study -Sun. & Thurs. at 7:00 p.m.
- Young Bible Scholars – TBA
- Lady's Bible Classes at Columbus YMCA – TBA at 1:15 p.m.
- Sunday and Wednesday Services/Lessons are recorded on FB
- First Sunday Benevolent Group A meets directly after worship at the front of the auditorium.
- Second Sunday Neighborhood Bible Study – TBA
- Third Sunday – Trinity Care Home Service - 1:30 p.m.
- Fourth Sunday Song Service following 10:00 a.m. sermon.
- (NEW) Second Tuesdays at 11 a.m. – Trinity Personal Care Activities Room, March 12 Ladies Bible Study

News and Notes

- **Prayer Requests:** Patsy Chunn, Jim Ratcliff, Wade McCrary, Doug Wheeler, Mike Lavender, Mike and Marion Butler, Lee Gallop, the Andy Elliott Family, and Rebecca Powell. Cindy Nutt requests our prayers for her grandchildren and family. Ellen and Dylan Haas ask for prayers for their family. Prayers are requested for John Lavender, Mike and Marilyn's son John has kidney and heart disease issues.
Sick: Andy Elliott is recuperating from back surgery in January. Andy will also have eye surgery in March. Jim Ratcliff continues to battle health issues. Janette Clements is to have surgery for her broken arm. John Lavender, Mike and Marilyn's son just underwent heart surgery for a pacemaker.

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East Columbus Bulletin

Heaven's Code of Conduct

“Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets” (Matthew 7:12).

The Sermon on the Mount revealed in Matthew, chapters five through 7, has been called the Magna Charta of Christianity. In these chapters Jesus describes the essential character and conduct of those in his kingdom. Surely such marvelous principles must have been devised in the mind of God! Who would deny that if man would abide by its teachings that our world would be more peaceful?

Consider a quick summary of this great discourse. Jesus taught that true contentment is not found in what you possess or where you live but in your character (Matthew 5:1-12). He says “don't get angry with your brother without a cause” for such is as bad as murder (Matthew 5:21-26). He teaches us not to have evil thoughts (Matthew 5:27-30) and when you get married stay married (Matthew 5:31, 32). He instructs us to be trustworthy (Matthew 5:33-37), not retaliate with evil for evil (Matthew 5:38-42), and to love our enemies (Matthew 5:44-48).

In chapter 6 he teaches us to not be religious hypocrites (Matthew 6:1-18) and to focus on heavenly treasures rather than earthly ones (Matthew 6:19-34). In chapter 7 we are told to be careful how we judge others (Matthew 7:1-5) and “whatever you would that men

would do to you, do you even so to them" (Matthew 7:12). Finally, he states that if you will follow these principles your life can have a solid foundation that is able weather the storms (Matthew 7:24-27).

I challenge anyone to find a better set of rules by which to live! The secret to a fulfilled life is following heaven's code of conduct.

George Slover, Moment with the Master, 9-20-22

It's Easy to Make Excuses

When God tells us, through our study of the Bible, to do something we have to make a choice. Either we do what He wants or we make an excuse. Sometimes we simply say to ourselves, "I'll do it later," but most times that "later" never comes. At other times we make an excuse for the lack of obedience.

This is not a new thing. Both Adam and Eve made excuses when faced with their lack of obedience back in the Garden of Eden in Genesis 3. What both of them said was true but it was simply an excuse for disobedience. Eve said, "The serpent deceived me," and Adam said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree." They still had to suffer the consequence of disobedience.

Whatever God expects me to do is within my power to do it. He is not a God who demands more than our ability and opportunity allow. He is not unfair but He is demanding. He is God and He expects each of us to recognize that and act accordingly.

Many who are not Christians excuse themselves by saying, "I'm as good as many of the church members" or "I am just not ready at this time to take on the responsibility of living as a Christian" or "I don't know enough yet." All may be true but all are simply excuses for a lack of obedience.

Many who have already obeyed the gospel make excuses for their lack of obedience. "I was just too busy to do thus and so" or "I really intended to do it but I forgot in the rush of doing other things." At times we blame our family, our job or someone else.

One day we will have to answer for our actions (2 Corinthians 5:10; Romans 14:12). There is no escape from that day and no acceptance by God of our excuses for failure to obey. We must all remember the lesson in the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30). Different abilities (talents) demand different actions. But no excuses were accepted for lack of proper action.

Paul told the saints in Philippi that "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13) in an effort to encourage their obedience and encouragement. We need to heed his admonition today. We must turn to the pages of inspiration for our instructions and then apply our mind and body to do what God expects. And, when we fail as Christians, we must learn to repent and pray for forgiveness. Remember no excuses are acceptable. We have to understand that we are not in competition with other Christians and that we will not be compared to others in the judgment. We are simply expected to do as we are capable of doing and that will be pleasing to God.

J. F. Dancer, Jr., A Ray of Light, 4-8-18

John 5

Here is a thought that stands out to me from this chapter:

"Then Jesus answered and said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner... I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me' (5:19, 30).

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus," who did not seek to do anything without the approval from His Father. Let us as men, humble ourselves and seek to be obedient to our Father's will just as our Lord left us an example.

Lonnie Oldag, Facebook post 9-6-15