

Church of Christ

Florence

February 5, 2017

Elders

Robert Budy
home (859) 525-7396
Art Green
cell (859) 743-3290

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact one of the elders.

Deacons

Jesse Black
Matthew Hallmark
Wyatt Robbins

Minister

Bruce House
cell (270)570-0830

Schedule of Services

Bible Class	9:30 am
Worship	10:30 am
Evening Worship	6:00 pm
Wednesday Class	7:00 pm

Contact Information

1141 Boone Aire Rd.
Florence, KY 41042

(859) 283-2355
www.florencecc.org
churchoffice@florencecc.org

FROM THE ELDERS

Due to safety concerns
The church doors will be locked
10 minutes after the beginning of service.

Someone will be stationed in the foyer
to allow admittance to latecomers.

Are You Teachable?

by Larry W. Rouse

When I first became a Christian I thought that the key to bringing others to obedience to Christ was to have clearly reasoned evidence based on the Word of God. I thought "if others could just hear the truth taught simply and plainly then they too would want to follow our Lord." My thoughts were correct as to how one is always to teach. Paul wrote, "But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the Word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God" (II Corinthians 4:2). Teach as you would have others teach you! A man with a good conscience simply wants the truth.

I was naive, however, concerning the hearts of men. I had incorrectly assumed that everyone wanted to know clearly what God has revealed in His Word and then if convinced they would obey it. Jesus plainly taught us about the condition of men's hearts and how that condition affects the receiving of God's Word. In the parable of the sower Jesus showed four kinds of soil that reacted to the seed of God's Word. These soils represented hearts and of those hearts only one kind produced the fruits that God's Word intended. "But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the Word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance" (Luke 8:15).

Over the years I came to realize that there are many on the rolls of local churches who are not teachable! Just like my experience with the world, I had naively believed that all my brethren needed was a clear "thus says the Lord" to bring them to repentance and to live in harmony with God's Will. But just as men rejected the gospel because of their hearts, Christians, too, can find themselves on the outside of God's Will because of a hardened heart.

Where Is Your Heart? We need to know if we truly are receiving the Word of God or if we are as the Pharisees of Jesus' day, confident and boastful, but having a heart that even Jesus, the Master teacher, could not reach. Remember our Lord's description of them, "These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me" (Matthew 15:8). Consider these questions to test your heart:

(continued on page 2)

The Church you read about in the Bible

Are You Willing to Hear? In the explanation of the parable of the sower Jesus said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" (Matthew 13:9). Later our Lord made this observation about men: "And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: 'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and not perceive; For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them'" (Matthew 13:14,15).

When one is serious about hearing the Bible as God's Word, he is committing himself to a life of radical change. Jesus knew that few would have a heart for this: "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God" (John 3:19-21). Which of these groups describe you?

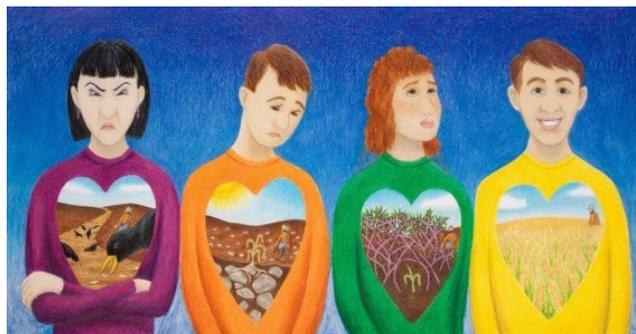
Are You Living a Principled Life? When one's heart is feeding on God's Word there gradually becomes an order within his life. No longer will he be swayed by emotions or relationships as to how he should act and speak but instead his life is guided by the consistent principles of God's Word. This was Paul's goal for every Christian. He wrote, "that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head -- Christ" (Ephesians 4:14,15).

Are You Approachable? Most people do not want their hearts opened and examined. When God's Word is preached they will say: "It's none of your business" or "that's just your opinion." When one is truly committed to learning they will engage the one whom they disagree with. One of the most able, capable men in the New Testament, Apollos, was taught by a humble Christian couple. This simple account is given by Luke: "So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately" (Acts 18:26).

What is Really First in Your Life? Jesus commonly dealt with religious leaders who, while having a great knowledge of the Scriptures, in fact had very little concern with actually following them. Why was it not possible that they understand that Jesus was the Son of God? Jesus confronted these men by saying, "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life" (John 5:39,40).

These men were unteachable! Jesus knew the reason why: "I do not receive honor from men. But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you. I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me, if another comes in his own name, him you will receive. How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God?" (John 5:41-44). Most men care what others think rather than what God thinks. Where do you stand?

The Men Whom God Can Help: Our Savior wants to help and to heal all men. He will not help anyone, however, who is not willing to learn. Are you weak, burdened and struggling? If so, then there is something you need to learn: "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light" (Matthew 11:29,30). Are you ready to learn?



Collecting For Those In Need

The Emergency Shelter of NKY items needed:

(Men's Shelter)

- **SOCKS**
- Men's Jeans
- Men's Sweatshirts
- Men's and Women's Sweatpants
- Underwear (New)

There is a sign-up sheet for those interested in helping at the shelter.

Benevolence Pantry items needed:

- Canned Goods
- Fruit
- Vegetables
- Meat
- Milk
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Ramen Noodles
- Juice Packs
- Baby Formula & Food



Benevolence

Our next meal for the Northern Kentucky Emergency Shelter is February 11th. A list of items needed and sign up sheets are located on the Benevolence board in the hallway. Your generosity in this endeavor is greatly appreciated.

Help Wanted

2017 Volunteer sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Centurions of Scripture

We would like to challenge the entire congregation to memorize 100 scriptures. Our youth do this as a part of the Lads to Leaders program. We ask that you do this with your family. We will be putting two scriptures in the bulletin each week.

Psalms 119: 87-88

87. They almost made an end of me on earth,

But I did not forsake Your precepts.

88. Revive me according to Your lovingkindness,

So that I may keep the testimony of Your mouth.

To ensure accuracy of announcements and prayer requests please fill out a gold or blue form and turn in to the office by Wednesday.

Please check the prayer list and let me know of any updates.
Thank you.-Nita

Prayer List

Caleb Robbins surgery
 Ron Bates heart issues
 Sue Gorman surgery
 Velma Holleman in hospital
 Connie Campbell, Sue Gorman's niece
 Tricia Whaley, friend of Nita Mayfield, auto accident
 Allison Mayfield, Nita's daughter in law, pregnancy
 Candice and Raelynn, friend of Cassi Lemay
 Eunice Chumbley
 Alice Sowder
 Roy & June Pugh
 Alexis Aiken, Joyce Bewley's Great Granddaughter,
 Nancy Noojin, Karen Brown's cousin, health issues
 Bowen Becker, Bob Becker's grandson, heart problems
 Cindy Walker health issues
 Our Elders
 Our Nation's Leaders
 Our Military Personnel
 Our Police, Emergency and Healthcare Personnel
 The Churches of Christ around the world
 All those traveling
 The Emergency Shelter
 The Creation Museum and Ark Encounter
 Those Who Have Lost Loved Ones
 Marie Gibson's Family

Those with cancer and their families

Libby McDonald	Dennis Blundell	Margie Koons
Randy Williams	Desirae Wilson	Janice Gallagher
Gary Burke	Dwight Lowerg	Kay Shinck
Jim Kennedy	Layla Adkins	Jim McCarthy
Kristen Shaw	Ayden Egan	Donnice Palmer
Donna Farrar	Peggy Davis	Mike Lohman
Lorraine Starr	Gwen Miller	Lindy Blankenbuehler
Tammy Palmer	Chad Fischer	Buddy Webb
Ashley Pike	Debbie Hellman	Lois Stroub
Theresa Falukner	Nancy Lambert	Ruth Phelps
Mike Lowe	Steve Dobson	Serena
A.T. Pate		

Our shut-ins and those caring for them

Joyce Tingle	Chuck Gambil
Eveline Lanham	Dessie Hacker

"For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayer" 1 Peter 3:12

Serving in AM Worship

	February 5	February 12
Announcements	Bill Morgan	Bill Morgan
Opening Prayer	TBA	TBA
Song Leader	Randy Johnson	Jesse Black
Communion	Art Green	Jerry Gorman
Serve	Dan Brown	Dan Brown
Serve	Elvis Byrd	Elvis Byrd
Serve	Dave Moster	Dave Moster
Serve	Steve Thomas	Steve Thomas
Serve	Wyatt Robbins	Wyatt Robbins
Serve	Mark Walker	Mark Walker
Scripture Reading <i>Mark 4: 1-9</i>	Kyle Strasser	Bobby Lemay
Sermon <i>How Well Do You Listen?</i>	Bruce House	Bruce House
Closing Prayer	Carl Power	Clint Green

Serving in PM Worship

Announcements	Bill Morgan	Bill Morgan
Opening Prayer	Robert Budy	Matthew Hallmark
Song Leader	Randy Johnson	Jesse Black
Communion	Art Green	Jerry Gorman
Sermon	Bruce House	Robert Budy
Closing Prayer	Jerry Gorman	Dave Moster

Wednesday

	February 8	February 15
Song Leader	Robert Budy	Jerry Gorman
Invitation	Wyatt Robbins	Bruce House
Closing Prayer	Jerry Gorman	Dan Brown
Announcements	Art Green	Art Green

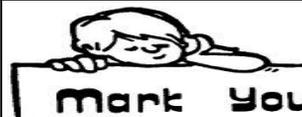
Communion Prep

February	Blacks
March	Naiome House

Greeters

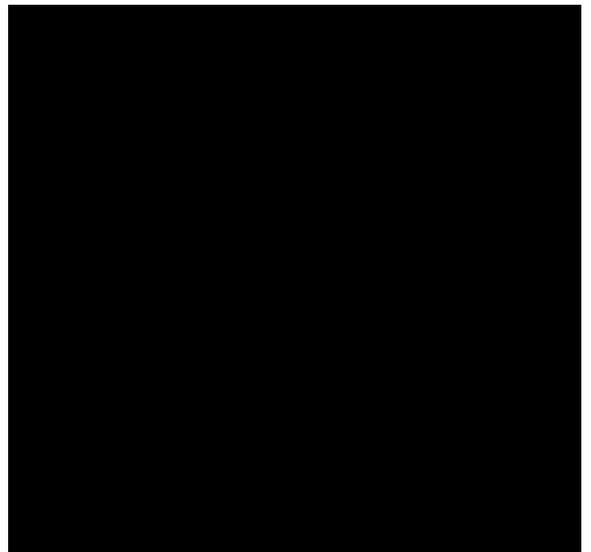
February	Nancy Prater
March	Greeters Needed

Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men. Ephesians 6:7



Mark Your Calendar

Feb	17	Bible Bowl Meeting
Feb	18	Lads to Leaders Group Scrapbook
Feb	19	Lads to Leaders Team A
Feb	20	VBS Curriculum Meeting
Feb	25	VBS Work Day
Feb	26	Lads to Leaders Team B
Feb	26	Potluck
Mar	4	Lads to Leaders Indv. Scrapbook
Mar	10	Bible Bowl Meeting
Mar	11	VBS Work Day
Mar	12	Lads to Leaders Team A



Deacons

Jesse Black	<i>Children's Education/ Fellowships</i>
Matthew Hallmark	<i>Building Maintenance</i>
Wyatt Robbins	<i>Youth and as needed</i>

Coordinators

Jerry Gorman	<i>Prime Timers</i>
Dave Moster	<i>Worship Service/ Duty Roster</i>

STAMP

Florence Church of Christ
1141 Boone Aire Road
Florence, KY 41042