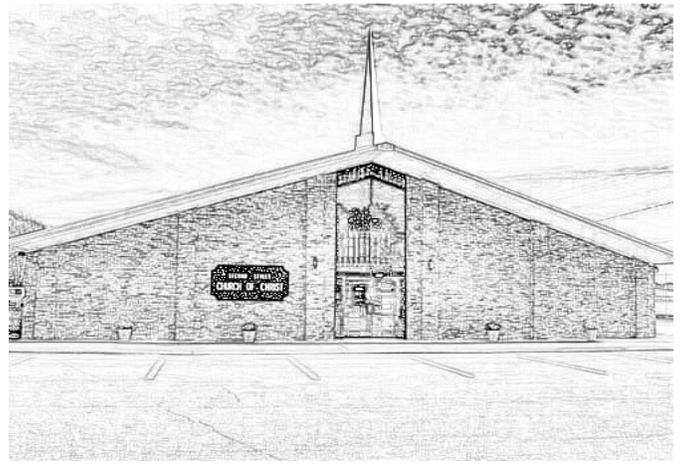


Second Street Church of Christ



March 26, 2017

MINISTER

Adam Cozort

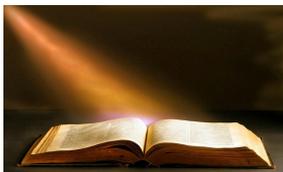
662-663-0231

Office

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SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Class....9:00am
Sun. Morn. Worship.10:00am
Sunday Evening.....5:00pm
Wed. Evening.....7:00pm

***Endeavoring to keep
the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace.
Ephesians 4:3***

No More Excuses!

We all know the common excuses people make at times when it pertains to the work of the church. If we were to list them in order of their most frequent use they would fall as follows:

1. I don't have the time.
2. I don't have the talent.
3. I don't have the opportunity.

I would like to address one that I have heard more often than I would like: I don't have the talent. Notice what the Bible says in 1 Peter 4:10-11, "As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever."

Notice some simple phrases in this passage of Scripture. "As each one has received a gift..." Peter understands something that we must as well. There are none within the church who do not possess some gift or talent that can be used. Peter does not say, "If one receives a gift..." He says, "each one has received a gift..." Therefore, everyone has something to offer. Moreover, Peter continues to say, "minister it to one another, as good stewards..." Since you have something to offer, God expects you to use it to minister, that is, to provide for either the physical or spiritual need of others.

*Each and every talent
and ability present
within the church is
vital....*

So, the next time you think that you have nothing to offer to this congregation or any for that matter--think again! Everyone has a gift. Although some have the ability to minister to one's spiritual needs, there are those who possess the gift to minister to one's physical needs. Each and every talent and ability present within the church is vital; and when neglected to be utilized, the church suffers and is weakened. Therefore, let us conclude, no more excuses! Use the gifts God has graciously given to you, to not only build up and grow the church, but also to bring glory to an Almighty God to whom we owe everything! By all means, never discard or disregard your value to this congregation. You are necessary! You are needed!

Jeremy Tucker
Dexter, MO Bulletin Digest

Announcements

Welcome Visitors!! You are our honored guest, and we are glad you came our way! We invite you back to our evening services at 5:00 and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 pm.

Baby shower April 4th, 6:00pm for Jeffrey & Lasha at Belmont café.

Sympathy Extended to Jerry and his family. Please keep them in your prayers.

Late Again

Tour guide: “And this is where the Magna Carta was signed.”

Tourist: “When did this happen?”

Tour guide: “Twelve fifteen.”

Tourist: “Wouldn’t you know it. We only missed it by 25 minutes.”

The Study of Love

In 1997 Western Christian Foundation published a book by Nelson M. Smith, entitled Agape Study Manual. Brother Smith identified all the places the word love and its related terms appeared in the KJV Bible. Then he wrote comments on every single verse where love was mentioned. The book has 475 pages.

Brother Smith said he was no scholar, but one thing he understood well: Love is at the center of God's plan of salvation.

How would our lives be changed if we read the Bible through while focused on love, especially the love of God?

How would we change the lives of others if we moved throughout each day while focused on love, especially God's love for the lost?

How would our families change if we spent every moment with them charged with love, especially God's familial love?

How would our congregations be changed if a handful of saints decided to love as Jesus loved?

Just reading about love in the Bible won't change anything. But reading with open hearts, with prayers to be transformed by the Word, with effort to become like the Lord Jesus Christ, God will make love radiate from our lives outward to touch and bless everyone around us.

J. Randal Matheny

UPLift, randal.us/#UPLift

Bulletin Digest

Good in unexpected places

“**A**nd a certain centurion’s servant, who was dear to him, was sick and ready to die. So when he heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to Him, pleading with him to come and heal his servant. And when they came to Jesus, they begged Him earnestly, saying that the one for whom He should do this was deserving” (Luke 7:2-4).

The title of this article could easily serve as the theme, or at least one of the themes, of the Gospel according to Luke. The stories of the good Samaritan (chapter 10), Zacchaeus (19), Lazarus the beggar, and others are about people normally despised by the supposedly righteous Jews, but shown in the third gospel with good qualities.

None of those stories exemplifies the type more than that of chapter seven. The centurion was an officer of the Roman army, one of the hated occupation forces who often oppressed the nation. One would expect to find pride, greed, disdain for the enemy, pagan immorality, and other evils in such a person. Yet that is not at all how Luke (and the Jewish elders whom he quotes) describe him. Note the following righteous traits specified in the story, contained in verses 2-10.

First, he had regard (love?) for his servant (2). The term servant may refer to a slave, or in the case of the military context, it could mean a subservient officer or soldier. Luke does not specify. In either case compassion and friendship often do not extend to those beneath one’s status. In this case, however, it certainly did.

We all interact with people of many classes and types. And we all get surprised from time to time.

Secondly, the centurion is said to be generous and interested in the needs of the people whom he was to keep in subjection (4-5). He had financed a synagogue for the Jews and demonstrated genuine love for the conquered nation. He was not there to rob and oppress.

Third, though one used to authority, he was genuinely humble (6-8). He did not consider himself worthy to appeal directly to Jesus, but sent emissaries (3, 7). Luke shows no indication that this was a false humility, intended to impress. Nor was it a cover for his own unwillingness to go to Jesus himself. Rather, it is the genuine meekness of one who knows there are others much greater than himself, and comfortable with his place in the order.

Finally, and this was most significant to Jesus, the centurion was a man of faith (9). Here, that quality is not belief in a doctrinal position. There is no indication that the Roman knew much about Jesus, certainly not that he was the Son of God, or the Messiah. His faith was trust. Here was a foreigner soldier who was willing to trust implicitly even though he had never met the one whom he believed could help him. It is that unquestioning reliance which Jesus admired, and which he requires from all who would follow him. And that is just the quality which he failed to find among his own people (9).

I suppose almost any experienced Christian can relate stories of surprising virtue. We all interact with people of many classes and types. And we all get surprised from time to time. Just when we think we have everyone pigeon-holed, type-cast, and perfectly understood, someone shows us depths of spiritual treasure that we never expected.

That is one of the true joys of missionary activity, or any evangelism. When we reach out and make genuine connections with others, we learn more about them. And the more we learn, the more good we find. Yes, it works the other way, also. The old saying, “There is a little good in the worst of us, and a little bad in the best of us,” does hold true. But isn’t it a joy to focus on those treasures of good we find in such unusual places? Even Jesus could be surprised and pleased at what he discovered.

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study **9:00am**
Worship **10:00am**
Evening **5:00pm**

Wednesday

Bible Study **7:00pm**

Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is*
for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Psalms 133:1

Prayer List

Paula Wanner	Dianne Vandagriff
Faye Johnson	Cassie Tierce
Phillip Pharr	Elizabeth Posey
Stephanie Moore	Virginia Higginbottom
Larry Sartain	Flora Wanner
Carolyn Holcomb	Ellie Sander
Lou Dodson	Shane Stevens
Lynn Sander	Brenda Leatherwood
Tim Denson	Jim Johnson
David James	Joel Robbins
Jimmy Searcy	Wayne Thomason
Tim Thomas	Margie Pharr
Lena Hammett	Alton Cleghorn



The process for becoming a Christian is the same as it was over 2000 years ago!
To become a Christian, one must:

Hear the Gospel - Rom. 10:17

Believe the Gospel - Heb. 11:6

Repent of Sins - Luke 13:3

Confess Christ - Rom. 10:10

Be Immersed Into Christ - Acts 2:38

Live a Faithful Life - Rev. 2:10

None of these alone will make you a Christian. These commands are from God and must be obeyed from the heart to become a Christian.



March Birthdays

Jonah Holcomb 3/3
Jimmy Higginbottom 3/15
Lena Hammett 3/15
Shawn Robinson 3/15
Michelle Holcomb 3/26
Elijah Johnson 3/30

March Anniversaries

Jerry & Janey 3/2
Barry & Debra 3/17

Sympathy

Brewer Family