

SERVICE SCHEDULE for June 10, 2012

Announcements for the Week Jason LaChappelle
Morning Service
Prayer- Phillip Dorn
Song Leader- Andy Dobbs
Communion:
 -- **Comments** – Marshall Irvin
 -- **Assisting** – Matt Fuller
 -- **Assisting** – Jake Pope
 -- **Assisting** – Mark Jones
 -- **Assisting** – David Johnson
Scripture – Curran LaChappelle
Closing Prayer- David Fuller
Evening Service
Prayer- Marshall Foxworthy
Song Leader- Roger German
Comments – Marshall Irvin
Serving – Jake Pope
Scripture – Todd Hudson
Closing Prayer- Ronald Sammons
Wednesday Night – June 13, 2012
First Prayer – Bill McIlvain
Song Leader – Matt Fuller
Invitation – David Fuller
Closing Prayer – Kevin Criswell
June 24 Sunday Night Lesson – Marshal Irvin

Upcoming Assignments:

June	Communion	Cleaning
17	Jones	Dorn, Gray, Irvin, Pope, Williams
24	Gray	Foxworthy, German, McMullen, Jones, Stewart

Notes:

The Ladies Bible Class is on a Summer Break. They will resume again in August on the first and third Monday of the month.

Bulletin Articles: This publication is designed to be a teaching and evangelism tool. Feel free to share this with someone at work or school. You can submit any articles you would want to share with others to Bill McIlvain. Digital copies are preferred. We will gladly add anyone to our e-mail recipients list. All we need is the e-mail address.

Family Bible Week Coming Soon! FBW dates have been set now for the week of July 15. Do everything you can to accommodate this.

Schedule of Services

Sunday: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.

This bulletin is published weekly. Edited by Bill McIlvain.
 Send any articles for the bulletin to WMaxx@charter.net
 Visit us on the web: www.covingtonchurchofchrist.com

Covington Church of Christ

9441 Bypass, P.O. Box 768, Covington, GA 30015 --- [770] 787-1119
 Elders: Dan Buselmeier, Andy Dobbs, Bill McIlvain
 Deacons: John Paul Baker -- Doug Davidson -- Andy Fuller
 Marshall Irvin -- Jason LaChappelle

June 10, 2012

Supernatural Journeys

1. Elijah and Elisha walked across the Jordan river on dry ground after Elijah struck the waters with what?
2. How was Elijah taken up into heaven?
3. Who was taken up to heaven in the sight of his followers?
4. What man knew someone who had been caught up to the third heaven?



Is God's Grace Not Sufficient?

By Al Diestelkamp

After pleading three times for a “thorn in the flesh” to depart from him, the apostle Paul was told by the Lord, *“My grace is sufficient for you” (2 Corinthians 12:9)*. There has been much speculation about just what that “thorn” was that troubled the apostle, but it remains just that—speculation.

Perhaps there was a purpose behind the Holy Spirit not inspiring Paul to reveal the exact nature of that “messenger of Satan” that plagued him. Maybe it’s intended that we learn that there may be things or circumstances in our lives which we must suffer through, consoled by the knowledge that God’s grace is sufficient for us.



Is God's Grace Not Sufficient?

Continued

When one is faced with serious illness, often the question is, "Why me?" Some Christians have difficulty understanding why their prayers for healing are not answered in the way they hoped. I am not suggesting that people quit praying in such situations, but also remember that they are recipients of God's grace, which is even better than physical healing.

There are Christians who are working at jobs that are less than ideal, and long for other opportunities. There is nothing wrong with trying to advance one's career and earning potential as long as that does not jeopardize his spiritual relationship with Christ. However, if in that pursuit, the child of God would be required to compromise his convictions, the attitude must be that God's grace is sufficient.

In the parable of the sower, Jesus identifies four types of people who ***"hear the word of the kingdom"*** (Matthew 13:18-23). "Wayside" people fail to understand the word, and Satan snatches the word away, causing them not to believe. "Stony-places" people hear, and happily receive the word, but stumble when tribulation comes. "Those among the thorns" receive the word, but allow worldliness to choke out any fruitfulness. I think it's safe to say that those represented by the "Stony" and "Thorny" soils don't value God's grace sufficiently to endure the trials or to make the necessary sacrifices. In contrast, those represented by the "good ground" recognize that God's grace is sufficient no matter what else happens to them.

Sometimes the level of persecution seems almost unbearable to the one on the receiving end. Occasionally a gospel preacher will be treated badly by some within the congregation among whom he is working. When a faithful gospel preacher is asked to take his Bible elsewhere, causing grief for he and his family, it is a good time to reflect on how good God has been in bestowing His grace. If he is living right, and preaching as he should, he can boldly say, ***"The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"*** (Hebrews 13:6).

The call to repentance is a time when a person must appraise the value of God's grace. If a person who owned a business establishment that thrived on evil were to avail himself of God's grace, repentance would demand that he shut that business down. The financial hardship that might result would be worth it because God's grace is sufficient.

A person whose past practice and inclination is toward homosexuality must become celibate, choosing to ***"suffer with the people of God" over "the passing pleasures of sin"*** (Hebrews 11:24). This is no more than God asks of the single heterosexual man or woman who chooses, or is unable, to marry.

Likewise, in our efforts to evangelize we often are faced with people whose lives have been complicated by divorce and remarriage. More often than not, the cause for divorce was not "for fornication," which, according to Jesus, means that any subsequent marriage involves adultery (Matthew 19:9). No doubt, true repentance in such cases is very difficult and tests one's faith, but even then, God's grace is sufficient.

It doesn't matter what inconveniences or emotional distresses that accompany repentance of sins, God's assurance is, "My grace is sufficient."



Leaving It Behind

By Kyle Campbell

The other day, my son asked me why my elbow was a certain way, and I responded, "Because I'm old." Although I was half kidding, it does make me think. The older I get, the more I have to leave behind. Growing older is a reminder of ***2 Corinthians 4:16: For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.***

Life goes on, and the body decays. God could have made a body which would never age until the time we die, but it would never remind us that life is so brief. David said, ***"For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding"*** (1 Chronicles 29:15).

As you grow older, use wisdom to see that this world is not your home. Obey God and inherit a glorious home for eternity.



Answers from page 1

1. His mantle [2 Kings 2:8]
2. In a whirlwind [2 Kings 2:11]
3. Jesus [Acts 1:9]
4. The apostle Paul [2 Corinthians 12:1-7]

