

SERVICE SCHEDULE for March 10, 2013

Announcements for the Week

Marshall Irvin

Morning Service

Prayer- David Fuller

Song Leader- Dan Buselmeier

Communion:

-- **Comments** – Jason LaChappelle

-- **Assisting** – Kevin Criswell

-- **Assisting** – Jay Dobbs

-- **Assisting** – Phillip Dorn

-- **Assisting** – Andrew Johnson

Scripture – Alex Tucker

Closing Prayer- Andy Fuller

Evening Service

Prayer- Jason LaChappelle

Song Leader- Roger German

Comments – Andy Dobbs

Serving – Jay Dobbs

Scripture – Todd Hudson

Closing Prayer- Andy Fuller

Wednesday Night – March 13, 2013

First Prayer – Doug Davidson

Song Leader – Matt Fuller

Invitation – Alex Tucker

Closing Prayer – David Fuller

March 24 Sunday Night Lesson – Andy Dobbs

Upcoming Assignments:

March	Communion	Cleaning
17	Criswell	Johnson, Baker, Goddard, Land
24	Fuller	Davidson, Hudson, Stone, Denney

Notes:

The Ladies meet on the first and third Monday of the month. The next meeting will be next Monday, March 18, at 7PM.

Gospel Meeting Recordings: Recordings of our Spring Gospel Meeting with Ben Hall are available on-line at www.covingtonchurchofchrist.com

If you prefer to have a hard copy on CD, then see one of our deacons and they will be happy to make an audio CD for you. We can even transfer the entire series in mp3 format to your listening device as well.

Keep thinking of ways you can increase your service to the Lord. It may be that you can share these messages with a friend.

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

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Elders: Dan Buselmeier, Andy Dobbs, Bill McIlvain

Deacons: John Paul Baker, Doug Davidson, Andy Fuller,

Marshall Irvin, Jason LaChappelle

March 10, 2013

Military Men

1. Who was commander of the Israelites under Moses?
2. Who was the commander of Abimelech's army?
3. What judge from Gilead was called to be a commander against the Ammonites?
4. What irate soldier falsely accused Jeremiah of deserting to the Babylonians and arrested him?



The Distracted Life

By Al Diestelkamp

On one occasion when Jesus was the guest of honor in her home, Martha was doing what most godly women would do. She was serving. Her sister, Mary, was not helping her, but instead was sitting at the feet of Jesus, listening to Him teach. Finally, Martha had enough and appealed to Jesus to intervene: *“Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me” (Luke 10:40).*

I don't know about you, but on the surface that sounds like a reasonable request. Martha was being hospitable while her sister was lounging on the floor. So we may be somewhat surprised at Jesus' defense of Mary and His mild rebuke directed at Martha.



The Distracted Life

Continued

Once we get over our surprise, we note that the text reveals, *“Martha was distracted with much serving.”* So Jesus lovingly says, *“Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things” (Luke 10:41).* We are not informed as to just how Martha reacted, or whether this caused her to take her apron off and join her sister at Jesus’ feet.

What is significant is the statement about Martha being “distracted.” The KJV uses the word “cumbered,” which is defined as “being over-occupied about a thing” (Vine’s Dictionary of New Testament Words, p.261). Clearly, in this situation she was not distracted by evil. She was being distracted (over-occupied) with something that was good.

Being over-occupied with something that is good can cause one to neglect something that is better. One of the problems of many of the scribes and Pharisees that Jesus dealt with was that they were over-occupied with Sabbath-keeping. I think we can safely say that Jesus kept the Sabbath perfectly, but not to the satisfaction of some. On one occasion Jesus answered the Pharisees who had accused His disciples of doing that *“what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath” (Matthew 12:2)* by reminding them that under unusual circumstances David and those with him entered the house of God and ate the showbread which under normal circumstances was only to be eaten by priests (vv.3-4).

Later, these detractors asked Jesus, *“Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?” (Matthew 12:10)*, and Jesus answered by asking who among them would not help a sheep that had fallen into a pit on the Sabbath, and then declared “it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath” (v.12). These Pharisees were so over-occupied with Sabbath-keeping that they didn’t realize that *“the Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath” (Mark 2:28).*

In another confrontation with some scribes and Pharisees who were so over-occupied with paying tithes—even to the point of tithing their mint, anise and cummin—that they neglected weightier matters such as justice, mercy and faith, Jesus declares *“These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone” (Matthew 23:23).* Tithing the contents of their spice cabinets was good, but not to the extent that it would distract them from attending to weightier things.

We have to be careful lest we become so over-occupied with good things that we neglect the better things.

Let’s face it! In addition to all the evil that begs for our attention, there is an ever-increasing number of causes and activities which also compete for our active participation. The result is that many of us have cluttered our lives with so many “good” activities and interests that we don’t have time for the weightier matters that will help us not only in this life, but all the way into eternity.

It is good to work in order to provide financially for our own (see 1 Timothy 5:8), but it is not good to become so over-occupied with working that we neglect the weightier matters, such as spending time and providing spiritual leadership for our families. Speaking of spending time together as a family, it’s good to be able to plan family activities and go on vacations, but we cannot allow ourselves to be so over-occupied with travel and fun that we neglect the more important spiritual responsibilities of worshiping with other Christians.



It is good to make sure our children get a good education, but we must not be distracted by much education to the point where we, like Martha, are “worried and troubled about many things.” Even if a child, were to get the best secular education, if he is distracted from his spiritual training he will likely be a failure spiritually.

It’s also good if we’re able to help our children develop culturally, civically or athletically, but not to the point where it distracts them—or us—from what is most important. It’s quite interesting to me that a team coach, or a band director, can insist on participants attending daily practice sessions or rehearsals for weeks on end, and we consider that acceptable even when it hinders the more important spiritual participation.

Clearly, we have more than enough trouble avoiding being distracted by sin, let alone by things that are good.



Answers from page 1

1. Joshua [Exodus 17:10]
2. Phicol [Genesis 21:22]
3. Jephthah [Judges 11:6]
4. Irijah [Jeremiah 37:13]

