

SERVICE SCHEDULE for August 25, 2013

Announcements for the Week

Andy Dobbs

Morning Service

Prayer- Mike Shepherd

Song Leader- Marshall Irvin

Communion:

-- **Comments** – Andy Fuller

-- **Assisting** – Kevin Criswell

-- **Assisting** – Alex Tucker

-- **Assisting** – Matt Fuller

-- **Assisting** – Andrew Johnson

Scripture– Gary Goddard

Closing Prayer- David Johnson

Evening Service

Prayer- John Paul Baker

Song Leader- Bill McIlvain

Comments – Bill McIlvain

Serving – Michael Shepherd

Scripture – Gary Goddard

Closing Prayer- Jay Dobbs

Wednesday Night – August 28, 2013

First Prayer– Andy Fuller

Song Leader – John Paul Baker

Invitation – Jason LaChappelle

Closing Prayer – David Fuller

Upcoming Assignments

September	Communion	Cleaning
1	Bailey	Johnson, Baker, Goddard, Land
8	Buselmeier	Davidson, Hudson, Stone, Denney

Service

“A person less fortunate than yourself deserves the best you can give. Because of duty, and honor, and service. You understand those words? You should do your job right, and you should do it well, simply because you can, without looking for notice or reward.” — Lee Child, Nothing to Lose

“We are not called upon to do all the good that is possible, but only that which we can do.” — Theodore Guerin: Journals and Letters

Service to others in their time of need is a privilege and an honor.



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 Preacher@covingtonchurchofchrist.com

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

August 25, 2013

Bribes & Taxes

1. Who offered Delilah silver if she could find out the secret of Samson's strength?
2. Who bribed the guards at Jesus' tomb to say that the disciples had stolen the body?
3. According to the Law, how much tax did all adult Israelites have to pay when the census was taken?
4. What ruler imposed tribute in Jesus' day?



Microwave Religion

By Craig Thomas

Undoubtedly today's world has many "conveniences": cell phones, instant pudding, remote controls, drive through restaurants, and microwave ovens. There's nothing inherently evil about conveniences, but living in such a world can lead us to develop unhealthy spiritual attitudes. Below are some examples that if practiced, lead to "microwave religion."



Microwave Religion

Continued

Salvation without sacrifice. Jesus said, *"If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."* (Luke 9:23) But about the only thing that differentiates most "Christians" from people of the world is that their name is on a church roll somewhere and they show up once in a while for a worship service (maybe!). You can't have salvation without sacrifice! Jesus asks for our sacrifice, not occasionally, but "daily"!

Remission without repentance. Repentance is perhaps God's hardest command. Repentance is more than saying you're sorry (2 Corinthians 7:10). It requires us to change our mind and our behavior (Matt. 3:8). Repentance is an absolute requirement! *"Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish"* (Luke 13:3; cf. Acts 17:30). *"God...now commands all men everywhere to repent,"* that's you, that's me, that's everyone! (Acts 17:30)

Righteousness without obedience. Many people excuse themselves of obeying God, "I'm just human!" they cry. But the Bible says, *"Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments."* (1 John 2:3) Claiming to know God without keeping His commands makes us a liar! (1 John 2:4) Jesus is "the author of eternal salvation" to "all who obey Him" (Hebrews 5:9) and His commands are not "burdensome"! (1 John 5:3)

Morality without self-denial. We live in a society without self-denial. But it is impossible to live a moral life without self-denial (Titus 2:11-12). Even Paul said he had to *"discipline" his "body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified."* (1 Cor. 9:27)

Growth without diligence. Unfortunately most Christians remain spiritual "babies" (Hebrews 5:12-14). Peter said we must "give all diligence" to "add" certain things to our faith (see 2 Peter 1:5-7). If we fail to do so, we are *"shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins."* (2 Pet. 1:9) Are you growing or forgetting?

Knowledge without study. The amount of Bible knowledge possessed by most Christians is truly pitiful! Evidently they don't realize God said, *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."* (Hosea 4:6) We need to be diligent students of God's word (2 Timothy 2:15). Otherwise we'll fall too! (Ephesians 4:11-14) How are your Bible study habits?

Truth without controversy. By its very nature truth is controversial. But in our "politically correct" world few are willing to *"earnestly contend for the faith"* (Jude 3). Does the truth make you squeamish? Remember, "Good preaching sounds reveille, not taps."

What about your religion? Is it true to God's book? Is it the religion taught by Jesus and the apostles? Is it sacrificial, obedient, and self-denying? Or, is it a religion of convenience, a "microwave religion"?



Back To School

By Donovan Newman

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." [Joshua 1:9]

As we go back to school, we are faced with many changes. Over the summer holiday we get to spend time with our friends and family, but as we go back to school we get a feeling of aloneness.

In our day to day lives, we are constantly mocked and scorned for our belief in God. Because of that many Christians wear masks at school. They follow God commands while they are at their home or at worship but when they go out to school they put on their worldly mask. They don't want to stand out because they fear others.

We see God repeat over and over that Joshua needs to be strong and courageous. You can't be strong or courageous spiritually if you hide behind a mask to please the world. You can't win this battle with Satan by cowering behind what the world wants you to be.



Answers from page 1

1. The lords of the Philistines [Judges 16:5]
2. The chief priests [Matthew 28:11-15]
3. A half shekel each [Exodus 30:12-16]
4. Caesar [Matthew 2:17-22]

