

SERVICE SCHEDULE for July 27, 2014

Announcements for the Week

John Paul Baker

Morning Service

Evening Service

Prayer- Roger German

Prayer- Andy Dobbs

Song Leader- Andy Dobbs

Song Leader- John Paul Baker

Communion:

Comments – Bill McIlvain

-- **Comments** – Marshall Irvin

Communion – Russ Sollars

-- **Assisting** – David Johnson

-- **Assisting** – Mark Jones

-- **Assisting** – John MacQuilliam

-- **Assisting** – Gary Goddard

-- **Scripture** – Kevin Criswell

Scripture – Matt Fuller

Closing Prayer- Andy Fuller

Closing Prayer- John MacQuilliam

Wednesday Night – July 30, 2014

First Prayer– Bill McIlvain

Song Leader – Russ Sollars

Invitation – Trey Irvin

Closing Prayer – David Fuller

July 27 Evening Service: Alex Tucker

Upcoming Assignments

August	Communion	Cleaning
3	Stone	Johnson, Baker, Goddard, Land
10	German	Davidson, Hudson, Stone, Denney, Shepherd

SERVICE --

“The greatest joys in life are found not only in what we do and feel, but also in our quiet hopes and labors for others.” — Bryant McGill

“Service is providing what's wanted, not what I'd like to give.”

"And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. [Mark 10:44]"

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. [Ephesians 2:10]"



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

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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

July 27, 2014

Trees

1. What king appointed an overseer to watch after the fruits of the olive trees and sycamores?
2. Who was killed after his hair was caught in an oak's branches?
3. What man met the Lord at the oaks of Mamre?
4. What kind of tree was withered by Jesus because it bore no fruit?



The Family Together

By Dee Bowman

Family. There's something warm and inviting about the word. It floods the mind with thoughts of home and hearth, of fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, aunts, uncles, grandma and grandpa. It conjures memories — memories of togetherness, of commonality, of all being in one place at the same time. It calls to mind picnics, ball games, holidays spent with loved ones. Family. It just says something special. And the thing it most especially says is "together."

Together. There is no such thing as family without together. No matter how the word is used — whether in regard to biology, or mathematics, linguistics, or physics — family always suggests something held together by a common bond.



The Family Together

Continued

There are things that bind families together — things like common goals, common interests, and even common struggles. The church is the same. All these things are both recommended and common in the family of God. Worship brings the family of God closer to the Father.

When we direct our love toward our common Father, we become stronger in both our devotion to Him and our devotion to one another. We are told to *"worship Him in spirit and in truth"* (John 4:24). While this may refer to the attitude we are to have when we worship Him, I believe there is more to it than that. I believe He means we should reach down to the very depth of who we are and accord to Him the most reverent feelings of that inner being. In the ultimate reality, worship is the adoring reverence of the creature for the Creator, and that means our most fundamental feelings of love and devotion must be extended to Him. When that is the case, it is axiomatic that we also come closer to one another.

Being together as a family brings us closer to the Father. He is the focal point of our assembling. When we sing together, we bring honor to His name. *"I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the understanding also"* (1 Corinthians 14:15) carries the same responsibility as the worship to which we earlier alluded — there must be a reaching down to the essence of who we are when we sing praises to Him. **Colossians 3:16-17** begins with *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,"* a sure indication of the need for the deepest respect we can muster before we even begin to sing praises to Him. Also, as we are told to teach and admonish "one another" in songs, hymns, and spiritual songs, the command closes with the enjoinder that we sing *"with grace in your hearts to the Lord."* Worshipful prayers brings us closer to God. As we each come closer to Him in our personal prayers and supplication, we come to be closer to one another, praying to the same Father, seeking the same blessings, extolling the same Savior. The Lord's Supper, served in the assembly of the saints, brings us together so that we can *"consider one another to provoke unto love and good works"* (Hebrews 10:23-25). Worshiping together promotes an intimate relationship with the family.



Family love is never better or more to be desired than in the church of our Lord Jesus Christ. Love is the divine mucilage, it binds us all together in Him (**Colossians 3:14**). That love originated in Him, and is radiated to us; we ought therefore to radiate it to one another. *"Beloved, let us*

love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loves is born of God, and knows God" (1 John 4:7). There's togetherness in that. Nothing brings us closer to Him than love for one another, born of love for Him. It makes peace possible. It solidifies unity. It emboldens hope. It gives security to a proper direction. It makes motive high and noble. Furthermore, to love the brethren is to be like the Father. *"Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently"* (1 Peter 1:22). We are brethren. We each belong to God our Father. Brethren love brethren.

The family together is a beautiful sight. Think about the pictures you have seen of families together — paintings, portraits, photographs — they all speak to togetherness, to a common love, and to a common devotion to a common father. The family together is what the church of our Lord is all about. Let us be careful that we don't diminish its beauty by being derelict and neglecting the family together. I love my family, don't you?



Answers from page 1

1. David [1 Chronicles 27:28]
2. Absalom [2 Samuel 18:9-10]
3. Abraham [Genesis 18:1]
4. A fig tree [Mark 11:12-14]

