

SERVICE SCHEDULE for May 3, 2015

Announcements for the Week

Andy Fuller

Morning Service

Evening Service

Prayer- Roger German

Prayer- Phillip Dorn

Song Leader- Dan Buselmeier

Song Leader- Jason LaChappelle

Communion:

Comments – Russ Sollars

-- **Comments** – Josh Hudson

Communion – Phillip Dorn

-- **Assisting** – Kevin Criswell

-- **Assisting** – Mark Jones

-- **Assisting** – David Johnson

-- **Assisting** – Scott Lucas

-- **Scripture** – Curran LaChappelle

Scripture – Gary Goddard

Closing Prayer- Doug Davidson

Closing Prayer- David Johnson

Wednesday Night – May 6, 2015

First Prayer- Dan Buselmeier

Song Leader – Don Casper

Invitation – Josh Hudson

Closing Prayer – Darryl Griffing

May 24 Evening Service: Marshall Irvin

Upcoming Assignments

May	Communion	Cleaning
10	Carr	Foxworthy, German, Sollars, Jones, Stewart
17	Ferrell	Mcllvain, R&K Ferrell, Criswell, Tucker, Davis

Ladies Bible Study

The ladies have a bible class scheduled for the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month. They meet here at the church building tomorrow @ 7:00PM.

Good Thoughts --

Chronic remorse, as all the moralists are agreed, is a most undesirable sentiment. If you have behaved badly, repent, make what amends you can and address yourself to the task of behaving better next time. On no account brood over your wrongdoing. Rolling in the muck is not the best way of getting clean. — Aldous Huxley, Brave New World



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 Mcllvain.

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 Mcllvain

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

Marshall Irvin, Jason LaChappelle

May 3, 2015

Who Said That?

1. Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.
2. While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child my live?
3. Within three days you shall pass over the Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the Lord your God vises you to possess it.
4. This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.



Maintaining Our Spiritual Fire

By Kevin Cauley

This past week I saw a video on the news of a man stepping outside with a boiling pot of water, tossing the water into the air and its instantaneously changing into snow. He was near the top of Mount Washington in New Hampshire and it was thirty-five degrees below zero. My first reaction was, "Hey, that's kind of cool." Then I thought, "Wow, that's really cold." And finally, "That guy's crazy going outside in that kind of weather." Consider that water boils at 212 degrees Fahrenheit; water freezes at 32 degrees Fahrenheit.



Maintaining Our Spiritual Fire

Continued

That's so cold that the water cooled down 180+ degrees in less than a second. The water froze because of a failure to maintain the fire. What can we do to maintain our spiritual fire?

Lesson #1: Much energy was needed to warm the water; but very little was needed to cool it. It takes 398 BTUs to change frozen water to boiling water. Energy is required! To the contrary, to cool water down takes practically no energy at all. A flick of the wrist and the boiling water was frozen. This reminds me of words to the church in Ephesus to endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3). It also said to the Galatians (5:6) that what avails is faith working through love. Even spiritually speaking, energy/effort/work is required in order to stay warm; but what is required to freeze? Just do nothing.

Lesson #2: Together the water was warm; separated, it became cold. Those trillions of water molecules in that boiling pot stayed warm so long as they were in close proximity to each other; they kept warm off each other's heat. However, once they dispersed they quickly cooled not having the company of their "brethren" to keep them warm. *Ecclesiastes 4:11 says, "Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone?"* The story is told of the preacher who visits the un-attending member and, without a word, while sitting in front of the fireplace, merely pulls a coal out of the fire to watch it slowly die. Yet, putting it back in, the coal warms to a soft red glow again. We need to exhort one another daily and not forsake our assembling together! (Hebrews 3:13, 10:25)

Lesson #3: Someone "stirred" the pot. That water didn't become snow without someone agitating the pot! If the pot had been left on the fire it would have stayed warm, but it was moved, stirred, agitated. This resulted in the decrease of heat and the increase of cold. Agitation in the church often has the same results. The Holy Spirit instructed the church at Philippi to, *"Do all things without murmurings and disputings" (Philippians 2:14)*. He said in *Colossians 3:13 "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man has a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."*

We all know what it means when a body has "assumed room temperature." Warmth equals life. Cold equals death.



Buddhist Prodigal Story

By David Maxson

"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in." [Luke 15:25-28]

Did you know there is a Buddhist version of the prodigal son? A young man ran away from his father. His father searched for him but couldn't find him.

Then, by chance, the son came to his father's house. The son was poor and didn't recognize his father because his father had become extremely powerful and wealthy.

But the father recognized his son. However, he did not reveal to him or to anyone else that he was his son. Rather, he made him a servant and for the next twenty years the son faithfully served his father.

At the end of the father's life he revealed himself to his son and turned all of his wealth to him.

The contrast between these two versions of the prodigal is obvious. In the Buddhist version forgiveness is earned. In Jesus' parable it is freely given. Indeed, this is the point of the story.

The parable is not about the prodigal, but about the attitude of the older brother. The older brother felt an injustice had been done and he was angry. His anger in the story was not directed primarily at his brother, but at his father who had shown mercy. What his father did was, in his mind, not right.

But it was right, and it is the only hope we have of forgiveness.



Answers from page 1

1. Steven [Acts 7:59]
2. David [2 Samuel 12:22]
3. Joshua [Joshua 1:11]
4. Jacob [Genesis 28:17]

