SERVICE SCHEDULE for September 27, 2015

Announcements for the Week Andy Fuller

Morning ServiceEvening ServicePrayer- David JohnsonPrayer- TBA

Song Leader- Andy Dobbs Song Leader- John Paul Baker

Communion:

-- Comments – Jason LaChappelle Comments – Andy Dobbs

-- Assisting - Kevin Criswell Communion - Curran LaChappelle

-- Assisting – Jared Davis-- Assisting – Darryl Griffing-- Assisting – Mark Jones

-- Scripture - Cliff Davis Scripture - Various

Closing Prayer- Doug Davidson Closing Prayer- Jason LaChappelle

Wednesday Night - September 30, 2015

First Prayer – Curran LaChappelle Song Leader – Andy Dobbs Invitation – Russ Sollars Closing Prayer – Don Casper

Sunday Evening Song Origin Service

Upcoming Assignments

October	Communion	Cleaning
4	Criswell	McIlvain, R&K Ferrell, Criswell, Tucker, Davis
11	Fuller	Johnson, Baker, Goddard, Land, H. Hudson

Ladies Bible Class:

Ladies Bible Class will be resuming soon. They used to meet on the $1^{\rm st}$ & $3^{\rm rd}$ Monday at 7:00PM. Date & time schedules will be announced & posted.

Good Thoughts --

Contrary to what we may have been taught to think, unnecessary and unchosen suffering wounds us but need not scar us for life. It does mark us. What we allow the mark of our suffering to become is in our own hands. — Bell Hooks, All About Love

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 <u>Preacher@covingtonchurchofchrist.com</u>
Visit us on the web: www.covingtonchurchofchrist.com

Covington Church of Christ

9441 Bypass, P.O. Box 768, Covington, GA30015 --- [770] 787-1119
Elders: Andy Dobbs, Bill McIlvain
Deacons: John Paul Baker, Doug Davidson, Andy Fuller,
Marshall Irvin, Jason LaChappelle

September 27, 2015

Creepy Things

- 1. What voracious insect was a plaque on the Egyptians?
- 2. According to Ecclesiastes, what gives perfume a bad smell?
- 3. What tiny insect did David compare himself to when Saul pursued him?
- 4. To what loathsome creature did Bildad compare man?

It Is Not A Game!

By Mike Riley

Do you remember how as children we used to play like we were something that we were not? We'd say, "Let's play like we're cowboys," or "Let's play like we're firemen," or "Let's play like..."

It was not strange that we as children lived in a fantasy world from time to time. There was no reason for our parents to be disturbed because we spent so much time "playing like" we were someone else.

But now that we are grown, most of us with families of our own, it is high time for us to be concerned if we are continuing to play like we are something we are not.

It Is Not A Game!

Continued

Far too many of us approach Christianity as it were a "game" in which we can "play like" we are Christians. And it is not a serious matter because when any requirement of living the Christian life conflicts with our own desires, we quickly close our eyes, shut our ears, and simply ignore that requirement, all the while still thinking that we are good Christians. We need to remember that we can "deceive" ourselves (James 1:22).

It is evident that many are "playing like" they are Christians. When one is off and on in their church attendance, haphazard in their giving, and neglectful in their service to God, one is "playing like" he or she is a Christian. Living the Christian life is a very serious thing. Tomorrow is not promised to us (James 4:13-15). Let us be sure that we are not "playing like" we are Christians. True New Testament Christians are not deadheads, nor are they inactive, complacent, indifferent, or lukewarm. They are filled with zeal and enthusiasm for the Lord (Titus 2:11-14). The question is – are you? Don't "play like" you are a Christian – be a true one!

"Whatsoever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men" (Colossians 3:23).

Sowing The Seeds Of Joy

By Edwin Crozier

We are told to be the happiest people on earth. But let's face it. We live in a depressing world. Sin surrounds us. Sickness overwhelms us. Death is everywhere. On top of these, because we are Christians, everyone else ridicules us. How are we supposed to have joy in the face of all this?

We do not need to be overwhelmed by trying to grapple with every aspect of joy in the face of struggles. As with any fruit that we want to bear, we need simply to sow the proper seeds. The same is true for joy. But what seeds must we sow?

Peter claimed that Christians can rejoice even in the face of hardship because of their faith (I Peter 1:8). Because we believe in Jesus ... Because we believe He died for us ... Because we believe He has reserved an inheritance for us, we can rejoice, looking past all the troubles we face on earth.

But faith does not just happen. If we want to have the faith that will produce God-glorifying joy, we must sow the seed of Bible study. Faith does not come from Chicken Soup for the Soul. It comes from God's word (Romans 10:17). We must read the stories of God's people and God's promises; see God's faithfulness to people of faith. As we trust God more, our joy in Christ will increase.

f we want to bear the fruit of God-glorifying joy, we must sow the seed of thanksgiving in prayer. We should not spend all of our prayer time focusing on what we want but do not have. Instead, we should spend time looking at what God has already done for us. It is no wonder that Paul tied thanksgiving together with rejoicing in I Thessalonians 5:16-18. When we spend our time thinking about all the things for which we have to be thankful, we will naturally spend more time rejoicing.

This will take practice. We have to force ourselves to count our blessings and think about positive things (cf. Philippians 4:8). Then we must take time to actually offer thanks. Remember, God has not asked us to have some kind of nebulous thankful attitude. He has asked us to give thanks

Finally, if we want to bear God-glorifying joy, we must sow the seed of focusing on heavenly things (Colossians 3:1-2). In Acts 20:24, Paul demonstrated why this seed bears joy. Because he was focused on heaven, he was not distracted by prolonging his earthly life. Therefore, he was able to face even possible execution with joy.

When we take daily time to think about heaven, how much we want to go there and God's promise to take us there, we can take all this life has to throw at us in stride and maintain our joy.

We do not need to be overwhelmed by all the implications of Godglorifying joy. We must simply sow the seeds of joy and we will bear fruit that glorifies God. How many seeds will you sow this week?

answers from page 1

- 1. The locust [Exodus 10:12-19]
- 2. Dead flies [Ecclesiastes 10:1]
- 3. A flea [1 Samuel 24:14]
- 4. A worm [Job 25:6]

####