**SERVICE SCHEDULE for September 29, 2019**

**Announcements for the Week** Darryl Griffing

**Morning Service Evening Service**

**Prayer-** Andy Fuller **Prayer-** Andy Fuller

**Song Leader-** Jason LaChappelle **Song Leader-** Buck Phillips

**Communion:**

**-- Comments –** Buck Phillips **Comments –** Jason LaChappelle

**-- Assisting –** Lucian Griffing **Communion –** Darryl Griffing

**-- Assisting –** Jared Davis

**-- Assisting –** Brandon Esque

**-- Assisting –** Roger German

**-- Scripture –** Dean Shacklock **Scripture –** Connor LaChappelle

**Closing Prayer-** David Johnson **Closing Prayer-** Don Casper

**Wednesday Night – October 2, 2019**

**First Prayer–** Cliff Davis

**Song Leader –** Bill McIlvain

**Invitation –** Darryl Griffing

**Closing Prayer –** Don Casper

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **September** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **29** | German | Please Be Considerate |
| **Oct 6** | Dorn | Clean the area around your seat before leaving |

**Good Thoughts--**

**A good name is a valuable treasure*. A good name is to be more desired than great wealth, Favor is better than silver and gold. Proverbs 22:1***

**The cemeteries are full of people who thought the world couldn’t get along without them. “*I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give to each man according to his ways, according to the results of his deeds.” Jeremiah 17:10***

**Don't assume, ask. Be kind. Tell the truth. Don't say anything you can't stand behind fully. Have integrity. Tell people how you feel. ― Warsan Shire**

**I will not cut my conscience to fit this year's fashions. ― Lillian Hellman**

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***Schedule of Services***

**Sunday: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.**

**Wi-Fi Password: church1234**

**This bulletin is published weekly. Edited by Bill McIlvain.**

**Send any articles for the bulletin to** **Preacher@covingtonchurchofchrist.com**

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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

**Deacons: Cliff Davis, Darryl Griffing, Buck Phillips**

**September 29, 2019**

***Winning Battles***

1. What king led the people in singing & praising God, leading God to destroy the Ammonites, Moabites, & Edomites?

2. Who were the Judeans fighting when God helped them slaughter a half million soldiers?

3. What occurred when Jonathan & his armor bearer attacked the Philistines?

4. What weather phenomenon did the Lord use to defeat the Amorites when Joshua & his men were fighting them?

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***Just Who Is Serving Whom?***

When we normally think of "services," we think of buying the *services* of some company or taking advantage of (using) the *services* offered by some institution. The point is that when we speak of "services," we most often think of services rendered *to us.* And that's where my concern is raised.

I am afraid that some of us have come to think of "worship services" as a time of worship when *we are served!* We know better than to think that we are worshipped! But the point is, I fear, that some of us get the aim of the "worship services" inverted in our minds: we begin to think of "worship services" as being something designed to serve us! And folks, that's just not the case!

***Helping Others To Change***

**By Rick Liggin**

It's hard to change! It doesn't matter who you are, young or old--for all of us, change is hard! It's hard because it hurts, or at least, it's uncomfortable. It puts us way out of our comfort zone, and stretches us almost to our limits. The truth is, change just doesn't feel natural; and because it doesn't feel natural, it doesn't come easy. Oh, sure, we can make a few adjustments here and there, but real, substantive change--I mean really changing something that's deeply rooted in us in a lasting way--man, that's tough. And most of us probably know it.

Now, the fact is that some things don't need to change--because they work! And so, as the old adage goes: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." Some things don't need to change--because they're right! It's dangerous, indeed, to try to change God's word or alter His plan; His way is always "right" and never in need of modification or change. But folks, some things *do* need to change! Bad habits need to change. Character flaws need to change. Faults need to be corrected. In fact, anything about me or about what I'm doing that is inconsistent with God's word, not only needs to change, it must change if I hope to please the Lord. And as difficult as it may be to accomplish, and as bad as it may hurt to do it, we need to make those changes to keep our lives in harmony with God's will.

Now, with that said, let me focus on the real point of this article. I want to focus, not on the ones who need to change, but on those who are waiting for others to make the kind of changes that they need to make. That can be hard too, especially when the one who needs to change is a close family member (maybe a husband or a wife) or a brother or sister in Christ. What do we do when one we love needs to change, but that change is coming at a painstakingly slow pace?

Well, it may not be the right thing, but here's what we normally do: we get frustrated with the situation and become impatient with the person; and often we try to force a change more quickly than it possibly can come, either by nagging or by repeated confrontation.

We try to drive the person to reformation or change and "the sooner he gets it done, the better." We forget how hard it is, even for ourselves, to make real and lasting changes in our character. But all this ends up doing is overwhelming the individual with painful guilt, so that he becomes discouraged and depressed; or it makes him mad and drives him away. He probably knows he needs to change. He's just struggling to get it done and to keep it changed--the same way you or I would struggle if we were trying to affect a real change in our lives.

Instead of frustration and efforts to force the person to change, what we need to do--regardless of his spiritual situation--is we need to be more patient! This is exactly what the apostle Paul teaches us to do when he said: ***"We urge you admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone" (1 Thessalonians 5:14).*** He essentially said the same thing to Timothy when he urged: ***"preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction" (2 Timothy 4:2).***

No, we don't ignore the person's sin. We patiently work to help him to affect a change. We keep on encouraging him "with great patience and instruction." Isn't that what you would want if you were trying hard to make a change? I think so! Vision for this person's future and our own requires us to be more patient.

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**DEVELOPING YOUR GIFTS**

One of Ripley’s “Believe It or Not” items pictured a plain bar of iron worth $5. The same bar of iron if made into horse shoes would be worth $50. If it were made into needles, it would be worth $5,000. If it were made into balance springs for fine Swiss watches, it would be worth $500,000. The raw material is not as important as how it’s developed. God says we all have gifts, but their worth to Him will be dependent on how we develop them.

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Jehoshaphat [2 Chronicles 20:22]

2. Israel [2 Chronicles 13:15-16]

3. An earthquake [1 Samuel 14:11-15]

4. Large hailstones [Joshua 10:6-13]

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