**SERVICE SCHEDULE for October 25, 2020**

**Announcements for the Week** Buck Phillips

**Morning Service Evening Service**

**Prayer-** Buck Phillips **Prayer-** Buck Phillips

**Song Leader-** Connor LaChappelle **Song Leader-** Bill McIlvain

**-- Comments –** Ben Wofford **Comments –** Andy Fuller

-- **Assisting –** Brandon Esque **Communion –** Darryl Griffing

**-- Assisting –** Jared Davis

**-- Assisting –** Ron Bailey

**-- Assisting –** Eli Hickey

**-- Scripture –** Josiah Phillips **Scripture –** Cliff Davis

**Closing Prayer-** Darryl Griffing **Closing Prayer-** Lucian Griffing

**Wednesday Night – October 28, 2020**

**First Prayer–** Darryl Griffing

**Song Leader –** Brandon Esque

**Invitation –** Connor LaChappelle

**Closing Prayer –** Phillip Dorn

**October 25 Evening Service** – Richard Boone

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **October** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **25** | Sheppard | Take the time to police your area before you go. |
| **Nov 1** | Esque | Cheerios and other cereals can draw ants. |

**Good Thoughts;**

**In his book, World of Ideas, Bill Moyers writes of an interview with an ethicist who said, "People need to do the moral thing because it's the right thing to do." Moyers then asked the ultimate question, "Who says?"**

**Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst, for they are sticking to their diets.**

**God put me on earth to accomplish a certain number of things. Right now, I am so far behind I will live forever.**

**Live connection starting 9AM. CALL (678) 701-5124 Enter PIN: 1234**

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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**](mailto:Preacher@covingtonchurchofchrist.com)

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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

**October 25, 2020**

***Rending the Garments***

1. Who tore their clothes on seeing Job’s pitiful condition?

2. Who tore their clothes when Joseph’s cup was found in Benjamin’s sack?

3. Who tore their clothes when the people of Lystra began to worship them as gods?

4. What judge tore his clothing when his hasty words came back to haunt him”?

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***Encouragement – Something We All Can Use***

**(By Bobby Thompson**

Life is so complicated and perplexing at times that we all face certain difficulties in living as we should. We all need encouragement! Frequently, individuals talk about how the young people need encouragement. It would appear that we at times are prone to forget that we were young once and sorely needed encouragement to get our feet on the ground in doing the things that are approved of God. But the young people are not the only ones that need encouragement. We ALL sorely need encouragement in living like Christ. All ages need encouragement as much or more than they.

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***Encouragement – Something We All Can Use***

**Continued**

There is a tendency of man to be selfish in all fields. The field of encouragement is not excluded! The next time you lament the lack of encouragement you have received, stop and think about how much you have given to the brother that is standing next to you. You just might be amazed at how selfish you have become! And there is even such a thing as self-encouragement that comes when we work toward helping someone else. It can make us realize how insignificant a matter our problems are as compared to the other person. Let’s not forget the man that complained about not having new shoes until he observed an individual who had both feet missing.

Like most other subjects, there are some guidelines that Christians should consider and be inclined to follow. Let us observe:

**Encouragement should be scriptural.** What do we mean by such an observation? Simply, that we should not use something unscriptural in an attempt to influence anyone. Some people have the mistaken view that the end justifies the means. This principle is unscriptural! King Saul attempted to justify his disobedience through the appeal to such a principle, but he was told by Samuel ***“Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.” (I Samuel 15:22).*** In order to keep people interested, there are those who appeal to gimmicks and procedures that are not compatible with truth. It has been suggested by some that they do not approve of the procedures, but they are tolerant of such since it is encouraging others. But we ask, encouraging them to what? If in anything, to be lax toward scriptural practices due to the fact that unscriptural practices encouraged them. If the word of God, properly applied, will not work, then individuals cannot be scripturally encouraged. Paul told the elders of Ephesus***: “And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.” (Acts 20:32).*** When one is commended to the word of God, which is able to build one up, he is not being encouraged in some unscriptural practices of man’s foolishness. I’m afraid that some who cry for encouragement are really crying for innovations rather than the purity of God’s word with which they have become bored.

**Encouragement should not be by condoning sin.** Some people seem to have the idea that participation in sinful practices with others will grant one an opportunity to lift them out of sin. There have been those who have even construed Paul’s statements in I Corinthians 9:19-23 as meaning this. Paul was speaking of practices of custom and expedient situations that did not conflict with matters of faith “that I might by all means save some.”

The Christian is to live a transformed life that is not conformed to the world***. “And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.” (Romans 12:2).*** We do not encourage individuals to forsake sinful practices by engaging in such practices with them. Perhaps again, some people when they cry lack of encouragement, they really mean lack of condoning our sinful practices. That’s the encouragement they want. They want encouragement to do what they want to do without any restraint. Such is never from the word of God.

To say “NO” to such people is in their eyes a token of discouragement. They desire to do as they please and any negative view toward them is then a breach of encouragement. Such views breed rebellion and rejection of scriptural authority. We are to do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus or by His authority. **(Colossians 3:17).**

Finally, we must be aware of the fact that a man must be **willing** to be encouraged if he is to be encouraged. Try me…I could use it!

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**Answers from page 1**

1. His three friends [Job 2:12]

2. Joseph’s brothers [Genesis 44:13]

3. Paul & Barnabas [Acts 14:14]

4. Jephthah [Judges 11:35]

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