**SERVICE SCHEDULE for January 31, 2021**

**Announcements for the Week** Buck Phillips

**Morning Service Evening Service**

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

**Song Leader-** Scott Lucas **Song Leader-** Mark Tally

**Communion:**

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

**-- Assisting –** Brandon Esque **Communion –** Curran L.

**-- Assisting –** Cliff Davis

**-- Assisting –** Ron Bailey

**-- Assisting –** Eli Hickey

**-- Scripture –** Josiah Phillips **Scripture –** Connor LaChappelle

**Closing Prayer-** John MacQuilliam **Closing Prayer-** Lucian Griffing

**Wednesday Night – February 3, 2021**

**First Prayer–** Ben Wofford

**Song Leader –** Buck Phillips

**Invitation –** Curran LaChappelle

**Closing Prayer –** Dan Woodward

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **January** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **31** | Tally | Please try to pick up after services |
| **Feb 7** | Fuller |  |

**Elder-Deacon Meeting:**

**The Elders and Deacons are planning to have a planning meeting based upon your responses to the Survey. We are going to attempt to have enough for a quorum this afternoon.**

**Good Thoughts --**

**Kindness is difficult to give away because it keeps coming back.**

**Nothing ruins the truth like stretching it**

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***Schedule of Services***

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

**Phone Bridge Call: (678) 701-5124**

**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 Davis, Darryl Griffing, Buck Phillips**

**January 31, 2019**

***Colors***

1. According to Isaiah, what color does the Lord wear?

2. According to Isaiah, what color are sins?

3. What evil woman was dressed in purple and scarlet and covered with jewels?

4. What color was the cloth draped over the ark of the covenant?

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***Preaching The Power Of Salvation***

**By Phil Robertson [Phil was a television news reporter]**

The cheers filled the neighborhood like it was the winning touchdown in a collegiate stadium. “They’ve got him!” “He’s out!” “He’s alive!” The plumber was free! It took four hours to relieve the pressure of walls that had caved in on him. Thanks to the dedication of three firefighters, this stranger was going to survive.

On the evening news, they were the story because they willingly went in. They fought the heat and fear. I’ll never forget their smiles as the sweat poured down their faces. They saved a total stranger.

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***Preaching The Power Of Salvation***

**Continued**

The next day, we wanted to interview the plumber. His tale had to be compelling. What was going through his mind when that pit caved in like a grave? Trapped all the way up to his chin, did he think he was going to die? Most importantly, what did he have to say to those firefighters who had saved him?

I called the hospital and they reported he was in good condition but there was one big problem. “This guy is without a doubt the meanest and most stubborn patient I’ve ever seen,” said the head nurse. “He constantly curses the staff and we just can’t wait for him to leave.”

Needless to say, he wasn’t talking to the media. If I had not seen it, I would not have believed it. How could someone be so ungrateful? Jesus’ disciples saw this all the time. Remember the ten lepers?

Or how about the villagers who got mad after Jesus inflicted their pigs with demons? The victim who was freed from the devils certainly wasn’t angry; in fact, he became one of our Lord’s first missionaries. ***“And when Jesus got into the boat, he who had been demon possessed begged Him that he might be with Him. However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, ‘Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you.’ And he departed and began to proclaim all that Jesus had done for him; and all marveled” (Mark 5:18-19).***

It is not hard to figure out why this man wanted to be with Jesus and why he started preaching without hesitation. Mark says, ***“Always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the graveyards, crying out and cutting himself with stones” (5:5).*** Satan controlled him and it took a merciful Savior to set him free from this bondage.

Paul was compelled to preach due to the same motivation. ***“Although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a violently arrogant man; but I obtained mercy... And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant... Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief” (1 Timothy 1:13-15).*** The point is clear - before we can preach salvation, we must understand the power of Jesus’ salvation in our own lives.

Once we’ve sought humility, then we must find a way to use the precious gift of life that has been given graciously to us. The plumber refused to appreciate his second chance. The villagers enjoyed the miracle but they wanted their hogs back.

That’s why Paul said, ***“To me who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ” (Ephesians 3:8).***

So, what does it take to conquer our prideful fears and have the faith to preach like Paul or the man who was once demon possessed? Paul says we can do it by focusing on the message and how it is delivered. ***“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes” (Romans 1:16).***

He begins with himself. He refuses to be “half-hearted” or to shy away from Truth around certain crowds or in certain situations. We must preach with boldness and certainty 24 hours a day and well beyond the steps of the “church building.”

The first points of the sermon come from words that aren’t spoken?

1) Preach without your Bible - use your example. This will always be the most powerful preaching. Show the world you are not ashamed to be a disciple and live like one.

2) Preach by carrying your Bible - go to church services and home studies. Diligent service in the Lord’s family will not only strengthen your own faith, it will exhort others to “contend earnestly for the faith.” Church attendance and Bible study are not an option.

3) Preach with an open Bible - share the power! It doesn’t take a scholar to understand and deliver this message of grace. But, it will take time, prayer, patience, and love.

In conclusion, I still can’t believe that plumber was so ungrateful and arrogant. Unfortunately, it’s hard for me to criticize him when I fail to give Jesus the love and devotion He deserves. He saved me from an everlasting pit of hell and too often I forget that and fail to share “the story” with others.

May we all have the attitude of the demon possessed man and Paul! ***“Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus” (Colossians 1:28).***

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Red [Isaiah 63:2]

2. Scarlet [Isaiah 1:18]

3. Babylon, the great harlot [Revelation 17:4]

4. Blue [Numbers 4:6]

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