**SERVICE SCHEDULE for January 3, 2021**

**Announcements for the Week** Cliff Davis

**Morning Service Evening Service**

**Prayer-** Cliff Davis **Prayer-** Cliff Davis

**Song Leader-** Mark Tally **Song Leader-** Connor LaChappelle

**Communion:**

**-- Comments –** Buck Phillips **Comments –** Ben Wofford

**-- Assisting –** Lucien Griffing **Communion –** Eli Hickey

**-- Assisting –** John MacQuilliam

**-- Assisting –** Dean Shacklock

**-- Assisting –** Roger German

**-- Scripture –** Jared Davis **Scripture –** Josiah Phillips

**Closing Prayer-** Dan Woodward **Closing Prayer-** Phillip Dorn

**Wednesday Night – January 6, 2021**

**First Prayer–** Ben Wofford

**Song Leader –** Buck Philips

**Invitation –** Curran LaChappelle

**Closing Prayer –** Dan Woodward

**January 24 Evening Service** – John MacQuilliam

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **January** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **3** | Bailey | Please try to pick up after services |
| **10** | Dorn |  |

**Good Thoughts --**

**Knowing what is none of your business is just as important as knowing what is your business.” But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more, and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you, so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need.” 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12**

**Wisdom has two parts - 1) having a lot to say 2) not saying it.**

**Resolve to start out the New Year right by serving the Lord.**

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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**

**Visit us on the web: www.covingtonchurchofchrist.com**



**9441 Bypass, P.O. Box 768, Covington, GA30015 --- [770] 787-1119**

**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

**January 3, 2019**

***In The Company of the Apostles***

1. Who healed a paralytic named Aeneas in Lydda?

2. Who was baptized by a man named Ananias?

3. What was Barnabas’ original name?

4. Who did the Sanhedrin put in jail for disturbing the peace?

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***A Lesson From A Squirrel***

**By Mike Johnson**

A few years ago while walking, I saw a squirrel fall from a tree. This is something that I never expected to see. I have often watched squirrels perform all kinds of amazing acrobatic feats. I have seen them do a tightrope walk across a telephone wire; I have seen them jump from the nimble branch of one tree to the nimble branch of another tree; I have seen them make all kinds of graceful jumps, climbs, and hops. I am amazed at all that they can do.

However, I never expected to see one fall! It happened as the squirrel jumped from one tree to another. It may have misjudged the distance or perhaps the strength of the branch on the other side. The squirrel fell from quite a distance up, doing a belly-buster" as it hit the ground. The squirrel seemed unhurt. He got up apparently unscathed and perhaps a little embarrassed.

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***A Lesson From A Squirrel***

**Continued**

I just never expected to see a squirrel fall; it was something that was just not supposed to happen. There are a lot of things that happen but are not expected to happen. It has been said, “You can expect the unexpected." The following is a list of some things to think about which people do not expect to happen but often do.

**THE FAILURE OF A MARRIAGE --** The Bible teaches that marriage is to be for life. In ***Matthew 19:6***, Jesus said, ***"...What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.."*** Jesus said, in ***Matthew 5:32, "...whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causes her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced commits adultery".***

Many people understand this passage; they intend for their marriage to last a lifetime, and they never expect it to fail. However, in spite of expectations, marriages sometimes do fail. The success of a marriage is not automatic. Marriage must be entered into with a determination that the relationship is to last for a lifetime. Also, two people must work to make sure that their marriage is a success. If they do not, the unexpected may happen; the marriage may fail.

**STRONG CHRISTIANS FALLING --** Christians are commanded to grow ***(2 Peter 3:17,18)***. Many Christians do grow, and they become strong and mature as children of God. Most everyone knows that there is a chance that a weak Christian can fall. However, we do not expect it of a spiritually mature Christian. It is not automatic that even a strong Christian will remain faithful all of his life. Paul, who obviously was a strong Christian, said in ***I Corinthians 9:27, "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway."*** He also warned, ***"Wherefore let him that thinks he stands take heed lest he fall." (I Corinthians 10:12)*** Are you a strong Christian? If so, do not take it for granted that you cannot fall. Instead, take heed, be careful, and continue to grow ***(2 Peter 1:5-11).***

**CHILDREN WHO GO ASTRAY -- *Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."*** ***Ephesians 6:4*** says that children are to be brought up ***"...in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."***

Christians should greatly desire and expect that their children will grow up and become faithful Christians. Again, this is not automatic, so it is important that parents teach and train their children in the Lord's way. If the do not, their children may fail in the most important part of their life, which is their relationship with God.

**BEING LOST ETERNALLY-** Most everyone expects to be saved even though they are not Christians or are not faithful Christians. In ***Matthew 7:21 Jesus said, "Not everyone that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."*** Salvation is not automatic.

Christians need to be on guard. It is not automatic that our marriage will be a success, our children will grow up to be faithful Christians, Christians (even strong ones) will remain faithful and never fall, or that we will go to heaven instead of hell.

We must not assume too much in any of the above areas. Remember the story of the squirrel. Things often happen that we never expect to happen.

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If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop digging.

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Peter [Acts 9:32-35]

2. Paul [Acts 9:10-18]

3. Joseph [Acts 4:36]

4. Peter and John [Acts 4:1-4]

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