**SERVICE SCHEDULE for February 27, 2022**

**Announcements for the Week** Buck Phillips

**Morning Service Evening Service**

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

**Song Leader-** Curran LaChappelle **Song Leader-** Bill McIlvain

**-- Comments –** Mark Tally **Comments** – Ben Wofford

**-- Assisting –** Andy Fuller **Communion** – Phillip Dorn

**-- Assisting** – Jared Davis

**-- Assisting –** Dean Shacklock

**-- Assisting –** Brandon Esque

**-- Scripture –** Ben Wofford **Scripture –** Ron Bailey

**Closing Prayer-** Phillip Dorn **Closing Prayer**- Connor LaChappelle

**Wednesday Night – March 2, 2022**

**First Prayer–** Ron Bailey

**Song Leader** – Connor LaChappelle

**Invitation –** Ben Wofford

**Closing Prayer –** Brandon Esque

**February 27 Evening Service** – Curran LaChappelle

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **February** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **27** | Fuller | Please Be Considerate |
| **Mar 6** | Esque | Clean the area around your seat |

**The Mind –**

**Having a hole in the head doesn't always indicate an open mind.**

**Many people think they have an open mind when it is really their mouth.**

**Minds, like streams, may be so broad that they're shallow.**

**Strength is a matter of the made-up mind. -- John Beecher**

**A noble mind is free to all men. -- Latin proverb**

**A sick mind cannot endure any harshness. -- Latin proverb**

**Pain of mind is worse than pain of body. -- Latin proverb**

**To relax the mind is to lose it. -- Latin proverb**

**The mind is like the stomach. It is not how much you put into it that counts, but how much it digests. -- Albert Jay Nock**

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***Schedule of Services***

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

**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**



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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

**February 27, 2****022**

***Kisses***

1. What bereaved woman kissed her daughters-in-law goodbye as she left to return to her own country?

2. Who kisses Rachel almost as soon as he met her?

3. What prophet protested men kissing the image of Baal?

4. Who kissed the prodigal son?

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***Cain’s Story; Our Story***

**By Edwin Crozier**

The first time I read it, it just did not seem right to me. How on earth could God back off on his punishment of Cain?

In Genesis 4:4-5 Cain and Abel made offerings to God. Abel’s was accepted and Cain’s was not. The only real clue as to why this was the case is presented in Hebrews 11:4. Abel offered his sacrifice by faith; Cain evidently did not.

Instead of correcting his service to God, Cain grew jealous of Abel. God, in Genesis 4:6-7, warned Cain that he needed to get his anger and attitude under control otherwise sin would completely take over his life.

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***Cain’s Story; Our Story***

**Continued**

We know the story. Instead of obeying God, Cain allowed his jealousy to grow until he finally rose up against Abel and slew him in the field.

When God confronted Cain directly for this cold-blooded murder He pronounced judgment saying, ***“The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to Me from the ground. Now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. When you cultivate the ground, it will no longer yield its strength to you; you will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth” [Genesis 4:10-12].***

Cain was overwhelmed, not with grief over his sin or remorse for his brother’s lost life. Rather, he was overwhelmed by the severity of his punishment. He cried to God, ***“My punishment is too great for me to bear…whoever finds me will kill me” [Genesis 4:13-14].***

I expect God to say, “You should have thought about that when Abel was begging you to spare his life. Be thankful I do not kill you right now.”

That is not what God said. Instead in Genesis 4:15, God pronounced vengeance on any who killed Cain and went further to put some kind of mark on Cain to ward others off from killing Cain. Beyond that, it seems that God even allowed Cain to find a dwelling place, despite His initial judgment against it. [Genesis 4:16-17].

At this point, my sense of justice was outraged. How could God do this? Cain deserved to die. God should have killed him. That would become God’s law for murder in Genesis 9:6. If we shed man’s blood, then by man shall our blood be shed!

However, it dawned on me. Who are we to cry out against Cain and his sin? Have we not sinned? ***Isaiah 59:1-2*** ***Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save,     or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;*** ***but your iniquities have made a separation     between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you  so that he does not hear.***

Doesn’t our sin separate us from God? Hasn’t our sin made us worthy of death before God? ***Ezekiel 18:******4 Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.***

Yet what have we done but cried out to God, “Our punishment is too great for us. Please God do something about it.” He did.

He allowed His Son to be killed, the just for the unjust, that we might be brought to God, dead to sin, but alive in the Spirit [1 Peter 3:18]. Thank you, Lord.

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***The Five-Minute Rule***

When our worship assembly is concluded, instead of being caught up in getting to Appleby’s, catching up with friends or conducting congregational business, let’s stop, take a look around and spend the first five minutes talking to our guests. Let them know how glad we are they joined us. Invite them to join us again. Get to know them a little bit.

Don’t worry, your friends in the congregation will stick around for you to catch up with them. We can always use the phone to complete the congregational business. But our guests are about to leave and we may never see them again.

When you hear that final “amen,” don’t look for the door, don’t look for your best friend, don’t look for the preacher or one of the elders. Look for a guest. Your love may be the one thing that opens our guest’s heart to God’s word.



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**Answers from page 1**

1. Naomi [Ruth 1:9]

2. Jacob [Genesis 29:11]

3. Elijah [1 Kings 19:18]

4. His father [Luke 15:20]

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