**SERVICE SCHEDULE for February 12, 2023**

**Announcements for the Week** Darryl Griffing

**Morning Service Evening Service**

**Prayer-** Darryl Griffing **Prayer-** Darryl Griffing

**Song Leader-** Mark Tally **Song Leader**- Buck Phillips

**-- Comments** – Cliff Davis **Comments** – Andy Fuller

**-- Assisting –** Jared Davis **Communion** – Ben Wofford

**-- Assisting** – Brandon Esque

**-- Assisting –** Andy Fuller

**-- Assisting –** Eli Hickey

**-- Scripture –** Josiah Phillips **Scripture** – Dan Woodward

**Closing Prayer-** Phillip Dorn **Closing Prayer**- Phillip Dorn

**Wednesday Night – February 15, 2023**

**First Prayer–** Cliff Davis

**Song Leader** – Roger Germans

**Invitation –** Ben Wofford

**Closing Prayer –** Phillip Dorn

**February 26 Evening Service –** Curran LaChappelle

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **February** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **19** | Davis | Please Be Considerate |
| **26** | McIlvain | Clean the area around your seat |

**Memory Verse – Ephesians 5:15-16**

**See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because they days are evil.**

**Good Thoughts –**

**An old mountain man was making his final trip on a well-worn trail in the woods. After crossing a foot bridge in need of repairs, he said to his companion, “I need to fix that bridge.” His companion asked, “Why? You’ll never cross it again.” He replied, “True, but there are others who are coming behind.”**

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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** **Bill@wmaxx.net**

**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 12, 2****023**

***Encounters With Angels***

1. What person did an angel prevent from the act of child sacrifice?

2. What two guides did the angel of the Lord provide for the Israelites in the wilderness?

3. What ungodly ruler in New Testament times was struck down by an angel?

4. Who was carried by angels to Abraham’s bosom?

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***The Burning Yes***

**By Gary Henry**

***“You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore” (Psalm 16:11).***

Seeking God, we gladly relinquish the things that interfere with what we most greatly long for: life with God.  Giving up the lesser in order to gain the greater does hurt sometimes.  There’s no question that self-discipline can be quite uncomfortable, even painful.  It does no good to deny the pain.  But this pain we gladly accept if our hearts truly burn with the passion of what matters more to us than anything else in the world.

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***The Burning Yes***

**Continued**

The thou-shalt-not’s that confront us are not simply the arbitrary rules of a God who wishes to keep His creatures as unhappy as possible.  There’s no inherent virtue in abstinence, and God does not expect us to give up things just for the sake of giving them up.

Instead, there’s always some gift that God wants to place in our hands, a gift we’ll have no room to hold until we put down the load of lesser packages we are presently holding.  In the end, we’ll see that God asked us to give up only those things that interfered with the exchange of real love.

No one knows more than the victorious athlete how valuable it is to give up the lesser for the greater.  Gold medals aren’t won by self-indulgence.  They’re won by years of focused training, the choice having been made to forgo other things that might have been enjoyed in order to single-mindedly pursue a dream.

While the athlete trains, he may wistfully watch while others entertain themselves, living for the moment, but he is wisely living for a goal.

***“Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure” (1st John 3:3)*** To the extent that our spiritual hope matters as much as we say it does, we’ll purge our lives of anything inconsistent with that hope, eager to abstain from things that even distract us from God.

If we’ve paid the price to know what matters the most to us, and if we’ve realized that the only thing worth having is God Himself, then our daily choices will be much easier.  The joy of the Lord will be our strength.

*“We find ourselves able to say ‘No!’ to some things because there is a bigger ‘Yes!’ burning deep within us”* (Stephen R. Covey).

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***You Are A Leader – Like It or Not***

**By David Maxson**

***You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me... [2 Timothy 3:10-11 ]***

How many people are following you? No, not on Twitter! I'm talking about people you influence in your life. Your influence is a huge responsibility. Your "followers" are a stewardship. You should take it very seriously.

A more important question for us to ponder is, what do our followers see in us?

What do they *hear* us teaching? Do our followers hear us speak about Jesus often? Does our speech reflect a knowledge of God?

What do they *see* in our conduct and our aim in life? Do we demonstrate an eternal perspective in our choices? Would our followers assume that our hopes and dreams are tied to this world or to the next?

Do our followers see our faith, patience, and love in action? Is it something we only profess or is this something that is easy to see in the way we live?

When we are persecuted for our faith, do our followers see steadfastness or do they perceive that we are fair-weather Christians only?

There are so many who are watching us every day. Pray to God to give us courage to teach and to live in a way that it will stir up faith and love in others.

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Abraham [Genesis 22:11-18]

2. A pillar of fire and a pillar of cloud [Exodus 14:19-20]

3. Herod [Acts 12:23]

4. Lazarus [Luke 16:22]

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