**SERVICE SCHEDULE for November 12, 2023**

**Announcements for the Week** Buck Phillips

**Morning Service Evening Service**

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

**Song Leader**- Eli Hickey **Song Leader**- Curran LaChappelle

**-- Comments** – Jason LaChappelle **Comments** – Cliff Davis

**-- Assisting –** Ernesto Almazan **Communion** – Ben Wofford

**-- Assisting** – Mark Tally

**-- Assisting** – Cliff Davis

**-- Assisting** – Gary Scott

**-- Scripture –** Dean Shacklock **Scripture** – Dan Woodward

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

**Wednesday Night – November 15, 2023**

**First Prayer–** John MacQuilliam

**Song Leader** – Brandon Anderson

**Invitation –** Cliff Davis

**Closing Prayer –** Roger German

**November 26 Evening Service** – Curran LaChappelle

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **November** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **12** | Griffing | Please Be Considerate |
| **19** | Land | Clean the area around your seat |

**Memory Verse – James 1:26**

**If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does no bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one’s religion is useless.**

**Good Thoughts**

[**Change will never happen when people lack the ability and courage to see themselves for who they are.**](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/b/bryanthmc168215.html) **--** [**Bryant H. McGill**](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/b/bryant_h_mcgill.html)

[**Courage is almost a contradiction in terms. It means a strong desire to live taking the form of readiness to die.**](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/g/gilbertkc104748.html) **--** [**Gilbert K. Chesterton**](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/g/gilbert_k_chesterton.html)

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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 Office@covingtonchurchofchrist.com**

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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

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

***Miracles***

1. How was the woman with the issue of blood healed by Jesus?

2. What woman got up and started doing household chores after Jesus healed her of a fever?

3. What unproductive tree did Jesus wither by cursing it?

4. Where did Jesus work His first miracle?

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***Is God’s Word Enough?***

**By David Diestelkamp**

Most people today wouldn’t have listened to the peculiarly dressed John the Baptist (Matthew 3:4). Many would not have endured the packed crowd at the house in Capernaum to hear Jesus teach (Mark 2:2). Others wouldn’t feel comfortable meeting with the church in someone’s house like Nymphas (Colossians 4:15). And Paul—who would want to listen to a preacher who admits he isn’t very eloquent? (1 Corinthians 2:1). Timothy would seem too young to preach to some (1 Timothy 4:12), John would be too old to others (2 John 1).

What’s happening to us? It seems that the message is getting lost in the messengers and the environment in which it is delivered.

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***Is God’s Word Enough?***

**Continued**

Think of it like this: Suppose the “whole counsel of God” (Acts 20:27) is presented in an accurate and understandable way. Is that enough? What if the speaker is not very polished—what if he doesn’t have any stories that make you cry and he has no visual aids? Is it enough? What if, for whatever reason, there isn’t a nice building to assemble in—no paved parking lot, no comfortable seats, no air conditioning or nice carpet on the floor? Is it enough? What if there aren’t any people in this group you have a lot in common with in life? What if there are few or no kids your kids’ ages? Is the pure teaching of God’s word enough?

The fact is, most people who visit us from the denominations struggle to get past the externals to hear the message. Sadly, many claiming to be members of the Lord’s church measure congregations the same way. Even sadder is that we have brethren advocating that we resolve this problem by polishing the messengers and environment. We are told that preachers and preaching must be professional and facilities should reflect current trends and feelings about church buildings.

I am not suggesting that speakers shouldn’t try their best and that buildings shouldn’t be functional, but I am saying that the saving power is in the gospel (Romans 1:16), not in the speaker or building. The carnal mindset of unbelievers (and some believers—1 Corinthians 3:1-3) is going to cause them to overemphasize and over-value physical things.

The solution to this is not to cater to their carnality, even if by doing so we might have the opportunity to teach them. It was to the carnal thinking Corinthians that Paul wrote that the ***“weapons of our warfare are not carnal” (2 Corinthians 10:4).*** The solution? Going back to basics (milk—1 Corinthians 3:2)—“***For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified” (1 Corinthians 2:2).*** Our solution? Teach people what the gospel is all about so that physical things won’t be a stumbling block to listening to the truth.

A Christ centered gospel isn’t seen to be enough in our me-centered society. So, people choose a church based on where they feel they can be serviced rather than where they can best serve God and others.

When we start being attracted by buildings and teen groups and friends and speaking abilities something has gone wrong. If it is all about the Word of God, if that is really enough, then what we will see first and will matter most is that someone is speaking ***“the utterances of God” and “serving by the strength God supplies” (1 Peter 4:11).*** Is God’s Word really enough or not?

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***Moses & The Red Sea***

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School.

'Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved.'

'Now, Joey, is that *really* what your teacher taught you?' his mother asked.

'Well, no, Mom. But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!'

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**Answers from page 1**

1. She touched the hem of his garment [Matthew 9:20-22]

2. Peter’s mother-in-law [Matthew 8:14-15]

3. A fig tree [Matthew 21:17:20]

4. Cana [John 2:1-11]

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