

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Liz Sturgill continues to receive dialysis treatments three times weekly.
Delores Hendrickson is back home and feeling better.
Iris Hash is still suffering from stomach problems. She is taking probiotics for her stomach and strong pain medication for her back pain.
Elena Hawkins is suffering from leg pain caused by issues in her back and is currently on medication.
Virginia McKinney is still experiencing some balance and hip problems in addition to problems with her back and legs
Karen Sproles is doing better but continues to receive steroid injections in her knee.
Shannon Jones, daughter of Linda and Randall, is still undergoing chemotherapy.
Jessica Haynes, daughter-in-law of Dave and Tina, is having a recurrence of headaches and pain.

Pray For Our Shut-ins:

Gloria Hale, Karen Sproles, Iris Hash, Virginia McKinney, John and Terry Richardson

Pray For The Mission Works We Are Supporting:

John Grubb (Mission work in Asia), Daniel Goshorn and family (Mission work in Peru). See latest mission reports on the bulletin board in back of the auditorium.

Ladies' Bible Class Resumed:

The ladies' Bible class continues to meet on Thursdays at 11:00 AM.

Monthly Pitch-in Dinner:

Our next pitch-in dinner will be held Sunday, July 2nd, immediately after the morning service. Following the meal, we will reconvene at 1:00 PM for a singing then dismiss for the day.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next men's monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, July 5th at 5:00 PM.

Radio Program:

Please remember to tune in every Sunday morning at 8:00 AM to WCBK 102.3 FM to hear our radio program which is entitled: "Preparing For Eternity".

God's Plan For Our Salvation

Hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17; Acts 16:32).
Believing what is taught (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6).
Repentance (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30).
Confession (Romans 10:9, 10; Acts 8:37).
Baptism (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; I Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3, 4).
Faithful Christian Living, after the above five steps (I Peter 2:11, 12; Rev. 2:10).

June 18, 2023

MORGAN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

**540 E. Morgan Street
Martinsville, IN 46151
(765) 342-6027**



Schedule of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study – 9:30 AM
Worship – 10:30 AM
Evening Service - 6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study – 6:00 PM

Thursday

Ladies' Bible Study – 11:00 AM (March through October)

Radio Program:

"Preparing For Eternity"
Sunday Mornings 8:00 AM, WCBK 102.3 FM

Website:

www.morganstreetchurchofchrist.org

Gospel Preacher – Bob Hawkins

MATTHEW 6:33

Jesus said, “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness....” Every single person, with no exceptions, is obligated to seek God—seek Him FIRST. As a matter of fact, there is absolutely nothing in life that is more important. Family is at the top of the list of obligations, yet does not rank as high as one’s obligation to “seek...the kingdom of God.”

The people of Athens Greece in the first century were very religious, so much so, they had erected idols to every god imaginable and did not want to leave one out. Yet Paul told them that God does not dwell in temples made with hands, nor is he worshipped with men’s hands. Every human being is equal—none above the other. Every single person has the same obligation —“...they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us” (Acts 17:27).

Men don’t see the obligation to seek God first, or when it is presented to them, they refuse to recognize it and heed it. It doesn’t seem real to them—out of sight, out of mind! But thinking this way does not make the reality of it go away. As Christians, our job is to warn people night and day (Mark 16:15; Acts 20:31). But sadly, Jesus said, “For many are called, but few are chosen” (Matt. 22:14). He also tells the world: “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matt. 7:14).

Why will only a few (out of the masses of humanity) find the way that leads to everlasting life? It’s because they do not seek it diligently. Jesus also said, “Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able” (Luke 13:24). Why won’t they be able? Because they make up their own rules and attempt to bring the world’s baggage along with them. We live in a world of “have it your own way” religion.

While everyone is different, different likes and dislikes, different opinions and beliefs, there’s ONLY ONE WAY that is right and EVERY OTHER WAY is wrong. By inspiration, Jeremiah summed it up well, “O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps” (Jer. 10:23). Solomon recorded, “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death” (Prov. 14:12; 16:25). Because of such, “The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous” (Prov. 15:29).

Serving the Lord is about doing things HIS WAY, not our way. Jesus said, “And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say” (Luke 6:46)? He summed it up in these words: “Not every one 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. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity” (Matt. 7:21-23). Notice these words: “he that doeth the will of my Father.” If we do what we think or the way we see it, it’s not the will of God!

Paul told the brethren in the church at Colosse to “...seek those things which are

above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth” (Col. 3:1-2).

David once wrote: “O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; To see thy power and thy glory...” (Psalms 63:1-2).

Solomon wrote these words: “My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly. He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints. Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path” (Prov. 2:1-9).

Ecclesiastes 9:10 declares, “Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do [it] with thy might; for [there is] no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.”

To seek the Lord’s way is the way that leads to eternal life. “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled” (Matt. 5:6). If we hunger and thirst after God’s eternal word, we’ll find the greatest treasure that man could ever imagine. We will gladly pay whatever the price. That’s the way Jesus speaks of it. “The kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it” (Matt. 13:44-46).

Living a faithful Christian life can and will cost us everything. But it’s worth the price. Jesus said, “I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man’s foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it” (Matt. 10:36-39).

If family or anything else stands in your way of being faithful to the Lord, then you must choose God and not family. It’s a matter of priorities. If you choose family before the Lord, then heaven will not be your home. But, “every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name’s sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life” (Matt. 19:29).

“Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 1:10-11). -- Garland M. Robinson