

Prayer List of the Sick and Afflicted:

Ray and Liz Sturgill are both feeling much better. Liz is receiving dialysis treatments at Spencer and home health care visits.

Sheila Wilson is home following chemotherapy treatments. She will receive more chemotherapy at IU Health Martinsville and will have home healthcare visits.

Delores Hendrickson was in the St. Francis Hospital Mooresville for a couple of days due to flu-like and respiratory symptoms. She is doing better and was released from the hospital on Thursday.

Jesse Riddle had a successful procedure performed to adjust the port in his arm to allow him to receive dialysis in the future.

Tim Burdsall is suffering with bruising and swelling of the knee and foot in one of his legs.

Jeff Sturgill is recovering at home from back surgery.

Ray and Liz's son Jeff had back surgery and is now recovering at his home.

Bob Hawkins had another outpatient procedure for a problem with veins in his legs.

Gerald Dunn, brother of Susie Riddle, is in a health care institution in Bedford and is experiencing memory issues.

Virginia McKinney is still experiencing some balance and hip problems.

Karen Sproles is still confined at home and is receiving home health services. Her husband Chet broke his leg but is now back home again.

Iris Hash is feeling better and is still staying with her daughter.

John Richardson has been transferred to the Countryside Nursing Home in Avon, IN.

Terry Richardson is in rehab at The Waters in Martinsville.

Shannon Jones, daughter of Linda and Randall, is still undergoing chemotherapy.

Haven Duncan is suffering from some issues while in the Army at Ft. Benning, GA.

Pray For Our Shut-ins:

Gloria Hale, Karen Sproles, Iris Hash

Pray For The Mission Works We Are Supporting:

John Grubb (Mission work in Asia), Daniel Goshorn and family (Mission work in Peru)

Deepest Sympathy:

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Mike and Doris Parnell at the passing of Mike's son, Bill. Also pray for Bill's wife Andrea and Mike and Doris' granddaughter Abigail as they grieve. Services were held in Clarksville, AR on Friday. A special free-will donation is being taken up in order to help Bill's wife Andrea with funeral expenses. Donations can be made between December 4th- 11th. Please make checks payable to the church.

Men's Business Meeting:

The next men's monthly business meeting will be Wednesday, December 7th at 5:00 PM.

Benevolent Opportunities:

Please bring in coffee between now and December 18th to be donated to Desert Rose, the local women's shelter.

In addition, the congregation will be assisting two local needy families during the holiday season. Sean and Christa Mathews are leading this work. Money from the church will be used to purchase clothes and gifts for these families.

Radio Program:

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

God's Plan For Our Salvation:

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

December 4, 2022

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

“WHEREFORE DIDST THOU DOUBT?”

Marvin L. Weir

This is a most significant “wherefore” in the teaching of Christ. Peter doubted while in the Lord’s immediate presence. Many people today follow in the footsteps of Peter and doubt in the very light of God’s precious Word. In either case, it is unreasonable to doubt because of the assurances that have been given (John 20:30-31).

The disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, and thinking they had seen a ghost, were frightened and troubled. The Scriptures then declare: “But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth [his] hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt” (Matt. 14:27-31)?

Peter has no reason to doubt. He has witnessed the mighty power of Christ. He now sees Him walking on the sea. Peter hears the Master bid him to come, and yet he doubts. Why? Will Christ fail him? No! Is Christ deceiving or tricking Peter? No! Will Peter not be able to do what Christ bids him do? No! Why, then, is Peter filled with doubt? He becomes more concerned with the wind than the Master! It is at this moment that Peter is filled with doubt and begins to sink.

Satan has always attempted to entice men to lose faith and doubt. Eve understood God’s instructions regarding the fruit of the tree in the midst of the garden: “...Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die” (Gen. 3:3). The devil’s reply: “Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as God, knowing good and evil” (Gen. 3:4-5). Eve allows herself to doubt the commandment of Jehovah and she sins in partaking of the forbidden fruit.

A lack of faith that leads to doubt is a spiritual killer! This is clearly seen in the Scripture that says, “For he that wavereth (doubteth) is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man [is] unstable in all his ways” (James 1:6-

8).

Let us notice some areas where doubt leads to spiritual destruction.

It is lack of faith and doubt that leads to the establishment of man-made churches. Jesus forthrightly declares, “I will build my church; and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it” (Matt. 16:18). Christ established the church, purchasing it with His own blood (Acts 20:28). What man has the right to build his own church and claim it is the one purchased by Christ? It is lack of faith or doubt that contributes to men thinking the church of Christ is not sufficient to accomplish God’s purpose. It is lack of faith and doubt that keeps people from obeying the Gospel. The Bible does not say, “He that accepts Christ into his heart as his personal Savior and has a religious experience shall be saved.” Instead, the Bible says, “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:16). Why do most people believe what the Bible “does not say” about salvation and reject what the Bible “does say?” It is simply a lack of faith in the inspired Word of God!

It is lack of faith and doubt that has people worshipping in error. The Bible says one who worships God “must worship him in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24). This means one cannot attend the church of his choice and worship the way he desires. Such an attitude demonstrates lack of faith and doubt in what God has commanded.

It is lack of faith and doubt that has people thinking they are going to Heaven while living ungodly lives. An ever-growing number of people believe they can lie, cheat, steal, drink intoxicating beverages, live in fornication and adultery, be possessed with envy, jealousy, hatred, wrath, or a divisive spirit and still be saved (Gal. 5:19-21; Rom. 13:9; James 5:4). Men may believe such because of lack of faith and a lustful desire to do otherwise, but the Bible says “they who practise such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God” (Gal. 5:21).

It is lack of faith and doubt anytime one chooses not to abide by a commandment God has given. God’s Word is not optional, and a failure to obey is frightening. John reminds us, “He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him” (1 John 2:4).

Peter is more concerned with the wind than the Master and begins to doubt. Many today lose faith and begin doubting because they are more concerned with man-made creeds or satisfying self than obeying God and saving their souls!