

# Church of Christ

3361 West State Street, Fremont, OH 43420

## Worship Services

Sunday Bible Study                      10:00 am  
Sunday Worship                            10:45 am  
Wednesday                                 7:00 pm

*Classes for all ages*

**Preachers: Ted Bowen and Sean Rizor**

May 15, 2022

Songs & Lord's Supper:

Melvin Monroe

Speaker: Sean Rizor

Wednesday Bible Study

### What Must I Do To Be Saved?

1. Learn the truth (Hear) (John 8:32; 17:17; Rom 10:14-18)
2. Believe in Christ (John 8:24; 20:31; Heb 11:6)
3. Repent of all sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30; Rom 2:4; 2 Cor 7:9,10)
4. Confess faith in Christ (Rom 10:10; Acts 17:30; Matt 16:16)
5. Be baptized into Christ for remission of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)
6. Live faithfully (Revelation 2:10)

### Birthdays

- 1 Stacy Appelhans
- 9 Kaitlin Hall
- 15 Deb Hall
- 20 Lynda Holt
- 25 Debbie Rowan

### Prayer List

Gen Stanley  
Jean Adkins  
Tina Smith  
Betty Davis  
Kathy Foos  
Charlotte Williams  
Mack Stanley  
Linda Holt  
Brenda Slattman  
Mary Schimming

### 7 THINGS TO REMEMBER DURING THE LORD'S SUPPER!

- 1 LORD. "There is one Lord." (Ephesians 4:5)
- 2 THIEVES. "There were also 2 others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death."  
(Luke 23:32)
- 3 CROSSES. (Luke 23:39-43; Ephesians 1:7)
- 4 PARTS of HIS GARMENTS. "Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier, a part, and also the tunic." (John 19:23)
- 5 WOUNDS. His head was crowned with thorns. His back was scourged.  
His side was cut open. His hands were pierced. His feet were pierced. (John 19-20)
- 6 HOURS of AGONY. Christ was crucified at the 3rd hour and died at the 9th hour.  
(Mark 15:25-37)
- 7 SAYINGS of The CROSS. (Matthew 27:46; Luke 23:34, 43-46; John 19:26-30)

### THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

by Dan Richardson

*"To open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me." (Acts 26:18)*

The power that saves sinners is the gospel of Jesus Christ (Rom. 1:16; Acts 11:14; 1 Cor. 1:21). This potency does not lie in the preacher/teacher (however educated, flamboyant or persuasive they be). Nor is it derived from carnal appeals, characteristic of man-made religions (i.e., concerts, gymnasiums, camps or other social events), with no appeal for God's spiritual power in truth for salvation of souls. Merely calling these things "fellowship" doesn't make it so; God's word does. A denomination with the gall to advertise

themselves as the “fun church” speaks volumes for what they count important in their religion. I believe there are more and more people, even within these denominations, who are repulsed by a fun and games religion. Many still have a hunger for what feeds the soul instead of the belly.

In the text above, God instructed Paul of his work as an apostle to the Gentiles, which centered upon preaching the gospel of Christ. To the Corinthians Paul wrote: “And I, brethren, when I came unto you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified” (1 Cor. 2;1-2). By the standard of many today, Paul would not have been a “good preacher”. The importance of preaching, then and in every generation to follow, is in making known the gospel God revealed by the Holy Spirit - his power to save. Consider what is taught in this verse.

“TO OPEN THEIR EYES.” This has nothing to do with the optical ability of our physical eyes, as Jesus showed in Matthew 13:14-15. In the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy by the unbelief he confronted, their closed eyes referred to their lack of perception or understanding of truth. The divine power of the gospel opens the eyes of the heart (cf. Matt. 13:15), for those blinded by the love of sin, prejudice, arrogance, superstition, error and ignorance. Also, Paul wrote of the gospel he preached: “For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but mighty before God to the casting down of strongholds, casting down imaginations and every high thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God, and bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ” (2 Cor. 10:4-5). Of the conversion of Lydia (which serves as a parallel to the points of this study), it is said, “whose heart the Lord opened to give heed unto the things which were spoken by Paul” (Acts 16:14). This was accomplished by the power of the gospel preached to her. Jesus said the power of God to draw men to Christ would be through the gospel: “And they will all be taught of God” (John 6:44-45; cf. Eph. 4:20-21).

“THAT THEY MAY TURN.” This turning needs to be understood as the scriptures define it. In Acts 11:21, when the gospel was preached in Antioch, it says, “a great number who believed turned to the Lord”. Thus, the turning (the same Greek word as in Acts 26: 18), referred to something done in addition to their believing/faith. They were not saved by faith only. Also in Acts 3:19, “Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out”. Here we observe to “turn back” (again the same Greek word as in Acts 26:18), is something done in addition to repentance. So, what could the turning refer to? A parallel passage to Acts 3:19 is Acts 2:38, which says, “Repent and be baptized”. Therefore, from scripture we learn the turning is equivalent to baptism for the remission of sins. After the Lord opened the eyes of Lydia’s heart, she was baptized (Acts 16:15). Jesus cannot be preached without preaching water baptism for salvation, as the conversion of the Ethiopian eunuch shows (Acts 8:35-36). When one’s sins are washed away, it can refer to nothing else by baptism into Christ (cf. Acts 22:16; Gal. 3;26-27. Eyes are opened and sinners are baptized, by which God delivers us “out of the power of darkness,, and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love” (Col. 1;13; John 3:19-21), delivering them from Satan’s power to God’s (cf. Rom. 6:16-18).

“THAT THEY MAY RECEIVE”. As already noted above, the purpose of the gospel, for those who obey it, is to receive “forgiveness of sins” (Acts 11:17; 1 Cor. 1:21; 1 Pet. 1:22-23), and a place (“inheritance”, ASV), with the sanctified - HEAVEN. Though God loves “the world” (humanity, John 3:16), not everyone will go to heaven. It is a prepared place for a PREPARED PEOPLE (John 14:1-6). Paul spoke of his eternal hope: “henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give to me at that day; and not to me only, but also to all them that have loved his appearing” (2 Tim. 4:8). Only those hardened in heart, seared in conscience by sin, would say no to the question: Do you want to go to heaven? How would you answer? And, have you, with opened eyes and obedience to truth, prepared for it?