



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 38

April 5, 2020

Number 14

Schedule of Services

- All worship
- services are suspended until further notice.

Elders

- Mike Ernstberger
270-753-2108 Home
270-293-7027 Cell
- James Pigg
270-759-2145 Home
270-293-2319 Cell

Deacons

- Larry Enoch
- Bobby Hall
- Jesse Vincent

Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison
Cell: 270-978-7569

Supporting Works

India—Dale Foster, David Nance, and Ronnie Gootam
McKenzie, TN—Paul Jones

Location

- Green Plain Church of Christ
3980 Murray Paris Road
Hazel, KY 42049
- Phone: (270) 492-8206
- Email: greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org

REDEEMING THAT EXTRA TIME *By Jonnie Hutchison*

Most who read this article are confined to home. Some are using this time to get caught up on house cleaning, window washing, yard work and/or gardening. Some may be enjoying hobbies, surfing the internet or utilizing social media to keep in touch with family and friends. During this time of quarantine, let'S not forget that our first responsibility is to continue to serve God.

God desires each of us to use the time He has granted us in the right way. The Bible emphasizes that we must be *“redeeming the time, because the days are evil”* (Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5). What is the right way to use the extra time that absence from normal activities gives us? Let me offer some suggestions.

First, use this time to engage in a deeper study of the Bible. If we are honest, each of us will recognize that the Bible is a treasure trove of precious knowledge which none will ever completely exhaust in this life. What better use may one make of time than to spend it digging deep in searching to uncover the precious treasure of truth that is

the Word of God? Our attitude should be the same as expressed by the Psalmist who wrote, *“I rejoice at Your word As one who finds great treasure”* (Psalms 119:161).

Second, use this time to pray. The Bible tells us to *“pray without ceasing”* (1 Thess. 5:17). A good question for our self-examination is to ask, how much of my time is spent in addressing God in prayer? We need to spend time praying for the church (James 5:16) . This is a trying time for Christians as we are separated from assembling together. We need to pray for our elders as they struggle with what is the most expedient way to deal with the present situation. We need to pray for the leaders of our nation that they will make right decisions that will allow us to return to our normal routines (1 Tim. 2:1-3). We can also pray that God, in His providence, would resolve the present crisis. We can pray for those who have been afflicted and for those who have lost loved ones. Remember, *“the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails*

(Continued on page 3)

NEWS AND NOTES

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain members:** . Remember Faye Travis, Peggy Jarvis, Rex Enoch, Margarette Enoch (Back at Spring Creek), Mary Crutchfield, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, Jesse & Mary Vincent, Carolyn Byars (now home) and Dave & Ann Thompson. **Family and Friends:** Pat Hocking, Teresa Tacker, Betty Pond, Bryan White, Meredith Enoch, Kenneth Mizell, Will Winchester, Jim Hutson, Janice Canter, Maryanne Pedigrew, Dale Foster, Andrea Phillips, Donald and Dorothy Cook
- **FROM THE ELDERS:** During these unusual times that we are facing the COVID-19 virus pandemic, we encourage each of you to hold tightly to your faith and do your best to remain strong both physically and spiritually. Please follow the government regulations for social distancing so that we can as soon as possible overcome this outbreak. Check on each other daily by phone or text. If any of you have a need during this time, please feel free to contact us. And of course, continue your prayers for all of the sick and for our country and her leaders as well—James and Mike. Note: **Weekly contributions** can be sent directly to James Pigg at 2220 Glenwood Drive Murray, KY 42071.
- **OUR BULLETIN:** We will continue to mail the bulletin each week until the present situation changes. If you have any information that needs to be included in the bulletin please email us at greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org or call 270-978-7569.
- **Pantry items April: Items may be left under the carport, or put into the building for those with a key.** 5-Carrots; 12—Green Beans; 19—Pork-n-Beans; 26—Peaches. All food items should be canned. Thanks to all for participating in this effort.
- **PASS IT ON!** When you have finished reading this bulletin, why not pass it on to a loved one, friend or neighbor. Use this as a tool to spread the gospel.
- **See our Facebook page** for announcements, updates and articles. Access to past editions of this bulletin are available on our website at <http://greenplainchurchofchrist.org>.
- **Mission Work:** Please continue to pray for the preachers this congregation is supporting in India and for Dale Foster, Ronnie Gootan, David Nance, Mike Kiser, Arnold Gerson and Paul Jones in their respective works.
- Watch “**A Bible Answer**” each Sunday morning at 8:00 am on WQWQ TV in Paducah, KY. This program is also available on their website at abibleanswertv.org and on GBN and YouTube.
- **APRIL 2020 Anniversaries:** None **Birthdays:** 3rd—Mary Lowrie; 8th—Katelyn Canter; 24th—David Thompson; 27th—Steve Enoch; 29th—Sue Hall.

ONLINE SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

Gospel Broadcasting Network
<https://gbntv.org/>
 World Video Bible School
<https://store.wvbs.org/wvbs-splashpage.html>
 A Bible Answer
<https://abibleanswertv.org/>
 Good News Today
<http://gnttv.org/>
 Dexter church of Christ
www.facebook.com/Dexterkycoc/
 Coldwater church of Christ
www.facebook.com/Coldwater-Church-of-Christ-170296152984011/ and on YouTube
 In Search of the Lord's Way
<http://searchtv.org/>



BIBLE RESEARCH QUESTION

This Week: What were the names of Job's friends who came to comfort him?

Lat Week: What were those with leprosy required to do under the Old Testament Law?

Answer : Be examined by the priest and if leprosy was present the leper would be quarantined (Lev. 13; 14; Num. 5:1-4; 12:10-15).

(Continued from page 1)

much” (James 5:16). We may be limited by our present circumstances, but everyone of us has it within our ability to pray.

Third, use your time to reach out to the lost. Love for lost souls will not allow us to use any excuses for ignoring this responsibility, not even a virus. There are a number of things we can do to accomplish this task, even though quarantined in our homes. We have been blessed with modern technology which allows us to communicate with others in a variety of ways. We can make phone calls and utilize social media. We can mail teaching material to people’s homes including tracts, DVD’s and our bulletin. This is one reason why the elders have chosen to do a mass mailing to all the homes in Hazel and Puryear taking advantage of this extra time that people may

have to read what, under normal circumstances, they may not.

Fourth, look beyond our present situation. We know that whatever occurs in this life is only temporary. The faithful child of God is always looking forward. Remember the words of the Apostle Paul who wrote in 2 Corinthians 4:18, *“while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”* Let us each continue to press for that eternal goal knowing that we can trust in God to fulfill His promises, both to be with us through the trials of this life and to give us eternal life at the coming of our Lord.

Remember to always be *“redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”*

REJOICING IN HUNGER, SUFFERING AND NEED

“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!” “I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” It would be impossible to tell just how many millions of lives over the past two millennia have been positively impacted and perhaps forever changed by all of the incredibly powerful truths found in Paul’s epistle to the Philippians. Sandwiched in between the ever-empowering and encouraging epistles to the first-century congregations of the Lord’s church in Ephesus and Colossae (which are often described as regarding the church of Christ and the Christ of the church respectively), these three epistles together, comprise the heart and soul of a trio of truth, without which our Bibles would be sadly lacking.

But do you recall what else they have in common? They were all written during Paul’s first Roman confinement. Really stop and consider that for a moment. Paul could no longer travel about to preach and teach as he had done in the past. While he still managed to visit with those who dared come and be with him (Acts 28:30-31), his social and occupational movements were now much more severely restricted. Life as he had known it – and perhaps even taken for granted – had now ground to a screeching halt. (Sound familiar?) Although Paul could not have known the full extent or possible divine purpose at the time, God, through Paul’s inability to carry on with his regular daily pursuits and activities, was providing him with the “free” time, to – amongst other things – write those three beautiful, magnificent, and all-empowering epistles (Rom. 8:28)!

(Continued on page 4)



COME VISIT WITH US

The church building is located southeast of Murray one mile off highway 641 - Near the corner of the Green Plain and Murray Paris Roads. We look forward to seeing you! A warm and friendly welcome awaits!

**GOSPEL
BORADCASSTING
NETWORK
THE GOSPEL 24/7
GBNTV.ORG**

(Continued from page 3)

So the question is: What are you doing for God with your new-found “free” time? Do you recall all of those instances wherein you may have said something like, “I just don’t have the time to study daily,” or, “I’d like to talk to people more about Jesus, but I’m just too busy?” Well, now you have it. Are you, like Paul (Phil. 1:12-13, 4:22), making the most of the time (Eph. 5:14-17)? God bless!

—By Doug Dingley |<http://churchofchristarticles.com/>

**Psalms 119:107
I am afflicted very much;
Revive me, O Lord, according
to Your word.**



GOD'S ONE WAY FOR ALL

**MT.11:28-30
REV.22:17**

**MORALLY GOOD
ACTS 10:5,6:44-48**

**RELIGIOUS BUT WRONG
ACTS 16:14,15-18:8**

**THOSE IN HIGH POSITIONS
ACTS 8:26-39**

**THE DECEIVED
ACTS 8:5-12**

**DECEIVERS
ACTS 8:9-13**

**PUBLIC OFFICIALS
ACTS 16:25-34**

**MURDERERS
ACTS 22:23-28**

**BAPTIZED - MK 16:16
CONFESS - ROM 10:9,10
REPENT - JO 1:12,3:16
BELIEVE - ACTS 17:30
HEAR - ACTS 3:22,23**

**BLOOD BOUGHT
ACTS 20:28**

**CHRIST SAVES
EPH. 5:23**

**CHRIST'S CHURCH
ROM.6:15-17:18
ICOR.12:13**

**PERSECUTORS
ACTS 9:14,22:16**

LIFE

**2TIM.4:6-8
REV.2:10**

**THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY
JO.14:6; EPH.1:22,23:4-6**