



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 38

August 30, 2020

Number 35

Schedule of Services

- We have the privilege this Sunday at 10 AM of assembling together in the auditorium to worship

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

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

By Mike Riley

A Native American and his friend were in downtown New York City, walking near Times Square. It was during the noon lunch hour and the streets were filled with people. Cars were honking their horns, taxicabs were squealing around corners, sirens were wailing, and the sounds of the city were almost deafening. Suddenly, the Native American said, "I hear a cricket." His friend said, "What? You must be crazy. You couldn't possibly hear a cricket in all this noise!" "No, I'm sure of it," the Native American said, "I heard a cricket." "That's crazy," said the friend.



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human ears!" "No," said the Native American. "My ears are no different from yours. It all depends on what you're listening for." "But that can't be," said the friend. "I could never hear a cricket in all this noise."

"Yes you can," came the reply. "Here, let me show you." He reached into his pocket, pulled out a few coins, and discreetly dropped them on the sidewalk. And then, with the noise of the crowded street still blaring in their ears, they noticed that every person's head within twenty feet turned and looked to see if the money that tinkled on the pavement was theirs. "See what I mean?" asked the Native American. "It all depends on what's important to you, and what you're listening for."

The Native American listened carefully for a moment, and then walked across the street to a big cement planter where some shrubs were growing. He looked into the bushes beneath the branches, and sure enough, there was a small cricket. His friend was utterly amazed. "That's incredible," said his friend. "You must have super-

What's important to us? What do we listen for? Are there times that we fail to listen to God, because we are focused on other things that are more important to us? Regarding the

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: **Green Plain members:** Remember Jane Morris, Faye Travis, Peggy Jarvis, Rex Enoch, Mary Crutchfield, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, and Carolyn Byars. **Family and Friends:** Jenne Pool, Teresa Tacker, Betty Pond, Bryan White, Meredith Enoch, Kenneth Mizell, , Janice Canter, Maryanne Pedigrew, Dale Foster, Andrea Phillips, Donald and Dorothy Cook, Pat Hocking, Sandra Cook Downs, Hollis Stubblefield, Jason Rutledge, James Bishop and Kevin Smith.

- **MEMORIAL SERVICE:** A memorial service will be conducted at the building of the Green Plain church of Christ for sister Margaret Enoch on Saturday, September 5th. Visitation will be from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. The memorial service will follow at 12:00 pm.
- **PANTRY ITEMS August 2020: 2—Canned Potatoes; 9—Canned Tomatoes; 16—Vienna Sausages; 23—Pinto Beans; 30—Creamed Corn.** Please bring any additional items you wish for the “blessing box” which is located next to the breezeway on the north side of the building.
- **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 Ronnie Gootan, David Nance, Mike Kiser, Arnold Gerson and Paul Jones in their respective works.
- **August 2020 Anniversaries:** 13th—Gail and Jonnie Hutchison; **Birthdays:** 4th—Teresa Enoch; 10th—Brent Morris. If we have left anyone out please let us know.
- **We offer FREE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES through the mail. Enroll on our website or send your name and return mailing address to the address on the first page of this bulletin. You may also call 270-978-7569 or you may email us at greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org.**
- **Additional Study Opportunities:** We encourage our readers to take advantage of the wealth of Bible study opportunities which are available online. There is a list of some of these at the bottom of this page. You will find scores of recorded videos and live programs that you can watch at your convenience. The Bible admonishes us to “...grow in the grace and in the *knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*” (2 Peter 3:18).

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/>

In Search of the Lord's Way
<http://searchtv.org/>



BIBLE RESEARCH QUESTION

This Week: Jesus said, “By this all will know that you are my disciples.” By what?

Last Week: According to the book of Proverbs, what is the beginning of wisdom?

Answer: “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom....” (Proverbs 9:10).

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Jews, Jesus said, “For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, so that I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear.” (Matthew

13:15-16; cf. Isaiah 6:9-10; Acts 28:26-27).

Brethren, amid the distractions of the world all around us, may our ears always be open, not only ready to listen for, but to hear and be obedient to God’s voice as He speaks to us through His word (1 Samuel 3:9-10; cf. John 8:47; John 10:4; John 10:27; 1 John 4:6). —GEWatkins.net

SIMPLE TRUTH: THE SINGULARITY OF THE CHURCH

By Eddie Perish

Peter once referred to the writings of Paul this way, “There are some things in them that are hard to understand” (2 Pet. 3:16). Not that my opinion matters, but I know where Peter is coming from. I suspect you do, too. But just because there are some Biblical concepts that are hard to grasp, this does not mean that all of them are. As a matter of fact, some of the most important doctrines of the New Testament are just not that difficult to understand. One of those doctrines is the singularity of the church.

One of the characteristics of the religious climate of our day is the proliferation of different religions that fall under the broad heading of Christendom. It’s not difficult for most folks to find a church that fits their criteria of what a church should be. The widespread availability of churches to choose from is heralded as a wonderful blessing from God.

But is it? Did denominationalism originate with God? Did Jesus build, and therefore approve, all of the different “Christian” religions complete with their opposing doctrines and practices? No, he didn’t. Here is the simple truth:

When Jesus was preparing his followers for what would happen after his death and resurrection, he promised, “I will build my church” (Matt. 16:18). The word

“church” is singular, not plural.

⇒“There is one body” (Eph. 4:4).

⇒Jesus is the “head over all things to the church, which is his body” (Eph. 1:22-23). Paul identifies the one body as the church.

⇒If there is only one body, and that body is the church, then there is only one church.

Simple, isn’t it? But that leads to the question: if there’s only one church in the New Testament, why do so many exist today? And why do they all claim allegiance to Jesus?

Perhaps this illustration will help. Suppose you gave an identical copy of the same blueprint to 10 different homebuilders with the instructions to build a home by following that blueprint. Further suppose that when the builders were finished, each home looked different from the others. What would you conclude? That at least 9 of the 10, and perhaps all 10, did not follow the blueprint. The only way to tell which builder built the right home would be to compare each home to the blueprint.

When different churches all claim to follow the New Testament, but they teach

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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!

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and practice things that are diametrically opposed to each other, there is only one conclusion: someone isn't following the pattern.

The truth is simple: Jesus built one church! — *From the Brown Trail church of Christ*

