



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 39

October 24, 2021

Number 41

Schedule of Services

Sunday

- Bible Classes 10 am
- Worship 10:50 am and 6:00 pm
- Wednesday Bible

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;
MSOP—Eli Sales

Location

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

“I AM NOT PERFECT”

By Jonnie Hutchison

Jesus taught, “*Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect*” (Matthew 5:48). If we are honest with ourselves we will readily admit that we are far from perfect in our thoughts, speech and actions. None of us are “perfect” in the sense of sinlessness. The Bible teaches that “*all have sinned and come short of the glory of God*” (romans 3:23). When John wrote to Christians he said, “*If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us*” (1 John 1:8). Yes, even Christians can and do commit sin. In that sense, none of us are perfect.

When Jesus said to be perfect as the Father is perfect what did He mean? These words were spoken as Jesus taught a number of things concerning how those who would follow Him should act toward others. For example, in verse 47 Jesus said, “*And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?*” Christians

must do more than others. Christians must be spiritually minded. We react differently than the worldly minded. We love others, even our enemies, and treat them accordingly. We put the needs of others before our own. We want others to be saved and to enjoy the hope of eternal life. When others mistreat us we do not respond in kind, but rather, we pray for them. In doing these things we are doing more than others (responding differently from the world) for we are responding as God in His perfection would have us to respond. We are being perfect as He is perfect.

We should always remember that we can never justify participation in sin by saying, “I am not perfect.” No, you are not perfect, but you should be ever striving toward perfection. Again, John wrote to Christians, “*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness*” (1 John

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain members: Peggy Jarvis, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, Mary and Jim Lowrie and Mary and Jesse Vincent.

Family and Friends: Teresa Tacker, Bryan White, Kenneth Mizell, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt, Charlotte and Johnny Parker, Roger Rhoades,, Joel White, Mary Lou Joseph, Jennie Pool. Nat and Rita Evans and Larry and Rose Wyatt. Please let us know of those who have improved or any one who needs to be added to this list.

- **PANTRY ITEMS October 2021:** 3—Paper Towels; 10—Baked Beans; 17—Pickles; 24—Jelly; 31—Peanut Butter. 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.
- **October 2021 Anniversaries:** 21-Vickie & Chad Canter . **Birthdays:** 8-Jim Fielder; 18—Perry Jarvis; 29-Bobby Hall. Please let us know if we have left anyone out.
- **ENROLL IN A FREE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE.** Send your name and complete mailing address and phone number to the address on the first page of this bulletin.



- **UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS:** Our Annual Chili supper is scheduled for November 5th at 6:00 pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Visitors are welcome.

- **Sunday Night Singing—October 31st at 6:00 pm.** “Sing with grace in your hearts to the Lord” Col.3:16.



- **Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday November 7th** It is suggested that we set our clocks back one hour before we retire Saturday night.

Those to Serve October 2021

Announcements—Mike Ernstberger

Preside at Lord’s Table—Bobby Hall & Larry Enoch

Lord’s Table PM: 3rd-Bobby Hall; 10th-Larry Enoch; 17th-Bobby Hall; 24th-Larry Enoch; 31st-Bobby Hall

Opening Prayer AM: 3rd-Jonnie Hutchison; 10th-Chad Canter; 17th-James Pigg; 24th-Jim Lowrie; 31st-Mike Ernstberger

Closing Prayer AM: 3rd-Perry Jarvis; 10th-Mike Ernstberger; 17th-Junior Morris; 24th-Roy Wyatt; 31st-Jesse Vincent

Song Leaders: AM-Perry Jarvis; PM-Mike Ernstberger; Wed: Chad Canter

Counter Contribution: Bobby & Larry Usher: Chad

LESSONS TODAY

Bible Study-10 AM
The Book of Acts
Worship

AM— “Why Love God?”

PM— “I Change Not”

Wednesday Bible Class
A Study of 1 John

7:00 PM

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1:9). The key is to be continually “walking in the light” so that we can continue to receive the cleansing of the blood of Jesus for the sins which we as Christians commit. , “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin” (1 John 1:7). If we are “walking in the light” we

are letting God’s Word direct our every step and thereby avoiding sin and embracing righteousness. However, when we do sin, repentance, confession of our sins and seeking God’s forgiveness in prayer will give us access to the cleansing of the blood of Jesus (Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:7-9). Our God is truly merciful to those who strive to be perfect as he is perfect.



GENIE IN A BOTTLE By Todd Houston

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.
1 John 5:14

How grand would it be to have a genie in a bottle? Think about being able to hide your genie’s bottle until you desire something from him. Once a desire arises, you just pull out the bottle, rub it, wait for the genie to pop out, make your demands known, and the genie MUST fulfill your wishes. What would your request be? How often do you suppose you might pull out the trusty old genie’s bottle to satisfy your wants and wishes? You may be wondering why we are talking about a mythological bunch of nonsense like genies in bottles, but there is a spiritual application I wish to make with this.

So many people treat God like He is their personal genie, expected to keep quiet and out of sight until they need something

from Him. Many worldly people never give a second thought to God until something goes wrong. A man hasn’t worshiped or served God in any way for fifty years, but the minute he finds out he or a loved one has an illness or some other hardship, he begins praying and seeking the prayers of others. Would the person treating God this way be compelled to act in favor of a person who treated him/her the same way? Perhaps you know that person who never calls or comes around until a need arises. Aren’t you just ecstatic to see him/her coming to take advantage of your benevolent nature? The same is true of God, and He leaves no question how He regards the prayers of these godless people (Job 27:8-9; Psalms 34:15-17; Proverbs 15:29; Jeremiah 11:9-11; Micah 3:4; 1 Peter 3:10-12).

We may think we would never treat God so. However, we have probably been guilty of this at some point. How, you may be wondering. We do this by praying in ways

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THE GOSPEL BROADCASTING NETWORK

THE GOSPEL 24/7

GBNTV.ORG



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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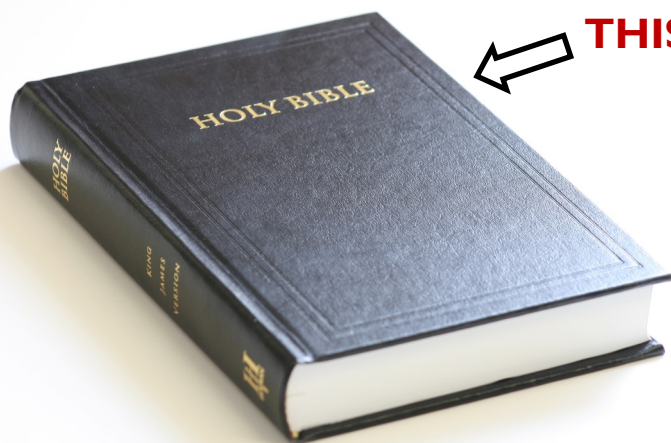
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which are not in keeping with God's plan and purpose. First, consider how often God desires to hear our prayers. In Luke 18:1-8, Jesus introduces us to a persistent widow who was relentless in her pursuit of justice from her adversary. The judge is described as one who "...did not fear God nor regard man" (vs. 2). Obviously, moving him to action was no easy task, but she was so persistent that he finally gave in. The implication concerning God is, if this unjust judge was moved to action by her persistence, God will be much more inclined to help His own. Jesus' purpose in the parable is that "...men always ought to pray..." (vs. 1). Paul says, "Pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks" (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18). How often do we pray when we need nothing?

Not only does God demand frequent prayers, He also demands properly intended prayers. We need to keep two elements in mind with our prayers: 1) our prayers should reflect gratitude to God, and 2) our prayers

must desire God's will in all things. Woven into the teachings on prayer is the central thrust of giving thanks and extolling God (Matthew 6:9; Philippians 4:6; 1 Thessalonians 5:18; 1 Timothy 2:1). The next time you pray, take inventory of the frequency of thanksgivings compared to requests. Consider very carefully the true motivation of every petition. After Jesus extolled God's virtues, He immediately turned the prayer to seeking God's kingdom (reign) and will on the earth (Matthew 6:10). After a single material petition, daily bread, He turned to the desire that God's will be done in the life of the individual (Matthew 6:12-15). Jesus desired God's will be done more than He desired to be spared the agony of death (Matthew 26:39, 42). It is okay to pray for physical well-being (cf. 3 John 2), but we must make God's glorification in our lives the central purpose of all our petitions. Let us be certain we treat God like our Lord not our personal genie.

—Genie in a Bottle — Elizabethton Church of Christ
elizabethtoncoc.org



THIS BOOK ANSWERS THE GREATEST QUESTIONS OF LIFE!

1. From Where Did I Come?

Genesis 1:27-28.

2. Why Am I Here?

Ecclesiastes 12:13

3. Where Am I Going?

Matthew 25:46