



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 38

February 23, 2020

Number 8

Schedule of Services

- **Sunday**
Bible Classes
10:00 AM
Morning Worship
10:45 AM
Evening Worship
6:00 PM
- **Wednesday**
Bible Classes 7:00 PM

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

STAY FOCUSED *By Gary L. Hutchins*

Jesus encouraged us, “*Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life*” (Rev. 2:10). The “crown of life” signifies eternal life in Heaven, eternal salvation. Eternal life is a gift offered to us by God through grace. Our responsibility in receiving this gift is to “*be faithful until death.*” We are not just to become faithful, we are to live in faithfulness until the day we die. We must even be willing to die for our faith, if necessary.

While this is certainly more easily said than done, it should not necessarily be all that difficult to do. God has promised that He will not let us be tempted by any temptation that is too powerful for us to overcome, with His help (1 Cor. 10:13). In the middle of that promise is the statement, “*God is faithful...*” So, we don’t have to wonder if the promise of the verse is as powerful as it reads. It is! God has made this promise, and God is faithful to keep His promises.

Why, then, does it seem that so many people have such difficulty staying faithful? One simple key is, they don’t stay focused. Paul portrayed the walk of faithfulness as being like a

runner running a race. He said, “*Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended...*” As long as we are still alive, we have not claimed the prize of eternal life to the fullest degree. Only after this life is over can we actually be with God in Heaven. We may have moments in our life that are wonderfully encouraging, but we’re not there yet. So Paul says, “*but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead...*” We must stay focused. Paul goes on, “*I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus*” (Phlp. 3:12-14). Just as a runner running a race, we must keep our mind, as well as our eyes, on the finish line.

We need to let go of the failings of the past and look forward to the goal, eternal life! The Hebrews writer takes up this same theme. He cautions us to “*lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, ...*” The point he makes is that we need to put away anything that might impede our living in

(Continued on page 3)

NEWS AND NOTES

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain members:** . Remember Faye Travis, Peggy Jarvis, Rex and Margarette Enoch, Mary Crutchfield, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder,, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, Jesse & Mary Vincent, Carolyn Byars and Dave & Ann Thompson.
- **Family and Friends:** Pat Hocking, Teresa Tacker, Betty Pond, Bryan White, Meredith Enoch, Kenneth Mizell, Walter Byars, Will Winchester, Jim Hutson, Janice Canter, Maryanne Pedigrew, Dale Foster, Andrea Phillips, Donald and Dorothy Cook, and Larry Wyatt.
- **Guest Speaker:** Max Henry is scheduled to speak to us concerning the Tennessee Children’s Home at our evening services today.
- **Pantry items February:** 2—Peanut Butter; 19—Jelly; 16—Paper Towels; 23—Spinach; All food items should be canned. Thanks to all for participating in this effort.
- Remember our **snacks for the hospital program** and place your items in the baskets in the lobby.
- **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. Or, pick up extra copies to hand or mail to others.
- **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 WQQW TV in Paducah, KY. This program is also available on their website at abibleanswertv.org and on GBN and YouTube.
- **February 2020 Anniversaries:** None; **Birthdays:** 8th—Krista Smith; 19th—Maxine Pool; 25th—Jan Pigg; -Please let us know if we have left anyone out and we will include them next week.
- Visit our Website at greenplainchurchofchrist.org.
- *Are you shining as a light in the world? Read Matthew 5:16 and Philippians 2:12-14. SHINE, SHINE, SHINE!*



Scan this with your smart device to access the website



BIBLE RESEARCH QUESTION

This Week: Upon what day of the week did the Jewish Pentecost fall?

Last Week: What emphatic verse in Habakkuk is quoted three times in the New Testament?

Answer: Habakkuk 2:4, “The just shall live by faith” is quoted in Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11 and Hebrews 10:38.

SCHOOL OF BIBLICAL STUDIES



March 2-April 27
7:00-9:00 pm Each
Consecutive Monday

SUBJECTS

Methods of Evangelism
Luke Puckett
Bible Preservation
Dan Sikes

(Continued from page 1)

faithfulness to our Lord. The writer goes on to instruct, *"and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us."* (Heb. 12:1). Don't give up, don't quit! In the next verse he portrays Jesus as standing at the finish line of our race through life: *"looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, ..."* Jesus is there with us, watching over us, ready to help us finish victorious. We need to always keep our focus on Him.

Jesus put it this way, *"No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God"* (Lk. 9:62). A great many people begin the walk of faith but lose their focus. They get distracted by all kinds of things, including self-doubt. We

must stay focused! When Peter became distracted by the storm and took his eyes off of Jesus, he sank into the water on which he had been walking (Matt. 14:28-31). If we let ourselves get distracted by the difficulties of life, or by the temptations of the devil, we can end up sinking into the depths of sin and end up condemned for eternity. Only if we stay focused, only if we keep our eyes on Jesus, only if we maintain our commitment will we stay on course and cross the threshold of Heaven. If we stay focused, God has already promised that we will cross the finish line and receive the prize (Rev. 2:10). The only question is whether or not we will stay focused. Are you focused?

—Sunny Slope church of Christ bulletin

IT'S ALWAYS NEEDED *By Shane Williams*

I heard a story of a man in the mid 1950's entering school to study engineering. A professor told the entering freshmen class to buy the best slide rule they could afford. The reason: "You will be dependent on it all your 'professional life.'" Well, of course, it wasn't too long before the slide rule was replaced by the calculator. We've seen those same sorts of things in fairly recent years: 8 tracks, cassette tapes (almost), and even VHS tapes! Things we considered essential have quickly become obsolete. Soon the "newest thing today" will be discarded as antiques that cannot provide the help we need.

At least one thing from the past, however, will always be needed and never become obsolete. It is the Bible, God's Holy Word. No matter how much technological change and progress takes place, The Book will remain the one sure means for getting



the right answers to the complicated questions: our origin, our purpose, our needs, and our final destination.

Psalm 119:105, *"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."*

Psalm 18:30, *"As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the Lord is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him."*

Psalm 119:160, *"The entirety of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous judgments endures forever."*

1 Peter 1 :23, *"For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God."*

Make sure you keep your Bible around and use it! You'll always need it.

—Pennington Bend church of Christ
Bulletin—Nashville, TN



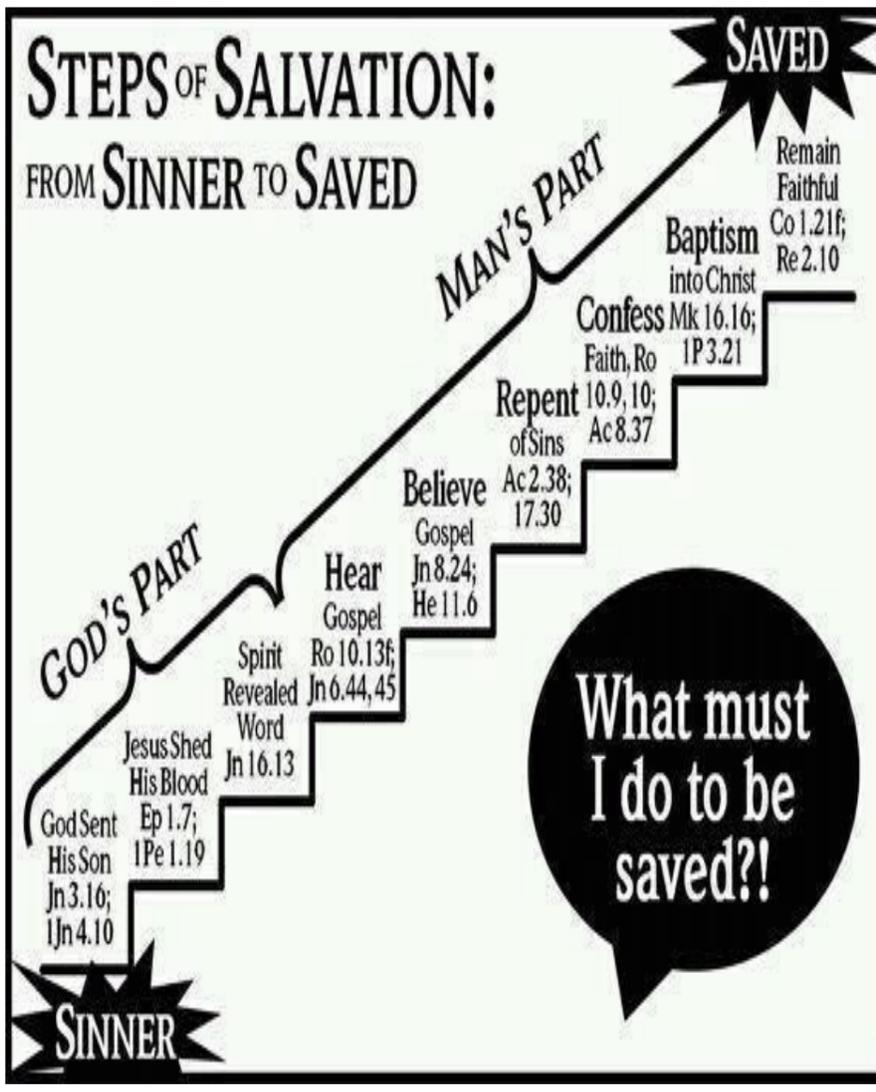
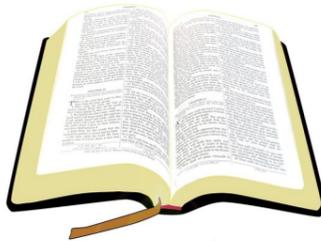
COME VISIT WITH US

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!

Lessons Today

Sunday Morning
"Growing the Church Through Conviction"

Sunday Evening
Max Henry



THOSE TO SERVE

February 2020

Announcements

Chad Canter

Preside at Lord's Table

Bobby Hall & James Pigg

Substitute: Chad Canter

Assist at Lord's Table

Roy Wyatt & Junior Morris

Substitute Jesse Vincent

Preside at Lord's Table PM

2—Bobby

9—James

16—Bobby

23—James

Opening Prayer

2—Jim Lowrie

9—Mike Ernstberger

16—Jonnie Hutchison

23—Preston Barrett

Closing Prayer

2—Jesse Vincent

9—Junior Morris

16—Dave Thompson

23—Charles Enoch

Song Leaders

Sunday AM—Perry Jarvis

Sunday PM—Mike Ernstberger

Wednesday—Jackson Hale

Substitute—Chad Canter

Count Contribution

Roy & Junior

Collect Communion Cups

Nathan & Zoey

Usher

Jesse Vincent

If unable to serve please call

Chad Canter at 270-873-7509

Thanks for Serving!