



# THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 39

April 18, 2021

Number 15

## Schedule of Services

- 10:00 AM  
Sunday  
Worship
- 7:00 PM  
Wednesday  
Bible Study

## 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](mailto:greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org)

## OUR CHRISTIAN EXAMPLE

By Mike Riley

The story is told of a Christian high school senior who was honored as one of the best and brightest in his community because he provided a forceful demonstration of integrity.

When his school team was given the word “auditorium” in a regional spelling bee, he glanced down to ponder his response and noticed that the word was printed on the microphone stand. He called this to the attention of the judges who responded with a more difficult word. The young man did what he knew was right whether others noticed or not.

We don’t know when our actions may become an example to others — we’re always on display. But if we live each day to honor Jesus, our behavior will model His righteous life (Gal. 2:20; 1 John 2:5-6), no matter who is watching.

Uprightness and honor should be goals for Christians of every age. Paul told Timothy:

*“Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in*

*spirit, in faith, in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12 NKJV).*

As Christians, one of our goals in life should be to change the world around us **for good** while never compromising ourself — one person at a time (Acts 10:38 NKJV; cf. 2 Timothy 2:1-2 NKJV; 1 Timothy 4:16 NKJV).

*O to be like Thee! blessed Redeemer,  
This is my constant longing and prayer;  
Gladly I’ll forfeit all of earth’s treasures,  
Jesus, Thy perfect likeness to wear.  
O to be like Thee! O to be like Thee,  
Blessed Redeemer, pure as Thou art;  
Come in Thy sweetness, come in Thy fullness;  
Stamp Thine own image deep on my heart. —W.J. Kirkpatrick*

**WEDNESDAY  
BIBLE STUDY  
7:00 PM**

## NEWS AND NOTES

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Green Plain members*: Remember Faye Travis, Peggy Jarvis, Rex Enoch, Mary Crutchfield, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, Carolyn Byars, and Mary and Jim Lowrie.

*Family and Friends*: Helen Tidwell, Jenne Pool, Teresa Tacker, Betty Pond, Bryan White, Meredith Enoch, Kenneth Mizell, Janice Canter, , Andrea Phillips, Donald and Dorothy Cook, Sandra Cook Downs, Kevin Smith, Dale Pentecost Jaime Aguavo, Jr., and Brett Wyatt.

- **PANTRY ITEMS April 2021: 4—Baked Beans; 11—Soups; 18—Apple Sauce; 25—Syrup.** 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.
- **April 2021 Anniversaries:** None **Birthdays:** 3-Mary Lowrie; 8-Katelyn Canter; 24-David Thompson; 27-Steve Enoch; 29-Sue Hall; 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](mailto:greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org).

### ONLINE SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

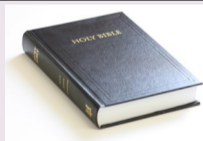
Gospel Broadcasting Network  
<https://gbntv.org/>

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/>



### TODAY'S SERMON

#### “Doctrinal Traits of Unity #1”

*“Endeavoring to keep the unity of the  
Spirit in the bond of peace”  
Ephesians 4:3)*

## “DENY GOD OR FAIL” *By Brett Petrillo*

Several years ago, Jordan Wooley, a seventh grader in Texas, was put to the test in class. Her teacher gave the class an assignment where they were forced to label God as “fact, opinion, or myth.” However, when students began getting upset and discussions took place, the teacher made it clear that unless they said God was a myth, they would fail the assignment. Even though several students tried to speak up and argue for God, the teacher wouldn’t budge and some students even left in tears. Jordan Wooley went home, talked with her parents, and had enough courage to take it to the principal and the school district.

While it’s on the rare side for teachers to take such a staunch approach against God inside school walls, resistance against God is not uncommon. Perhaps what was most rare about the situation was Jordan Wooley’s willingness to stand up for her beliefs. Even though she was standing toe-to-toe with an adult teacher, which is hardly a fair fight,

she stood her ground. She was even willing to take the situation up the school ladder, which her friend who also opposed the teacher was too scared to do (EAG News).

In [Matthew 10:32-33](#), Jesus said, “Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.” In context, Jesus is speaking specifically to His disciples, but the overall idea still applies to us today ([2 Timothy 2:2](#)). We must be people who stand up for the Lord, being ready to give a defense of the hope within us ([1 Peter 3:15](#)).

It may not be fun. It may not be popular. It may not be easy. Let us still be people who defend the faith and stand up for the Lord ([2 Timothy 1:13](#); [3:14](#)).

—“Deny God or Fail” - [Articles < Mt. Carmel Church of Christ](#)

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## “IF YOU LOVE ME...” *By Todd Houston*

*By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. 1 John 5:2-3*

If you watched “Cops” on tv, you most likely witnessed the police arrest a domestic violence offender who then proclaimed his love for the victim all the way to the patrol car. I always wondered if he really believed his own words. If so, he was grossly confused about the meaning of love. The Holy Spirit says *“Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; loves does not parade it-*

*self, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil...”* (1 Corinthians 13:4-5). It takes little effort to see through the faulty reasoning of the offender's concept of love.

Sadly, many who profess faith in Christ “love” Him in much the same way as we seek what He can give us without reciprocating His love. Though I cannot judge the heart of another person (Matthew 7:1; Romans 14:4), I want to suggest a few questions we should ask ourselves when we turn from Him to sin.

(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!

### TRUTH.FM

*Internet Radio*

*Download App or  
listen online*

<https://www.truth.fm/>

(Continued from page 3)

First, do I understand why I love Him in the first place? John said, *"We love Him because He first loved us"* (1 John 4:19). Truly grasping God's love for us produces love for Him in us. In 1 John 4:9-10, John said *"In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."* The meaning of propitiation is a humbling thought in itself. It means to cover or wipe away a stain. Jesus had to die a cruel and painful death on the cross to wipe away our sins.



Next, am I aware of the biblical prescription for expressing love for Him? Feeling thankful for His blessings is one thing, but properly expressing them is another. John also said, *"My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth"* (1 John 3:18). As the abusive spouse's profession of love was hollow, so is our profession of love for Christ when we refuse to do His will. The Savior plainly stated *"If you love Me, keep My commandments"* (John 14:15). Not only is the love of God *expressed* by keeping His commandments, the love of God *is* keeping His commandments (1 John

5:2-3). Therefore, to say we love the Lord while disobeying His commandments is a contradiction of terms.

Finally, do we realize when we rebel against our Lord that we are abusing the One who died for us? Hebrews 10:29 described a Christian who sins willfully as one *"...who has trampled the Son of God underfoot,*

*counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace..."* Is this not much the same as the "love" expressed by the abusive spouse on Cops?

We must clearly understand what it means to love God in order to properly demonstrate that love in our lives. The first step is to meditate on the things He has done for us to promote a deep, abiding love for Him. Once we have done this, we must make a conscious effort to please Him who died for us. True love for God takes the burden out of serving Him much the way true love for a spouse makes pleasing them in this life a joy instead of a burden. God has given us more reason to love Him than any earthly mate ever could. Let us love accordingly.

—[If You Love Me... — Elizabethton Church of Christ \(elizabethtoncoc.org\)](http://elizabethtoncoc.org)