



# THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 45

April 26, 2026

Number 15

## Schedule of Services

### Sunday

- Bible Classes 10 am
- Worship 10:45 am  
and 6:00 pm
- Wednesday Bible  
Study 7:00 pm

### Elders

- Mike Ernstberger  
270-293-7027
- James Pigg  
270-293-2319

### Deacons

- Bobby Hall

### Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison  
270-978-7569

### Location

- Green Plain  
Church of Christ  
3980 Murray Paris  
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(270) 492-8206
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- greenplain-  
churchofchrist.org

## YOUR RWARD WILL BE GREAT

By Jonnie Hutchison

The relationship that the Christian has to those around him who are not servants of the Lord is not always comfortable or enjoyable. There are times when our relationships with non-Christians are characterized by conflict. There are those in this world who hate Christians and who will use every means at their disposal to express that hatred and make the life of the Christian difficult. Even ones own family members may become involved.

Jesus prefaced his teaching about how the Christian should treat those who mistreat him with the words, *“Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! For so did their fathers to the false prophets.”* (Luke 6:25). If one is a faithful follower of the Lord and His divine Word he can expect to be hated by the world. *“If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.”* (John 15:18). These words were spoken as Jesus addressed His chosen apostles. Yet, the principle applies to every faithful disciple of the Lord. The Christian will be hated by those who are determined to follow the devil ra-

ther than the Lord. Thus, conflict is inevitable.

In this certain conflict with the enemies of Christ, there is direction given by the Lord as to how to handle it. Jesus tells us, *“Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you”* (Luke 6:27-28). We are not to retaliate against those who would strike us or take from us. Instead we are to “turn the other cheek” and give more than what was taken from us. If one takes away our possessions we are not to ask for them to be returned (Luke 6:29-30). We are to treat others (including our enemies) as we would want to be treated (Luke 6:31).

These are amazing statements. They indicate that we are to treat our enemies no differently than we would treat our friends. One may read this teaching of Jesus and, in the midst of persecution or sacrifice, ask, “What do I get out of it? What do I get in return for these sacrifices?” Jesus said if we just love those who love us, do good to those who do

(Continued on page 3)

## NEWS AND NOTES

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Green Plain Members: Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder (Spring Creek), Dave & Ann Thompson (Hickory Woods), Joan Lathrop, Wanda Barrett (Charter Health Care), Roy and Marie Wyatt, Dianna Travis, and Mike Ernstberger.

**Family and Friends:** Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Dale Pentecost, Kim Burrows, Lucetria Hutchison, Ted Clark, Patrice Wyatt, Jackie Herndon, Peyton Mays, Patricia Dowdy, Darren Mays, Adam Kellam, Dan Sikes and Ariana Yount.

**OUR SPRING GOSPEL MEETING** with Josh Manning is now history. Josh did an outstanding job in presenting God's truth. Thanks to each member of the Green Plain congregation who attended the meeting and. Fed the preachers & who invited others to come. Our highest attendance, thanks to several area congregations, was 115 on Wednesday night. Pray that fruit may continue to abound from this effort.

**PANTRY ITEMS April 2026:** 5-Tooth Peanut Butter; 12-Nestles Quick Chocolate; 19-Mixed Vegetables; 26-Pork-n-Beans. All items must be **non-perishable or canned**.

**April 2026; Anniversaries:** 13-Jackie & Don Spiceland. **BIRTHDAYS:** 1-Tina Canter; 24-Dave Thompson; 27-Steve Enoch; 29-Sue Hall. Congratulations!

**Enroll in a FREE Bible Correspondence Course.** Send your name and complete mailing address to Green Plain church of Christ 3980 Murray Paris RD, Hazel, KY 42049. You may also enroll online at our website: <https://greenplainchurchofchrist.org>.

### THOSE TO SERVE April 2026

Announcements: James

Lord's Table AM: Mike & Russell

Lord's Table PM: 5-Mike; 12-Russell; 19-Mike;  
25-russell

Opening Prayer AM: 5-Bobby; 12-Jonnie; 19-Jimmy;  
25-Perry

Closing Prayer AM: 5-Roy; 12-Don; 19-James;  
26-Chad

Song Leaders: AM-Perry; PM-Chad; Wednesday-Mike

Count Contribution: Mike & Russell

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[greenplaincoc@gmail.com](mailto:greenplaincoc@gmail.com)  
**2 Timothy 2:15**

(Continued from page 1)

good to us, and lend to those who will give something back to us then we are no better than the sinner who does the same (Luke 6:32-34). In other words, we get nothing out of it that is worthwhile. On the other hand, if we each *“love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return”* then there is a reward— *“and your reward will be great, and you will be the sons of the*

*Most High....”* (Vrs. 35). The reward we receive will be worth every sacrifice, every expression of hatred toward us, and every loss we sustain while living in this world. Our **great** reward as “sons of the Most High” is the knowledge that God is pleased and will grant us eternity in heaven after this life is over! Yes, **GREAT IS YOUR REWARD IN HEAVEN!**

## MARKS OF A GROWING CHURCH

Growing churches have elders who are spiritual men of wisdom and vision and who are deeply interested in the souls they are shepherding (1 Tim. 3:1-7).

Growing churches have deacons who believe they must be servants in order to be deacons, and as deacons they rejoice for the privilege that is theirs to serve (1 Tim. 3:8-13).

Growing churches have preachers who exalt Christ and His word, who proclaim the “whole counsel of God,” and challenge members and non-members in a bold but loving way to obey the Lord and draw nearer to Him (2 Tim. 4:2-4; Eph. 4:15).

Growing churches have an educational program that stimulates members to know more of God’s word and to better apply its truth (2 Peter 3:18; Eph. 4:12).

Growing churches regard worship as a privilege rather than a chore. The singing is enthusiastic, the Lord’s Supper is thoughtfully observed, prayers are humbly and lovingly offered, and brethren give generously as

they have been prospered. People bring their Bibles and even take notes during the lessons because they want to better know God (Jno. 4:24; Psa. 116:112; Eph. 5:19; Jas. 5:16; 1 Cor. 16:1,2).

Growing churches make visitors feel at home. Others can see the unity, warmth and love that exists among the people of God (Jno. 13:34-35).

Growing churches make a diligent effort to teach the lost and restore the fallen. Visitation and Bible studies are constantly going on (Acts 5:42; Gal. 6:1-2).

Growing churches respond to goals and challenges because every member is focused on glorifying Christ (Phil. 1:21; 1 Cor. 10:31).

Growing churches exhibit the mind of Christ. They are humble, serving, and obedient to the Father (Phil. 2:5-11).

Does this sound like the congregation of which you are a part? If not, let’s get GROWING!

—Author Unknown

## LIFE IS SHORT *By Terry Jones*

How often is it that we hear someone say, “Where has the time gone?” It is a wise individual who realizes early in life that our existence on this earth is brief. The Psalmist said, “Remember how short my time is...What man can live and not see death? Can he deliver his

life from the power of the grave?” (Psa. 89:47-48). Let us take a closer look at this passage.

First, the Psalmist mentions that life is short. James says life is like “a vapor, that appears for a little time, and then vanishes

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

away” (4:14). It is sad to see so many living so carelessly, never considering that each day may very well be their last.

Secondly, he says, “What man can live and not see death?” “For the living know that they shall die” (Ecc. 9:5). We ought to be able to see others that are dying every day and know we are no exception. “And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment” (Heb. 9:27). Who is it that you know that has escaped death?

Third, he asks, “Can he deliver his life from the power of the grave?” Obviously, the answer is no! However, Christ can deliver us from the grave. He himself arose from the grave and He promised to raise us in the last day. “The hour is coming in which all who are in the graves shall hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation” (Jno 5:28-29). Life is short!

### *Tidbits*

- ◆ “Things are always better somewhere else until you get there.”
- ◆ “No dream comes true until we wake up and go to work.”
- ◆ “Worry is a merry-go-round, but it rides you.”
- ◆ “Always put off until tomorrow what you should not do at all.”
- ◆ Question: “What makes Sunday evening worship **less important** than Sunday morning worship?”
- ◆ “If the Lord came during Wednesday night Bible study, where would He find you?”

***“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad” (2 Corinthians 5:10).***

### **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!

## **Bible Study Opportunities**

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS 10:00 AM**  
***A Study of Luke***

**SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:50 AM**  
***“What the Lord Will Not Do”***

**SUNDAY WORSIP 6:00 PM**  
***“If I Be Lifted Up”***

**Wednesday 7:00 PM**  
***A Study of 2 Kings***

### **What Must I Do to Be Saved?**

1. **Hear** the gospel -Romans 10:17.
2. **Accept the Deity of Jesus Christ**—John 8:24.
3. **Repent** of sin—Acts 17:30.
4. **Confess** faith in Christ—Acts 8:36-38; Rom 10:9-10
5. **Be immersed in water**—Acts 2:38; 22:16; Gal. 3:27.