



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 42

April 28, 2024

Number 16

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
270-753-2108 Home
270-293-7027 Cell
- James Pigg
270-759-2145 Home
270-293-2319 Cell

Deacons

- Bobby Hall
- Jesse Vincent

Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison
Cell: 270-978-7569

Supporting Works

India—Dale Foster, David Nance, & Ronnie Gootam;
Hatti/Cuba: Arnold Gerson

Location

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

HOW IS YOUR INFLUENCE?

By Jonnie Hutchison

There is no doubt that each of us influence those around us by what we say and by what we do. The truth is that we can neither help it nor avoid it—that’s the power of influence.

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus compared human influence to both salt and light. *“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the*

world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:14-16 NKJV).

Think about the power of salt to influence whatever it touches. Salt has been used as a preservative for years. When salt is put on food it flavors it. Without the in-

fluence of salt many foods are bland and unappetizing. On the other hand, excessive amounts of salt not only can ruin the taste of food but may also raise blood pressure and negatively impact ones health. So the influence of salt may be either good or bad.

Since Jesus says that His disciples are the “salt of the earth” it follows that He expects us to exert a good and positive influence upon those around us. In writing to Timothy the inspired Apostle admonished, *“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). Yes, we can be a positive influence in what we say, in what we do, in having a positive and uplifting attitude, in the matter of personal faith and in living a life of moral purity.

The influence of light is in dispelling darkness. Darkness cannot exist where light is found for darkness is the absence of



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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain Members: Peggy Jarvis , Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Lowrie. Marie Wyatt (Spring Creek), Mike Ernstberger , Roy Wyatt,. Joan Lathrop, James Pigg, and Don Spiceland (back issues), Family and Friends: Ted Lovett, Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt, Tommy Boggess, Kim Burrows, Nat Evans, Lucetria Hutchison, and Ted Clark.

PANTRY ITEMS April 2024: 7—Mixed Vegetables; 14-Toliet Tissue; 21-Jelly; 28-Great Northern Beans. All items must be **non-perishable or canned**.

April 2024; Anniversaries: 13-Jackie & Don Spiceland; Birthdays: 1-Tina Canter; 3-Mary Lowrie; 8-Katelyn Canter; 24-Dave Thompson; 27-Steve Enoch; 29-Sue Hall.

ENROLL IN A FREE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE. Send your name and complete mailing address and phone number to the address on page one of this bulletin.

HOME BIBLE STUDY; Request a **FREE** home Bible study—“*Back to the Bible*” for anyone who is interested in gaining more knowledge of the Bible. Contact us to set up a time for our teachers to come into your home or meet at our building to begin this study.

OUR MONDAY NIGHT CLASSES end tomorrow evening. Brothers Jack Phillips and Josh Manning have done an outstanding job in teaching our classes this Spring. We are thankful for all who have participated in our School of Biblical Studies. Our next session will be in September 2024. We will let you know the details closer to time.

- ◆ *“A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education.” Theodore Roosevelt*
- ◆ *“Within the covers of the Bible are the answers for all the problems men face.” Ronald Reagan*

THOSE TO SERVE APRIL 2024

announcements: James Pigg

Lord’s Table AM: Bobby H. & Mike E

Lord’s Table PM: 7-Chad; 14-Bobby; 21-Chad
28-Bobby.

Opening Prayer AM: 7-Jonnie; 14-Perry;
21-James; 28-Jim Lowrie

Closing Prayer AM: 7-Roy; 14-Dave; 21-Junior;
28-Jesse

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

Count Contribution: Bobby & Mike

GREEN PLAIN SCHOOL OF BIBLICAL STUDIES

SPRING 2024

Continues through April 29

Each Monday Evening

7:00—9:00 pm

In depth studies on

Romans—Josh Manning

2 Corinthians—Jack Phillips

Meet in the Annex

(Continued from page 1)

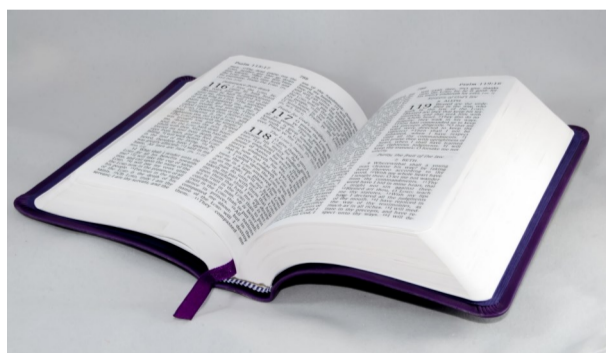
light. Jesus commands us, not to hide our lights, but to let the light of our influence for good shine before men. In other words, we must let the light of our influence dispel the darkness of sin in the world. Exerting a good influence in our lives glorifies, that is, magnifies and brings honor, to God. Inspiration uses a phrase in Galatians 2:20 that suggests this type of influence. *“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”* To let “Christ live in me” is equivalent to living “by faith in the Son of God.” To put it simply, when one follows the teaching of the Bible in his/her life then that person is allowing Christ to live in him/her for that person is living by faith (Romans 10:17; 4:12; 2 Corinthians 5:7).

Consider the matter of parental influence. As parents we are given the instruction to bring our children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). Whether we exert the proper influence over our children will go along way in determining their eternal destiny. If we are willing to sacrifice our time and effort in teaching them the Word of God in the home and in seeing that they attend Bible classes and worship then we can expect positive results (Proverbs 22:6). If we fail to set the proper example of love and faithfulness to God in our lives our children will see that and be influenced

away from God. In other words by our influence we can either encourage their salvation or contribute to their being lost. It is YOUR choice as a parent.

Consider the matter of influencing the lost. The lost with whom we come in contact day by day hear what we say and see what we do. They base their conclusions about New Testament Christianity and whether it appeals to them upon what they see in our lives. If they see a faithful Christian they have a positive view of original Christianity. If they see an unfaithful Christian they are influenced in the opposite direction. It is impossible to encourage others to listen to the truth if you are not living it in your own life. A bad influence cannot be hidden any more than a good influence. It is YOUR choice as a Christian as to whether or not you exert an influence that will lead to the salvation of the lost.

What kind of influence are you exerting by the life you are now living? Exerting the right kind of influence in the world is directly related to the strength of ones love and faith in God. One who truly loves God will show it in his life by his continued submission to the will of God. One who truly believes God and trusts Him will have no problem with letting his light shine in such a way as to glorify his God. In humility and with the deepest sense of responsibility and accountability, “let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven!”



**“Blessed are the undefiled in the way,
Who walk in the law of the Lord!
Blessed are those who keep His testimonies,
Who seek Him with the whole heart!
They also do no iniquity;
They walk in His ways.”**
Ps 119:1-3 NKJV

REFRESHING WORDS

By Jerry Joseph

God's Word is powerful (Romans 1:16). It provides that which we need (2 Peter 1:3). How thankful we should be for the Word of God and glad that we have it, because when we are ...

- ⇒ **Discouraged** we can pick up the Bible and begin to read it for it "is able to build us up" (Acts 20:32).
- ⇒ **Doubting** we can read Matthew 6:24-33 and be refreshed.
- ⇒ **Disturbed** with the problems of life we can read Romans 8 and feel secured.
- ⇒ **Distressed** with a troubled heart we can find solace in reading John 14:1-6.
- ⇒ **Drifting away** because our faith is growing weak we can read Hebrews 11 and be encouraged by the great saints of old.
- ⇒ **Dealing with temptation** and it seems too much for us and we can read 1 Corinthians 10:13 and see there is a way out.
- ⇒ **Deserted** by those around us and we feel that we are all alone in this life and we can read Psalms 23 and know that there is ONE who with us who really does care (1 Peter 5:7).
- ⇒ **Distraught** with the guilt of sin we can find the solution in God's Word and be delivered spiritually when we submit our will to His Will Hebrews 2:9; 5:8-9; 1 Timothy 2:4; Romans 1:16-17; Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 5:8; Matthew 7:21; John 8:24; Luke 13:3; Romans 10:9-10 and Mark 16:15-16).

How glad we should be for the "refreshing" words that are found within the BIBLE. Think about It!

-St. Peter's church of Christ

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

Study of 1 Timothy

SUNDAY AM WORSHIP 10:45

"Did Christ Die in Vain?"

SUNDAY PM WORSHIP 6 pm

"A Labor of Love"

Wednesday 7:00 pm

Study of Matthew



A Bi-Weekly Podcast Available wherever you get your Podcasts