



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 45

June 28, 2026

Number 24

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
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PREACHERS #2 *By Jonnie Hutchison*

We continue our study of preachers by setting forth some of the personal qualities which are essential to one who would dedicate himself to the preaching of the gospel.

A good preacher but be a good man. As is true of every Christian, preachers are to be “examples of the believers” (1 Timothy 4:12). One cannot set a bad example in his life as a preacher and expect his preaching to be effective. It has long been recognized that a preacher’s character is of equal value with his preaching. Consider Jesus and His power as a teacher of divine truth. One of the reasons why His teaching was effective is because it was based upon His perfect life. Actually, Jesus used this very argument with the Pharisees. Jesus said, *“which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell you the truth, why do you not believe Me?”* (John 8:46). Since the Pharisees could not convict Jesus of committing any sin they should have believed and accepted what He taught. Jesus based the truthfulness of His teaching upon His sinless life.

While no preacher is above

sin, every preacher should follow the example of Paul who, though not sinless, urged men to follow him as he followed the Lord (1 Cor. 11:1). A preacher must not only urge faithfulness to God, he must exemplify it in his own life!

Brother J.A. McNutt gave the following qualities of a great preacher:

- **He has a sense of burden or concern** over the length of eternity, the shame and guilt of sin, the value of souls and his personal responsibility.
- **He must be sincere.** He must possess genuine conviction and an earnestness for the work of the Lord.
- **He must be enthusiastic.** Enthusiasm grows out of sincerity. But ones enthusiasm must be tempered by divine truth and a desire to please God in all things. One must not allow himself to become unrealistic in his enthusiasm.
- **He must be a man of humility.** It is a fact that some would exalt preachers above others and some preachers are happy to receive such praise. Preach-

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain Members: Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder (Spring Creek), Dave & Ann Thompson (Hickory Woods), Wanda Barrett (Charter Health Care), Roy Wyatt, Marie Wyat, Sue Hall and Russell Lathrop.

Family and Friends: Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Dale Pentecost, Kim Burrows, Luce-
tria Hutchison, Ted Clark, Patrice Wyatt, Jackie Herndon, Peyton Mays, Patricia Dowdy,
Darren Mays, Adam Kellam, Dan Sikes, Ariana Yount, Joanne Hutchison, John Sales
and Jack Phillips.

June 2026; **ANNIVERSERIES:** 17-Jan & James Pigg. **BIRTHDAYS:** 15-Don
Spiceland.. Congratulations!

Enroll in a FREE Bible Correspondence Course. Send your name and complete mail-
ing 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>.

***“Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself,
is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not pro-
voked, thinks no evil.” - 1 Corinthians 13:4-5.***

“Let all that you do be done with love.” - 1 Corinthians 16:14.

THOSE TO SERVE June 2026

Announcements: Mike

Lord’s Table AM: James & Chad

Lord’s Table 7-Chad; 14-James; 21-Chad; 28-James

Opening Prayer AM; 7-Bobby; 14-Jonnie; 21-Jimmy;
28-Perry

Closing Prayer AM 7-Russell; 14-Don; 21-Jesse;
28-Roy

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

Count Contribution: James and Chad

AREA EVENTS

GOSPEL MEETING at
the Williams Chapel
church of Christ—July 12-
14 with **B.J. Clarke**
preaching.

Monday-Tuesday 7:00 pm

VBS at the Coldwater
church of Christ
Saturday July 11, 2026

9:00 am

**Classes for all ages
including adults.**

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ers must remember that the lowly publican was a better preacher than the self-exalted Pharisee (Luke 18:10-14). Humility is a quality difficult to obtain and hard to hold on to but those who preach the gospel must be men of humility otherwise pride will get in the way of their work.

- **He must be a man of meekness.** There is a tendency in the world to confuse meekness with weakness and a lack of courage. But meekness is not being a coward nor is it being weak. Moses was meek but possessed the necessary courage to lead a nation from bondage to the edge of the Promised Land thus preserving the seed line of the Christ. The meek person is one who is agreeable, easy to get along with and not quick to retaliate. These are characteristics necessary in preaching the gospel.
- **He must possess patience.** Preachers must avoid growing weary in well doing and do all they can to overcome personal discouragement (Galatians 6:9). Both preachers and congregations need not expect progress without problems any more than one would expect roses without thorns or sunshine without some rain. However, some congregations have been torn asunder because the preacher was too impatient and tried to force his program on the church. Jesus said, *"By your patience possess your souls"* (Luke 21:19).
- **He must have purity of life.** Preachers should avoid situations where his character might be questioned. In relation to women in the church the preacher must be extremely careful of his conduct and the situations in which he may find himself. As brother McNutt stated, "keep your hands to your self."
- **He must have intellectual ability.** A

preacher must be a man of knowledge and mental capacity. First and foremost he must be a man of the Book (1 Timothy 4:13; 2 Timothy 2:15). Knowledge for the preacher is developed through the diligent and continual study of the Bible and other related material. It is good for a preacher to have a broad knowledge of other fields of endeavor as well.

- **He should have good physical health.** Poor health can limit ones usefulness. Preachers need as much as possible to possess a strong body and alert mind. Some exercise, recreation and diversion is necessary to maintain this. Even Jesus had to get away from the multitudes on occasion (Matthew 14:23).
- **He must be a man with some leadership qualities.** Preacher's should be able to inspire and motivate others through personal example and teaching. As Paul stated it, *"Be followers of me as I am of Christ."*

It is sad that some members of the Lord's church view the work of a gospel preacher in much the same way that members of denominations view the work of their "clergy." While preachers are to lead by teaching and example they are not "the leaders" of the church. That responsibility falls to those men who have been appointed as elders.

Those who dedicate themselves to preaching the gospel are not without the ability to make mistakes and errors in judgment. No person lives above the possibility of personal sin, not even preachers (1 John 1:8-10). The truth is that those characteristics which we have studied in this article really should be true of every Christian, including, but not limited to, gospel preachers.

A SQUEAK IN THE PULPIT

Recently I read an entry found in an old church record of a business meeting. It stated: “A committee was appointed to investigate the squeak in the pulpit.” Upon reading this, I couldn’t help but think that today’s world, even today’s church, desperately needs more than a “squeak” coming from the pulpit.

Now, as much as ever, we need the clear tones of the gospel resounding from our pulpits. We are hearing far too much about churches who are selling out to the culture. The distinctive preaching of New Testament Christianity is seldom if ever heard in some pulpits. Sermons that challenge our morals, expound our doctrine, question our ethics, and rebuke our mediocrity are exchanged for sermons that have an air of religiosity, but are lacking in substance.

In 1 Chronicles 12:32, it was said of some of God’s children that they “understood the times.” There remains a multitude of God’s children who understand the times. They understand that now is not the time for a squeak in the pulpit. There are many godly elders and godly Christians who are demanding to hear more than a squeak from the pulpit. They have not bought into the idea that distinctive preaching has harmed the church. They want substance over style and flair. They want truth over entertainment. They want biblical authority over pragmatism. And they would rather have the sometimes, bitter truth over a watered-down gospel. To put it in the words of John MacArthur, they realize that the weakness of the pulpit today does not stem from frantic cranks who harangue about hell; it is the result of men who compromise and who fear to speak God’s Word powerfully, with conviction.

There are many challenges that face the church today. If we are to rise up to the occasion and defeat our adversary, we must have strong pulpits: pulpits that will speak the truth in season and out of season, with all the love they can muster; pulpits that will not compromise the truth; pulpits that do more than just squeak! –

-Steve Higginbotham from, “Are you living a faithful life in Christ?” via: THE EASTSIDE EDIFIER & Sharon church of Christ bulletin.

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!



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

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:50 AM
“Who and What Is A Christian?”

SUNDAY WORSIP 6:00 PM
“ Nine Spiritual Gifts”

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.