



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 45

June 7, 2026

Number 21

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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churchofchrist.org

“THAT’S NOT FAIR” By Jonnie Hutchison

How many times has someone emphatically spoken the words, “That’s not fair!” We often hear children express these words when one receives something that another does not. “Brother received two pieces of candy and I only got one! That’s not fair!”

There is one occasion when Jesus used a parable to teach a vital lesson using a similar expression as “that’s not fair!” It is found in the parable recorded in Matthew 20:1-16 often referred to as the “Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard.”

Jesus tells of a land owner who went out early in the morning to hire workers to work in his vineyard. He agreed to pay them “a penny” (denarius) for a days work to which they agreed and sent them to work in his vineyard. Three hours later the land owner saw others standing idle in the marketplace and told them that he would pay them “whatever is right” if they too would go work in his vineyard. So they went. And then at the sixth and ninth hours the land owner repeated this to other laborers.

At the end of the work day the owner asked his steward to call for all the workers to give them their wages. Those who were hired first received the penny to which they had agreed. However, those who were hired later, including those who were hired last, received the same amount of pay as those hired first. That is when those hired first expressed the “that’s not fair” attitude saying, *“These last men have worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.”* The response of the land owner was, *“Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man the same as to you. Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?”* (Matthew 20:12-15).

One of the tremendous lessons from this account is the nature of God’s goodness and His desire to save us and reward faithfulness. Some might argue it unfair that those who live most of

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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 (Spent time in Murray Hospital being treated for congestive heart failure), Marie Wyat, and Dianna Travis.

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, Ariana Yount, Joanne Hutchison, Lilly Sales, and John Sales.

PANTRY ITEMS As announced last week, we will no longer be collecting pantry items at the building.

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

Visit <https://gbntv.org> for a host of free Bible study opportunities including on demand videos and a live streaming broadcast. The Gospel Broadcasting Network is a worldwide satellite network which reaches people all over the world with the gospel. It also is available on YouTube.

**PUT
GOD
FIRST
AND
EVERY-
THING
ELSE**



**WILL FOLLOW!!
Matthew 6:33**

**Ask Us About A FREE
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“Back to the Bible”
To increase your
knowledge of
God’s Word.**

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We will set a time convenient for
you to either come into your
home or come to our building
where we will sit down with open
Bible’s and study God’s Word in
an informal setting.
Call 270-978-7569 or email
greenplaincoc@gmail.com
2 Timothy 2:15

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their lives in sin but finally, near the end of life, respond in genuine obedience to the gospel of Christ, are promised the very same eternal reward as those who obeyed the gospel early in life and have lived their entire lives faithfully serving the Lord. According to human reasoning one may argue that is unfair for surely those who have lived for the Lord the longest ought to receive a greater reward. But that misses the point entirely. None of us deserve heaven! We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God! (Rom. 3:23). It is only by the grace of God and the proper response to that grace that we are granted the hope of heaven (Tit. 2:11-12).

There are religious people who will not go to heaven and some might believe this to be unfair. Jesus said, *“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but **he who does the will of My Father** in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew*

you; depart from me, you who practice lawlessness” (Matthew 7:21-23). A careful reading of the Lord’s teaching shows that its obviously not enough simply to be religious nor to express ones religion in any way one desires. No, one must be religiously right, doing the will of God rather than following the doctrines and commandments of men (Matthew 15:8-9; Colossians 2:21-22). In His Word God has revealed to us exactly what He desires in worship and service to Him. It is unfair of us to expect to be saved while standing in disobedience to His divine will, either adding to, taking from or substituting something else for it.

There is great assurance in the parable of the laborers for every person. Dear friend, God wants you to be saved from the eternal consequences of your sin. He gives you that opportunity this side of death. No matter what your age or how long you have lived in sin, as one accountable to God, you can make the proper response to His will and receive the forgiveness of sin and the hope of eternal life! How thankful we should be that God is so good and fair to us!

DOING NOTHING By Curtis E. Graves

*He made no mistakes; he took no wrong turns,
He never fumbled the ball. He never went down 'neath the weight of the load,
He simply did nothing at all.
He lost no hard fight in defense of the right,
He never bled with his back to the wall,
He never felt faint in his climb to the light,
He simply did nothing at all.
So death came nigh, life had slipped by,
He feared for the judgment hall.
And when asked why, he said with a sigh,*

*“I’ve done nothing at all.”
O, God will pardon your blunders, my friends,
Or regard with pity your fall,
But the one great sell, that surely means hell,
Is simply to do nothing at all.*

I do not know who the author of this poem is, but it certainly is thought provoking is it not? We may not be thieves or murders. We may not harm or abuse others. We may not be adulterers or fornicators. However, what if we leave undone the things we are supposed

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to do. James 4:17 says, “Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.” We know it is good to study God’s Word, and to obey it. Is it not good to worship God and is it not good to come together to study His Word? Is it good to help those who are in need? If it is, why are we not doing it or why are some complaining about doing it? If we break God’s laws we are guilty of sin! If we omit or leave undone what He wants us to do we have also sinned! It is the sin of omission.

Have you obeyed the Gospel plan of salvation in hearing God’s Word, believing it, repented of your sins, confessed that Jesus is the Christ, and been baptized. If not, why have you left it undone? Those who have taken these steps should already know what to do. Are you doing it, or are you “doing nothing at all.”

THINGS YOU NEVER REGRET...

- Showing kindness to an aged person.
- Destroying the letter or email written in anger.
- Offering an apology that saves a friendship.
- Helping a child find his way.
- Taking time to show consideration for your parents.
- Visiting the sick.
- Attending the Bible classes and worship assemblies of the church.
- Helping a lost soul come to a knowledge of God’s saving truth.
- Comforting those in sorrow.
- Giving to the poor and needy.
- Using your abilities and opportunities in service to God.
- And **REMEMBERING GOD IN ALL THINGS!**

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
“Who Changed the Price Tags?”

SUNDAY WORSIP 6:00 PM
“Having a Clean Conscience”

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.