

The Encourager

October 1 - 7, 2023

FRONT ROYAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Welcome Visitors

We are glad you chose to worship with us today. Please fill out a visitor's card and sign our guest book in the foyer. Let us know if we can help you in any way.

The Church of Christ

1. The Bible is its only guide (Romans 1:16; 1 Thess 2:13).
2. Wears a Biblical name (Romans 16:16).
3. Established at the right place (Isaiah 2:2,3; Acts 2).
4. Established at the right time (Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2).
5. Established on the right person, Jesus Christ (Matt 16:18; Acts 2:36).
6. Saved are in it (Eph 5:23; Acts 2:47).
7. Its members are enrolled in heaven (Hebrews 12:23).
8. Membership is obtained by obedience to God's commands including baptism (Acts 2:41-47; 1 Cor 12:13)

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Worship 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study 7 p.m.

Troy Postlethwait, Minister

540-252-7460

Paying Attention to the Spices

by Dan Jenkins

The words of Jesus just hours before His death had to be so startling to His listeners. Their religious leaders had taught them the importance of giving tithes (10%) of all that the Lord had given to them. The leaders went beyond the obvious gifts like giving the tithes of crops they had planted and harvested. Based on Leviticus 27:30, they devoted the principle to the spices that were part of their lives.

Jesus said, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe of mint and dill and cummin..." (Matt. 23:23). All of these were used in cooking, and cummin was also used as a medicine. While wheat and barley involved large sections of the land, the spices were grown in a far smaller place. Think about the spices that you have to use in your cooking, and you will see how devoted these leaders were in tithing. Imagine counting out all of these "seeds" and giving every tenth one to God.

Before looking at the rest of what Jesus said, do not make the mistake some have in applying these verses today. We hear individuals talking about "majoring in minors," and in the application they conclude the only thing God is concerned about is the "weightier" aspects of what God says and concluding that the "lesser" matters really do not matter at all.

Jesus did not minimize the tithing of spices. In fact, He said that you should not ignore them, you should do them. However, He then addressed the ignoring of the "weightier" matters and called these leaders, "Hypocrites." They substituted attention to the "lesser" items and gave the appearance that they were far more religious than others. He said that the motivation to all their works were done to be seen by men (Matt. 23:5). This is a classic illustration of hypocrisy.

Look at the "weightier" matters which the leaders had neglected. Jesus said that they had "...neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith." They had devoted all their energies to lesser aspects of what God said (it was easier for a hypocrite to do this), while at the same time ignoring what God said.

The tithes of these spices was external and far easier to do. These "weightier" matters were internal and had to do with the heart and soul of the servant of God. They are not "seed" items because they are "soul" items.

That first commandment, the greatest commandment, involves loving God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength. Take time to see how this has such great application in our walk with the Lord in the new covenant. Service given to God that is only external is far removed from the greatest commandment. Think about this!

Announcements

Ladies' Class

The ladies are having a class on Sunday mornings in the fellowship hall for those who wish to attend. The Tuesday morning ladies class will resume at 11:00 a.m. on October 3 at the church building.

Church Directory

The new church directory is available. See Mike for more information. Update to the directory: Jeanie and Terry's new cell number is 540-481-3925.

October

Anniversaries

David & Ann Marie Mayberry 10/2
Danny & Sharon Derflinger 10/27

Birthdays

Savannah Mayberry 10/3
Susan Clark 10/6
Nate Edwards 10/9

Reminder

No food or drinks allowed in auditorium.

Please make sure to silent all electronic devices during class and worship services.

*Please check the bulletin board for events going on at other congregations.

Serving Today

Song Leader:

Nate Edwards

Opening Prayer:

Liam Edwards

Lord's Table:

Mike McCool, Bill Adams,
Joseph Agyenam, Cyric Edwards

Scripture Reading:

Art Candenuist

Closing Prayer:

T.K. Edwards

PM Song Leader:

Liam Edwards

Please make sure to check to see if you are on the list of servers.

The Cracked Acorn

by Carson Van Arsdall

Addiction

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. I Peter 5:8

Free TV is a wilderness of almost nothing to watch, I as a victim was surfing to find a few minutes of useless watching and I came across a last few bull riding moments in Oklahoma. ROASTED GUN was in the stall, the rider was doing his best to mount and I saw that Roasted had been there before and kept throwing his 16,500 lbs against the rider's leg hoping or trying to crush it. Eventually, ROASTED gave up, the rider was aboard and the gate opened and rider went to the heavens above, coming down flat on his back; ROASTED was there to tread on the rider's throat. Lured away, the stretcher was there to carry the rider away; I prayed he would one day be able to talk again. Bulls have misleading names: Hot Coconut, Captain Dance, Insane Dancer, Sticky Cupcake, Cheeky Snowflake, many more to hide their mad crazy nature.

Heroin, Crack, alcohol and marijuana have cute names to hide their addictive allurements: Daytime, Woo-Woo, Gull wings, Thunder, Gumball, Brown Sugar, Jolly Pop, Pineapple, Do Up, Cheese, and the Beast, etc. with many such names. . . changing constantly or even daily. Why all this, because it is a lucrative business to kill for and many teens in our land of 'milk and honey' think that one time is enough or two and then the hook is in. A faithful brother brought us a message on that subject about the young girl who was offered a closed hand and she did what we pray all

young people should always do: she pushed the closed hand away.

“A chronic, relapsing brain disease that is characterized by compulsive drug seeking and use, despite harmful consequences. Addiction is a brain disease because drugs change the brain's structure and how it works. These brain changes can be long lasting, and lead to harmful behaviors seen in people who abuse drugs. Why keep on keeping on. . . experts tell that addiction is not to keep feeling good, but for the purpose of not 'feeling bad!'”

On the other side of the coin is: When it was bad things given good (cute) names, how about what happens when good thing could get bad names. We shop for a car or van, we're after a vehicle that is dependable and lasting w/o chronic repairing. . . say, it is called Trash, or Junk, Bucket of bolts. . . based on words from we people who drive it - we buy it! Clothes. . . we shop because we have needs. . . even if shoes are a little tight fit. . . jackets, trousers and dresses do not have our tastes. . . we buy anyway! We spend our money, paper and coin. . . forgetting that on such is a saying that says, “In God We Trust”. There is nothing wrong in that the food business gives us good food with good names and we make them stick to that or else.

Advice I received: wash your hands and pray - we live in a virus time.

Prayer Requests

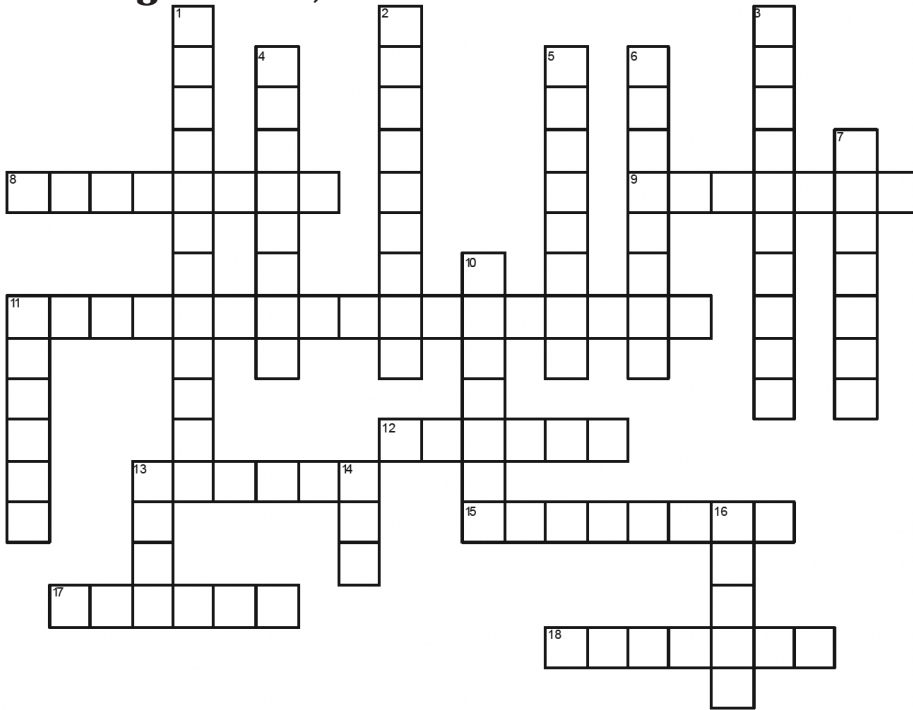
- Linda and Bill Adams
- The Baleskie Family
- Florence Boahen (Traveling in Ghana)
- Eddie Benfit
- David and Brenda Born
- John Bost
- Ruth Brooks
- Paula Clark (Carson's sister)
- Cindy Candenuist
- Cathie Derflinger
- Pat Derflinger
- Sharon and Danny Derflinger
- Tommy Derflinger
- Jim Foster (Lori Gunter's boyfriend)
- Lori Petrow Gunter
- Alice Hawes (Linda Sullivan's sister-in-law)
- Bobby Jo Henderson
- Kenny Henderson Jr.
- Phyllis Henry
- Janet Jones
- Terry and Jeanie Lichliter
- Kelly Martin
- Maria Martin
- Robert & Mary Martin
- Kera Michelucci (Debbie Martin's granddaughter)
- Jane McCool
- The McKeever family
- Vickie Petrow
- Bernie Steed (Linda Sullivan's son)
- Dean Stone (back surgery)
- Paul Sullivan (Linda Sullivan's son)
- Eugene Tewalt
- Jamie Tewalt
- Kim Wines (Debbie Martin's daughter)
- Sharon Derflinger is at Lynn Care in room 230
- Mandy Fristoe's mother, Sue Levin, passed away. Mandy is Ellen's daughter-in-law.

Answered Prayers

If you have an answered prayer that you would like mentioned, please give it to Tim so it can be printed in next week's bulletin.

Josiah - The Young King Who Sought God

2 Kings 22 - 23; 2 Chronicles 34 - 35



DOWN

- 1 During the process of repairing the temple during his third reformation, what did the high priest Hilkiah find? (2 Ki. 22:3-20) four words
- 2 When King Josiah was killed in battle, where was he buried? (2 Ki. 23:29-30)
- 3 How many years did the young Josiah reign in Jerusalem? (2 Ki. 22:1) two words
- 4 King Josiah gathered all the people of Judah together at the temple and read to them the Book of the Law. Before the assembly the king made a _____ with the Lord to keep all the commandments contained within the book. (2 Ki. 23:1-3)
- 5 What prophet lamented at King Josiah's death? (2 Chron. 35:25)
- 6 The prophetess Huldah revealed to King Josiah the people of Judah had _____ the Lord and worshiped idols. (2 Ki. 22:17)
- 7 When King Josiah had reigned for thirty-one years, he went to battle against the king of Egypt, and was killed in the battle at what place? (2 Ki. 23:29-30)
- 10 Since King Josiah _____ himself before the Lord, tore his clothes and wept at the reading of the Book of Law, the prophetess Huldah said the Lord will not bring the disaster upon Judah. (2 Ki. 22:19-20)
- 11 When the people of Judah celebrated the Passover feast at the restored temple in Jerusalem, this celebration was the greatest since the time of the _____. (2 Ki. 23:22)
- 13 After the Book of the Law was read before King Josiah, he _____ his clothes. (2 Ki. 22:11)
- 14 Did the people of Judah continue to keep the commands of the Lord during the reign of King Josiah? (2 Chron. 34:32-33)
- 16 How old was Josiah when he became king of Judah? (2 Ki. 22:1)

ACROSS

- 8 When King Josiah completed his purge of removing the idols within the land, he commanded the people to observe the _____ feast in Jerusalem. (2 Ki. 23:21-23)
- 9 How old was the young Josiah when he began to seek after the God of David, his father? (2 Ki. 22:1)
- 11 When King Josiah died, who mourned for him? (2 Chron. 35:24) three words
- 12 King Josiah commanded the high priest Hilkiah to consult this prophetess about the meaning of the Book of the Law. (2 Ki. 22:14)
- 13 How old was the young Josiah when he began to purge (cleanse) Judah and Jerusalem of the idolatrous altars and images that remained in the land? (2 Chron. 34:3-7)
- 15 The prophetess Huldah revealed to King Josiah that, according to the Book of the Law, the Lord will bring _____ upon Judah. (2 Ki. 22:16)
- 17 As a response to King Josiah's covenant to keep all the commands of the Lord, the king made the people _____ themselves before the Lord. (2 Chron. 34:32-33)
- 18 Who was the scribe that read the Book of the Law to King Josiah? (2 Ki. 22:8-10)

Answers to last week's puzzle

