

## ASSEMBLY TIMES

### Sunday

Bible Class on hold  
Morning Assembly 10:30  
Evening Assembly 5:00

### Wednesday

Evening Bible Class 6:30

## RADIO PROGRAM

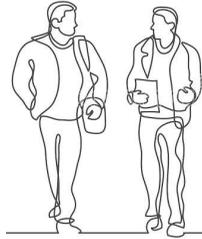
### The Bible Speaks



Sunday 9:00-9:30a.m.  
KURM 790AM

## Downtown Church of Christ

P.O. Box 447  
201 W. Chestnut Street  
Rogers, AR 72757  
479-636-3575  
www.downtowncoc.net



**A good example  
goes further than  
good advice.**

## CLASS SCHEDULE

**Today  
All Classes  
On Hold**

**Next Sunday  
All Classes  
On Hold**

**This info is provided  
to help everyone stay  
in synch during our  
three-year study thru  
the Bible (Sunday AM).**

## FAMILY NEWS

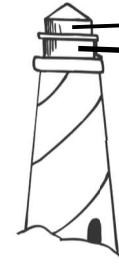
### PRAYER LIST –

*Preachers we support:* Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Canada, Mexico, Peru, & U.S.

*Sick:* Mary Lou Lewis, Kathy Fletcher, Marsha Swim, Rai Starr, Diane Willis,  
and Etta Frazelle      *Shut-ins:* Betty Jo Young, Margaret Abel, Erton Usrey,  
Shirley Cole, & Billie Pennington      *Military:* Logan Dickey, Kyler Sullins

**SUMMER DATES –** Our **VBS** is set for July 18-22 with Chris Reeves and  
our **Youth Lectures** are set for July 30-31 with Paul Sheehan. Plan ahead!

**THURSDAY ONLINE –** Every Thursday night at 6:30 we have a class for  
our young ones on Facebook. You can view it live — or view it later!



## DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

**PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE DOWNTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
ROGERS, ARKANSAS**

April 18, 2021

## Deacons: Servants of God's People

Some churches are not blessed with elders and deacons. It may be because they have relied on 'business meetings' for so long that they see no need for a larger organizational structure — never mind the Bible

Other churches may have the desire for elders and deacons (as rightly they should, Phil 1:1, 1 Tim 3), but simply do not have men who are qualified for these positions. My heart goes out to these churches. They should make it a priority to develop such men in days to come.

We are blessed here with elders and deacons. The elders are more visible

and we hear from them on a regular basis. The deacons are less visible (which is fine), but it doesn't mean they are not busy. Like ducks on the water, they may seem placid on the surface, but they are paddling furiously out of sight. We are grateful for each one of these men and their willingness to serve.

The appointment of deacons (like elders) is not a 'once & done' thing. In time we will need more. May the Lord continue to bless us with such men — men who have the heart of a servant, willing to be servants of the people of God!

- *WKing*

## Another Perspective

## Wonderfully Made

*You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made (Ps 139:13-14a).* This passage is used in the abortion debate to highlight the humanity of life within the womb. But there is another truth hidden in this passage. Notice what is NOT included in this description of an unborn child: its skin color, gender, ethnic background, nationality, heritage, or any other genetic or ancestral identifiers.

Let the significance of this omission sink in. Every one of us, regardless of what attributes we possess, is a creation of God, "fearfully and wonderfully made." By virtue of that divine origin, every one of us has equal value in His sight. We ought, therefore, to value each other as equals.

**Racism** in all its forms is a denial of this basic truth. This applies not just to the antebellum slavery of the Old South, but the reverse racism that is being peddled by modern Critical Race Theory. Any time we argue that one race is superior or inferior to another *based solely on the color of their skin*, we are denying the value of human beings made in the image of God. Likewise, **ethnic differences** may be deep-seated, but they are not grounds for demeaning whole populations. **Gender differences** are real and innate. But they do not grant license to one-half of humanity to belittle the other half. Whatever their differences, each sex provides unique strengths that benefit the other.

By elevating superficial characteristics as the measure of human worth, our society is descending into a hell of our own making. But in the gospel of Christ, individuals are esteemed as creatures made in the image of God, *simply for who they are!*

- David King (edited for space)

## Faith in Context

“Is it right — or is it easy?”

A man I respect once told me that when I have the option to do what is hard or easy, then doing what is easy is almost always wrong.

Of course, he wasn't talking about the easier ways to cut your grass, or a simpler method for cleaning your house. He was talking about spiritual matters.

But no one said it better than our Master Teacher, “*Whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. Give to the one who asks, and don't turn away those who need to borrow*” (Mt 5<sup>41-42</sup>).

Do I get a phone call from a brother in need, but I won't answer? Is there a Bible study or class I won't teach? A time I chose to put myself before my family?

Because not doing something is a whole lot easier than doing it! But is that what our Lord is encouraging us to do? No!

So go the extra mile. Make the sacrifice. Lend your time and your resources for the spiritual things, even if it's a little inconvenient. After all, Jesus dealt with that little inconvenient thing like **dying** for you. Maybe we can make the sacrifice of living for the sake of another's spiritual well-being — whatever they may need and however much they need it.

So... is it right — or is it easy?

I pray that all of God's people can come to understand that our spirituality is measured by our level of sacrifice for others (1 Jno 4<sup>7-8</sup>; Jno 15<sup>13</sup>; 1 Jno 3<sup>16</sup>), and that, “when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'” (Lk 17<sup>10</sup>).  
- WHSmith