

# Central Church of Christ

“A Community of Grace”

November 6, 2016

## The Sower Spreads the Word

The Scripture tells us God's word is very powerful. It will overcome any obstacle. It was by His word He created the universe. God simply spoke and it came into existence. He also says His word will always achieve His purpose. Isaiah 55:11 says, “...My Word that comes from My mouth will not return to me empty, but it will accomplish what I please, and will prosper in what I send it to do.” The Word of God is the creative power that achieves His purpose.

We find the story of the sower in Mark 4:1-9. When the sower spreads the word he is very indiscriminate. He spreads it everywhere. He is not concerned with preparation. He is only concerned with spreading this powerful seed. This seems very inefficient to us. What about preparation? What about making sure the soil is properly prepared? The sower is totally unconcerned with these methods. His task is only to spread the seed. His confidence is in the seed; the Word of the Living God.

This is very confusing to us. It seems very irresponsible. Aren't we called to prepare the soil and make sure the seeds are in good places? Aren't we called to be soil inspectors? This process the sower uses is counterintuitive to us.

It is clear from the parable that we are NOT called to be soil inspectors. We are just called to spread the Word. The power is in the Word; not in our presentation. The power is not in us. The power is in the Word of the Living God.

God will make His Word fruitful in any kind of soil. He is the powerful one. We are the faithful servants. Our task is merely to faithfully spread the seed; the Gospel, the Word of the Living God.

# Order of Worship

In the Name of the Lord (247) **John Atkison**, Song Leader

Welcome and prayer .....**Virgil Hammontree**

Shout To The Lord

Wonderful Merciful Savior

Blessed be the Lord God Almighty (72)

Lamb of God (176)

Communion and Offering As per schedule below

Teach Me Lord to Wait (764)

Children's Offering for fresh water filters (Helping Hands International)

Sermon – (Romans 13: 11-14) The Christian and the Culture **Virgil Hammontree**

There's Not A Friend (396)

Hand In Hand with Jesus

Closing Reminders .....Song Leader

Closing Prayer As per schedule below

## Those Serving:

	<b>Nov. 6</b>	<b>Nov. 13</b>	<b>Nov. 20</b>	<b>Nov. 27</b>
<b>Lead/ Bread</b>	Jobee Thrasher	Clint Thrasher	Bill Goad	Alan Powell
<b>Fruit of Vine</b>	Allen Smith	Francis Jenkins	Brad Oglesby	Tyler Goad
<b>Offering</b>	Tyler Goad	Jerry Henshaw	Greg Atkison	Allen Smith
<b>Closing Pray</b>	Brad Oglesby	Alan Powell	John Atkison	Francis Jenkins
<b>Door</b>	Brad Oglesby &	Allen Smith	Bill & Tammy	Greg Atkison &
<b>Greeters</b>	Avery		Goad	Zachary

# Birthday's and Anniversaries!

November Birthdays

8.....Dezman Bryant

## Prayer concerns

Dickie and Lyndall Blue

June Thrasher at Redbanks

Sue Hall (June Thrashers roommate)

Bobbi Doris Redbanks Rm #103

Mike Collins, back problems

Allen Smith's mother, Donna

Shane Richmond, recovering from surgery

Sherry Rashidian and a friend traveling overseas



This week we are collecting **microwaveable ravioli** for the Henderson County High School backpacks. Please contribute if possible.

By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right he has a son who is sure he is wrong.

## Things to remember:

Pick up your new church directory from Marie or Greg. As changes become necessary be sure and let Marie know so she can keep the directory current.

Die, Then Follow Me

Mark 8:31-36

“He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things...and that he must be killed and after three days rise again...Peter...began to rebuke him...Jesus turned...‘Get behind me, Satan!’...‘If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me.’”

We can't jump to the “follow me” portion of this text without first denying ourselves and taking up our cross. The death to self is a daily choice that no one else can make but ourselves. It goes against our sinful nature to not put ourselves first, to not honor ourselves and to not preserve ourselves. Peter was rebuked for resisting this message and Jesus indicated the enemy of the “death to self” teaching was Satan himself. This heresy can be clothed in religious clothing as the “therapeutic gospel” or the “health and wealth” gospel – but it's still heresy. To follow Jesus is to die to self.

Jesus, I humble myself before you and die to self this day.

Submitted by Freida Hammontree

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**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**Sunday:**

**9:30 AM Sunday school**

**10:30 AM Worship Assembly**

**6:00 PM Bible Study**

**Wednesday:**

**6:30 PM Bible Study**

**Our statistics:**

Sunday Worship	29
Sunday Night	
Contribution	\$3,499.00
Wednesday Bible Study	8
To Building Fund	\$1,330.00
To Benevolence	\$ 569.00

*To join the church text messaging services send @kce9 to 81010. Then follow the directions*

Show No Partiality

By David R. Ferguson

It is an undeniable truth that life is not fair. Oftentimes we see firsthand how those less qualified receive a job promotion, while those much more deserving are passed over. But just because the world is not fair does not give Christians permission to treat others unfairly. On the contrary, we have many passages of Scripture that teach otherwise.

James, the Lord's brother, teaches of the sin of partiality by showing how wrong it is to favor someone new to our assembly simply based upon the clothing one wears. He then states, "*But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors*" (James 2:9 [NAS]). James and the Apostle Paul both point out that we should model our lives and treat others as God does, by judging their actions righteously, and to do so without partiality. Paul writes in Romans 2:9-11 [NAS], <sup>9</sup> *There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek,* <sup>10</sup> *but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.* <sup>11</sup> *For there is no partiality with God.*

The Prophet Micah sums it up nicely when he writes, "*He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*" (Micah 6:8 [NAS])

- David R. Ferguson preaches for the Lakeland Church of Christ in Mattoon, IL