



JACKSON CHURCH OF CHRIST
Family Matters

March 5, 2023

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Deacons

George Clark
 Nate Crowden
 Greg Dowdy
 Charlie Kluesner
 Doug Lester
 Brian Mitchell
 Todd Newman
 Kenny Simmons
 Scott Spraggs

Lessons for Today

AM: Brian Mitchell

"Understanding How the Church Grows"
 1 Thessalonians 1:2-4

PM: Brian Mitchell

"Building on the Right Foundation"
 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

Understanding How the Church Grows—Effort

Very few accomplishments of value in this life are achieved without diligent and persistent effort on the part of the achievers. It takes hard work to prepare the soil, sow the crop and reap the harvest in the agricultural world. So why would we expect that accomplishing these tasks in the spiritual world would require any less effort on our part. Thus, another of those defining marks of healthy and growing churches is that they are marked by persistent and focused effort on the part of those who belong to them.

In other words, healthy congregations are full of Christians that are busily engaged in the work of the Lord, they are expending much effort in good works. "It is not doing the things we like to do, but liking the things which must be done, that make living life blessed." Why is it that the lazy find no joy in working but the hard workers tend to find joy and peace in their labors? It is because the hard worker understands the value of persistent effort or hard work and thus he finds joy in so doing.

A church that desires to grow must first learn to find joy in doing the works of God or they will never find the time to do them. Why is it that a church has far less trouble getting its members together for a meal than it does getting them together to go door knocking in the community? We need to be like the people of Nehemiah's day who "had a mind to work."

So with all of that being said, here is the question for us, how is true faith shown? It is shown by being engaged in good works and those are found in the Word of God. Faith without works always leads to a dead faith according to James, so is your faith dead or alive? True love is seen through one's commitment to do the work of the Lord, does your Lord know that you love him? Let us be like the Galatians whom had a "faith working through love" Gal.5:16.

Why is effort or hard work an important part of every healthy and growing congregation? How many souls are won to Christ without much effort, and many times the efforts of more than one? How many churches grow by chance, luck or mistake; instead of through the combined efforts of the dedicated people of God? "The NT constantly stresses to local churches' involvement in active labor to spread the influence of the gospel and to infiltrate the community with the message of hope and peace."

The idea then is simple; in this world very few things are built minus the sustained effort of many builders and the church is no exception. So we must "pray as though everything depended upon God and then work as though everything depended upon us." So let us roll up our sleeves and get to work and then watch God cause the church to grow.

Brian Mitchell

Worship Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:00 am
 AM Worship: 10:00 am
 PM Worship: 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:00 pm

For the Record

Sunday Class: 89
 Sunday AM: 111
 Sunday PM: 51
 Wednesday PM: 58
 Contribution: \$4744
 Budget: \$4831

Think on This...

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
Psalm 95:6

Celebrating This Week...

Birthdays

Ruth McDowell: 03.05
 Gary Miller: 03.06
 Leonard Fulbright: 03.08
 Troy Bryan: 03.10
 Scott Watson: 03.10
 Rob Coleman: 03.11
 Jack Huskey: 03.11

Anniversary

Wayne & Susan Fowlkes: 03.07

Serving This Week

Announcements: Randy Seabaugh

SUNDAY

Greeters: Phil & Sondra Swiney
Ushers: Shawn Myers/Seth Spraggs
A/V: Luke Selvig
Nursery: Jenny Newman
Lead Singing: Todd Newman
Head Lord's Table: Scott Spraggs
Scripture: Sid Naramore
Prayers:
AM: Allen Hedge/Jeff Garland
PM: Charlie Kluesner/Wally Eck

WEDNESDAY

Lead Singing: Greg Dowdy
Devo: David Selvig
Prayer: Nate Crowden
Elder Chair: Gary Ridenour
Communion to Shut-Ins: Dan Silvers
Worship Organizer: Ron Fehr

Daily Bible Reading

March 5: Numbers 23-25
March 6: Numbers 26-27
March 7: Numbers 28-30
March 8: Numbers 31-32
March 9: Numbers 33-34
March 10: Numbers 25-36
March 11: Deuteronomy 1-2

Continuing Prayer Needs

****Contact the office with updates****

Ron Anderson	Jalonda Harris
Ginger Avery	Allen & Juanita Hedge
Esther Beck	Betty Jones
Shannon Birk	Sid Naramore
Mark Blaylock	Carolyn Neese
Lee Brooks	Wanda Raper
Dalton Bryan	Susan Seabaugh
Reita Conley	Steve Simmons
Donna Cox	Lee Simpson
Bill Dillman	Don Tawney
Newt & Kay Gilliland	Chris Weaver



Remember in Prayer

- **Chris Weaver** has moved to Life Care Center to continue her recovery.
- **Lane Crowden** is doing well and expected to start physical therapy today after his recent broken collar bone and surgery.
- **Susan Seabaugh** has learned that her pain is being caused by severe arthritis and degenerative disease. She is working with pain management to avoid surgery as long as possible.
- **Marie Corzine** has been suffering with pneumonia.

Rejoice!

We rejoice with the Mitchell family and the angels in heaven as **Lizzie Mitchell** was baptized on Monday evening. Give Lizzie a hug and be sure to encourage her in her Christian walk.

News & Notes

- **Paragould Children's Homes** item of the week: **Microwave popcorn**
- Make plans to stay for the potluck lunch next **Sunday, March 12** after morning services. Bring a dish or two and stay for a good time of fellowship.

Scholarship Opportunities

- **Sarah's Gift Scholarship** is open to any graduating senior attending college or technical school. Applications are available in the office and must be postmarked by **April 15**.
- **Curtis James Memorial Scholarship** is available to any student enrolled at a college or university affiliated with the churches of Christ. Applications are available in the office and should be returned by **May 1** to the office.

Youth Corner

- **March 10-11: Inspiration 2023** in Dexter. **Lonnie Jones** will be speaking and the theme is "Spiritual Campers in a Physical Campground". Information is posted and each individual attending should register using the QR code.

Upcoming Area Events

- **March 3-5: Green Forest Seminar** with Joe Wells with the theme, "Come Together"
- **March 5-8: Bernie Gospel Meeting** with Bryan McAlister. The theme is "The Most Needed Week of Your Life"
- **March 6-8: Anna Gospel Meeting** with Brian Mitchell
- **March 19-22:** Brian Mitchell will be holding a gospel meeting at the **Wetaug, Illinois** congregation

Come, let us
BOW DOWN
IN WORSHIP, LET US
KNEEL BEFORE THE LORD
Our Maker

Psalm 95:6