

Good News From Chardon



Servants of the Word

By Joe Chesser

There's an interesting phrase in the beginning of the Gospel of Luke. Though many others had undertaken it before, it was Luke's goal, guided by the Holy Spirit, to write an account of the "things that have been fulfilled among us" (Luke 1.1), meaning a carefully researched and orderly account of the story of Jesus (Luke 1.3). Where do you begin such a project? Luke began with the first eyewitnesses of Jesus (Luke 1.2). These eyewitnesses were "from the beginning" (ESV) or "from the first" (NIV) and handed down the details of Jesus' life.

But in addition to that, Luke also describes these eyewitnesses as "servants of the word" (Luke 1.2). That's the phrase I find intriguing. No doubt there were many eyewitnesses of Jesus. Most of what Jesus did was out in the open for all to see and hear. But, as we know, not many became "servants of the word." Some followed Jesus to be healed; some followed him to be fed; some followed him out of curiosity; others followed him to find fault. As John would write, "He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him" (John 1.11). So, not all who followed and listened to Jesus would be reliable resources on which to base an "orderly account" of Jesus' life.

What does it mean to be a "servant of the word"? As we mull that over a bit there are some things that come to mind. Servants of the word are not passive about the message of Jesus, the Word. They are not hearers only (James 1.22). Instead, they listen intently to the word of God, and continue to study it. They are passionate learners and doers. They are not forgetful hearers, but actively, purposefully and wisely put it into practice (James 1.25; Matthew 7.24-27). From a human standpoint, for Luke to be as accurate as possible about the story of Jesus he needed to hear the eyewitness accounts of those who were serious about Jesus and his message. So serious about his words that they were called "servants of the word."

Today's world desperately needs to hear from "servants of the word." We cannot give eyewitnesses accounts of Jesus, but we can be just as serious about what he said as were the Apostles and others who went everywhere "preaching the word" (Acts 8.4). Today's world is just as spiritually lost as the 1st century world was. Today's world is just as religiously confused as was the 1st century world. Today's world needs to hear the pure gospel message as did the 1st century world. Today's world desperately needs you and me to be "servants of the word" so they can see and hear about Jesus.

The challenge is before us. Let's be more than daily Bible readers, as important as that is. Let's be more that students who sit in churches listening to teachers and preachers, as important as that is. Let's resolve to be "servants of the word."

Joe Chesser preaches for the Church of Christ, Fruitland, MO

May 16, 2021

Issue 20

Church of Christ

128 Maple Ave.

Chardon, OH 44024

440-286-5505



Schedule of Services:

Greeting: Mark

Song Leader: Ray

Opening Hymn:

501—Give Me the Bible

Opening Prayer: Larry

Hymn:

43—More About Jesus

Scripture Reading: Ryan

James 1:21-27

Hymn:

299—Lead Me To

Calvary

Lord's Supper: Tom

Hymn:

51—Break Thou The

Bread of Life

Sermon: Mark

Invitation Hymn:

613—Are You Washed In

the Blood

Closing Hymn:

176—Standing On The

Promises

Closing Prayer: Mark

PRAYER LIST

- *Bonnie and her family .
- *Margaret and Albert.
- *Wanda and her family.
- *Kathy and her friends.
- *Zarna’s family and friends
- *Larry and Ruth.
- *Pat and Ron and their family.
- *Juanita’s sister Betty and the rest of her family.
- *Mary and her family.
- *Robert and Sara and their children.
- *Ray and Barbara and their family
- *Dale and his family.
- *Ray, Rebecca, and Steven.
- *Myron & Carole and their family.
- *Mark and his family .
- *Our congregation
- *Our Veterans
- *Our nation and the world



CALENDAR

- May 16—Worship 11 am.
Speaker: Mark
- May 16—Bible Study 6 pm
on-line with
Dale
- May 19—(b.) Tami
- May 21—(b.) Marc S.
- May 22—(b.) Barbara
- May 23—Worship 11 am.
Speaker: Mark
- May 23—Bible Study 6pm
on-line with
Dale
- May 25—(b.) Rosemary
- May 30—Worship 11 am.
Speaker: Mark

Doers of the Word

James 1:21-27

Among	anyone	aside
Before	blessed	bridle
Continues	deceives	filthiness
forgetful	forgets	hearer
Himself	immediately	implanted
Liberty	meekness	observes
Overflow	perfect	receive
Religion	therefore	thinks
Tongue	undefiled	useless
Wickedness	widows	yourselves

S F O R A D D I F A N Y H O N S E S
 S I S S A E H E E A R E A E E R S T
 E O I F T C H E S W O N S U A E R C
 L D Y T R E B I L S Y T N D N R D E
 E M A N U I D N O O E I T I O A E F
 S D E G O V E B N G T L H R B Y L R
 U H N E E E I E R N S T B L S L I E
 I O K E K S A O O I L M A R E E F P
 T N O B S N F C E I D R E V R T E I
 N G F O R G E T F U L L H I V A D S
 S W O D I W N S A T I U E R E I N A
 W O L F R E V O S G L F A C S D U E
 S S E N D E K C I W I H I M S E L F
 N T H E R E F O R E A M I R R M O R
 E R O F E B N G N O M A R K M M N B
 Q H O S K N I H T B V R E C E I V E
 J Z L B S Z N S D E T N A L P M I D
 K Z S S E V L E S R U O Y I A U E S

Hidden Message: _____

**Minds are like parachutes,
 they function only when open.**



Answer to Puzzle: For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror.

SUNDAY: Worship — 11:00 am; Bible Study — 6:00 pm (on Zoom)
 Website: Chardonchurchofchrist.org
 E-mail: church_of_Christ@roadrunner.com
 Pod Cast: Chardon.podbean.com
 Follow us on FaceBook