

Good News From Chardon Church of Christ

128 Maple Ave., Chardon, Oh 44024
November 24, 2024 Issue 47

Schedule of Services

Greeting: Mark
Song Leader: Doug
Opening Hymn:
185—Who Will Follow Jesus?
Opening Prayer: Robert
Hymn:
72—The Lord My Shepherd Is
Scripture Reading: Ryan
Matthew 5:21-26
Hymn:
155—Christ Arose
Lord's Supper: Dale
Hymn:
342—When He Comes In Glory By and By
Sermon: Mark
Invitation Hymn:
634—Where Will You Spend Eternity?
Closing Hymn:
82—Brighten The Corner Where You Are
Closing Prayer: Larry

♪ We saw Thee not when Thou
didst come To this poor world of sin
and death;
Nor yet beheld Thy cottage home,
In that despised Nazareth;
But we believe Thy footsteps trod Its
streets and plains, Thou Son of God;
But we believe Thy footsteps trod Its
streets and plains, Thou Son of
God.♪

CALENDAR

Nov 24—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Mark
Dec 1—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Jerad Business Meeting
Dec 8—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Tom
Dec 9—(b) Megan
Dec 15—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am

Don't Minimize Someone's Conversion

From the outset, let me say that I have been as guilty as anyone for saying what I am going to write about. I used to say it quite regularly. After some time and thought, I would still say it, but I'd feel like I had to qualify it. Now, I do my best to avoid it.

And it's because I spent some serious time thinking about Cornelius.

So, what is the saying? It is when we are talking about someone who has lived a pretty good life, but has never been baptized, and we say something like this: "He wouldn't have to change much."

Now, having been someone who used to say that quite often, I totally get it. Especially if we have known the person for some time, we are simply meaning that we see good qualities in that person. The individual probably does not have any overriding addictions to fight. He is a good husband. She is a loving mother. He reads his Bible.

He's a good person. So he doesn't have to change much.

Well....

Cornelius has a litany of great qualities listed about him in Acts 10. It is rare in Scripture to find such a glowing introduction to anyone. Scripture even goes so far as to say that this man "feared God with all his household" (10:2). That is a remarkable statement.

So, he didn't have to change much, right?

In Acts 11, Peter is reporting about this to Christians in the region of Judea. Part of that report makes it clear that what Peter was to say to Cornelius was "a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household" (11:14). Wait...this wonderful man had to be saved? What does that imply? He was lost.

Was he good in many ways? Remarkably so! But did he have to change? Remarkably so!

He had to go from lost to saved. He had to go from outside of Christ to in Christ. He had to start following the way of Jesus.

I don't doubt that Cornelius might have had fewer things to change than some others (Saul the persecutor, for example). But if we say, "He didn't have to change much," we are minimizing what it means to go from lost and on one's way to hell to saved and on one's way to heaven!

No matter what we might think of someone's life before he or she becomes a Christian, that person is lost and headed for eternal destruction if he or she does not change course and obey Jesus. If and when that occurs, let's not minimize their conversion. Let's be supremely grateful for anyone's decision to follow Christ and the salvation that only He can bring to one's life.

Adam Faughn preaches for the
Central Church of Christ in Paducah KY

PRAYER LIST

Mynda as she travels. **Caleb's** back surgery recovery
Tom & Nina health issues, **Nina's** hand surgery and back pain, Their son-in-law **Chris** lost his job
Mark and **Debbie** as they travel. **Mark's** heart procedure recovery. **Debbie** shoulder surgery recovery **Mark's** brother **Dale's** health
Tom's Bible Study with **Roberta, Channing,** and **Kris.**
Bonnie's health, grandsons **Devin, Dakota, Mick, Dillon, Connor & Keegan.** Daughters **Ronda** and **Renee**
Wanda's migraines; son **Allen,** sisters **Lorraine, Joyce** knee surgery, **niece Nikki** in bad accident, **niece Lorrie** heart at ack. **Allen's friend** with brain bleed.
Mary, Carl and family. Keatha, Mary's sister-in-law. Mary's brother **David** with health issue, Friend **Amber** with the loss of her baby
Jim and Beverly G. with health issues
Wayne and Diane G. with health issues
Kathy's health, friends **Fran** with cancer. Her neighbor's faith
Linda's health and back pain, **Tiffany & family. Christian** with epilepsy.
Zarna and her family
Juanita, is at Briar Hill assisted living rm.100, and her family.
Ray and Barbara and their family.
Dale's health issues, headaches, His family. His **Mothers** medical procedure & diagnosis. 7 year old girl, **Lucie,** with Leukemia. Cousins, **Randal** physical & mental health, **James** in serious truck accident, **Jalen's** mental health. Uncles **Earl** with cancer, **Jimmy** who fell, **Aunt Rose** health Brother in Christ **Johnston** medical procedure Uncle **Jimmy** stroke.
Ray's health and his family. **Rebecca's** illness and recovery. **Steven,** and **Asher**
Pat recovering from a fall, and her family
Robert & Sara their Sister **Tanya's** pain, Son **Michael** and Daughter **Maddie,** Friend **Hailey** serious health issues after birthing
Brenda's health, her sister **Linda** with brain cancer, sister-in-law **Linda** with breast cancer, son **Mark** surgery recovery, granddaughter **Amanda.**
Larry & family.
Mike & Debra Their friend **Carl** with cancer.
Betty's son **Randy's** health

Under Control

One of the fruits of the Spirit is self-control. We cannot bear this fruit if we do not have all the ingredients that Paul lists. You can have love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and gentleness but if you lack self-control, the fruit that you are bearing in your life is not the fruit of the Spirit. That is not to say that all of these are easy to embody. Each aspect of the fruit of the Spirit poses its challenges.

Self-control influences all aspects of our lives. If we do not control our thoughts, we put ourselves at risk (Matt. 5:27-28). If we do not control our words, we may not only harm ourselves but our relationships with others (James 3:5). If we do not control our actions, again, the effects can be wide reaching. Remember the consequences of David's lack of self-control in his adulterous relationship with Bathsheba were not limited to only David and Bathsheba.

But as it is with all of the other aspects of the fruit of the Spirit, if we can learn self-control then we can not only be a blessing to ourselves, but to everyone else around us.

Andrew Beasley serves as a minister with the Northwest Church of Christ in Greensboro, NC.

WHERE IS IT WRITTEN?
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Answer: Isaiah 55:8

21 Ye have heard that it was said of them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: 22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire. 23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; 24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift. 25 Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. 26 Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.

SUNDAY: Bible Study—10:00 am, Worship—11:00 am
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