HIGHWAY 32 MESSENGER

Highway 32 Church of Christ 1688 Tri-County Highway P.O. Box 642 Williamsburg, OH, 45176 www.highway32churchofchrist.com

> Elders Lowell Smith Ron Smith Marc Curfman (513) 553-3703

Sunday Bible Class	10:00AM
Sunday Morning Assembly	11:00AM
Sunday Evening Assembly	6:00PM
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00PM

Privileged to Serve

Announcements:	Frank Glover		
Song Leader:	Tom Mayes		
Prayer:	Alan Springer		
Lord's Table	David Turpin Brent Shafer Bruce Curfman Cade Hutchings		
Sermon:	Lowell Smith		
Closing Prayer:	Keith Pennington		
PM Song Leader:	Bruce Curfman		
<u>Attendance</u> Sun. Bible Morn. Assembly Sun Eve. Wednesday Zoom Class	Last Week 46 79 23 **	Week Before 42 75 22 **	
Contribution:	\$2807.00	\$2865.00	

What if it Depends upon You?

In the rebellion of Absalom against his father David, Absalom had two advisors. In truth, one named Hushai was David's friend. But the wise yet wicked Ahithophel advised the self-appointed king to go fast and swift and kill David and David alone in order to re-unite the people. Ahithophel said: *"The return of everyone depends on the man you seek; then all the people will be at peace."* 2 Sam. 17:3.

I do believe that the evil Ahithophel was right, but not in the way he proposed the statement. The nation did depend on the one man: In King David all of the people could again be at peace. Yet if you know the story, David was in no shape to rescue a nation. His spirit was crushed, his emotions were weighing him down and his mind was not focused on *"all the people"* but on his own self-pity. If not for friends, allies and dedicated warriors, all would have been lost. If not for God's hand, all would have fallen apart and the glory of Israel would have perished.

It takes time but David finally returns to his faith, his duty and his obligations as God's servant and a kingdom survives for another generation. Ahithophel was right: *"The return of everyone depends on the man you seek; then all the people will be at peace."*

In God's kingdom, God's group of believers, we need one another. The church is not one but many. Each of us depend on the other. We pray "our Father" not, my father. Paul also tells us that not all are apostles, not all are prophets...(1 Cor. 12:29) But those leaders have a purpose: "for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; Eph. 4:11.

The church doesn't depend on figureheads. Good leadership is vital and Holy Spirit guided teaching is a tremendous blessing but the work, the strength of the church depends on you and me: *"for the equipping of the saints for the work of service..."* Yeah, that is you! You are one of God's. If you are in Christ, then you have an anointing and that anointing is to be involved, to be active, to do the work of God. But we sometimes like to be lost in the crowd. Maybe that is why some seek larger churches. A lot of noise and excitement all around you and it really doesn't depend upon you! You just get to enjoy the celebration. I have nothing against large churches. But in smaller gatherings, in smaller groups you really just can't hide as well. So much depends upon you.

So, what if it all depended upon you? I know it is a frightening question. Most of us have the spirit of Moses who gave one excuse after another in hopes to avoid the responsibility, the obligation and the possibility of failure. Despondent Moses says:

""Please, Lord, now send the message by whomever You will." $_{Ex. 4:13}$. Translation: "ANYONE OTHER THAN ME! PLEASE!" God would not allow Moses to excuse himself. Neither will God grant such permission to you and me today. I wonder how many men or women have been in the very position of Moses, yet walked away from the work, waited for someone else and thought that they themselves could just mingle among the faithful and still please God. I wonder how many opportunities and needs were never met because it all depended on you, but you weren't there.

What if it all depended upon you? Would there be a teacher, a comforter, a voice to sing, a prayer prayed, or a resounding "Amen" to God's truth? Who would greet, who would invite...? Would the church grow? Would people hear? Would the hungry be fed? You already know the answer to these questions. Was it the right answer?

marc

Welcome to Highway 32	Announcements:		
<i>Church</i> , We are a group of Christians worshipping God according to the Teaching in the New Testament. May	There will be no Ladies class for the month of August due to Ladies Day Saturday 9/7/24. Pick up flyer on table in lobby to invite your friends.		
we all worship our loving Father today with sincere hearts, open and receptive to His Spirit and His love.	Don't forget to sign Marv & Wanda's 70 th wedding anniversary event list. They need a head count asap to turn in. Sign up is on the bulletin board in the lobby. <u>Please no gifts</u> .		
September TeachersCradle Roll-Pre-K-K-1st-6th-Ron/Myrna Smith	For those of you who know Edna Bradshaw would like to send her a card here is her add		
	Potluck Luncheon for the month of September will be 9/8/24, see you all there.		
Sunday Morning Adult classes: Frank Glover Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury - 7:00pm	Keep Joyce Warman in your prayers as she starts her second round of chemo treatments. It will be for 6-7 months but once every 3 weeks. Her arm is not moving up and down as well as expected after her fall and she will be seeing a PT on 9/6 for more treatments.		
	Karl Flem from Highland County Church of Christ is having bypass surgery this coming week. Keep him in your prayers.		
Bible Hour September Teacher Sue Curfman	<u>New Adult Sunday Morning Bible class</u> starting 9/1/24 (next week) taught by David Turpin on <u>How to Study the Bible</u> . The class will focus on a simple, proven process where you will gain a valuable sense of self-confidence in your ability to handle scripture and experience the joy of self-discovery. For adults and high school.		
Note: Children will go to Bible Hour during the song before the morning lesson.			
September Building & Communion Steve/Donna/Kelli Wright	September Anniversaries 9/11 Marvin/Wanda Pennington 9/12 Jim/Laura Hutchings 9/19 Harley/Mary Carrothers September Birthdays		
<u>Zoom Meetings -</u> every Thursday evening at 7pm. Let Sue know if you want the link to join in.	 9/1 Brent Shafer 9/2 Rebecca Shafer & Margo Stith 9/5 Marc Curfman 9/13 Farryl Adkins 9/15 Liz Brose <u>9/6 – Edna Bradshaw will have a 90th birthday</u> 	9/17 Elizabeth Schunk 9/23 Ron Carter & Sheila Gelter 9/24 LaShanda Smith 9/27 Loralei Mayes & Dominyck 9/30 Lowell Smith & Madi Book	

Continue to Remember: Mary Carrothers, Karen Smith, Carol Basham, Joyce Warman and her sister, Ruth Barnes and our church family.

"The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much."