

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: Ron Smith
 Song Leader: David Goble
 Lord's Table Frank Glover
 David Turpin
 Alan Springer
 Bruce Curfman
 Opening Prayer: Keith Pennington
 Sermon: Tom Mayes
 Closing Prayer: Griffin Stith
 PM Song Leader: Bruce Curfman

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	48	46
Morn. Assembly	79	82
Sun Eve.	**	27
Wednesday	**	**
Zoom Class	**	22
Contribution:	\$3058.00	\$2629.00

“Out of your hearts...”

In the very early stages of Jesus’ work, shortly after his baptism, and just days after preaching the Sermon of all sermons, a paralytic was brought before Jesus. Our Lord looked at him with compassion and said: **“Take courage, son; your sins are forgiven.”**

Matt. 9:2. But not all were pleased. Some scribes (biblical lawyers) judged Jesus guilty of blasphemy. They did not know, did not understand, and did not ask questions. In their hearts they were quick to condemn this greatest of all mercies given by God’s Son. Jesus replied to them: **“Why are you thinking evil in your hearts?”** 9:4. Before opening their mouths to speak, these men chose evil! If you were to accuse them of this, they would recoil at the accusation of choosing evil. Instead, they would quote verses, define laws, and cling to traditions. Of course, Jesus could also quote verses, define laws and cling to a heavenly tradition. An example would be Jesus confronted by Satan in the wilderness. Yes, Satan knows his book, chapter, and verse.

In a structured debate or classroom, the arguments of both Jesus and the Pharisees would appear to have merit. An example of this is the blind man in John 9. This struggling soul was not a call for compassion but a catalyst for debating the theological teachings of the day: **“Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?”** John 9:2. Jesus does respond to their question but his greatest answer is seen in the compassionate healing of this man. Read the words of the apostles again and show me the compassion. It just is not there.

Scripture is vital for our lives of faith, yet what about the heart? Jesus knew that before these ancient preachers spoke, evil was already in their hearts. Today a lot of pseudo-followers of Christ believe that as long as the outside of the cup is clean, no one will look at the inside, the heart. Then such people also struggle to understand why living God’s will is so difficult and wrought with so many failures. I truly believe that each of us needs to look unto our own hearts.

“For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.” Matt. 15:19.

When I see my brother, sister, or that stranger in the struggles of life, physical or a struggle of the heart, what is my response? Is it from letter of the law or the compassion of the heart. Yes, truth matters, righteousness is paramount but what about my heart? In my bible the word compassion is used 92 times. In the gospels I found 13 verses. Jesus, the word become flesh, the reflection of God’s truth was also a reflection of compassion.

Compassion can make all the difference in a soul as we seek to guide, rescue and redeem because it is what our hearts demand of us before we utter even a word. So, slow down, look into the eyes of that struggling soul (especially if he/she is your enemy). Speak and act out of righteousness, truth and faithfulness but don’t forget to also bring along compassion.

““And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt.”

Matt. 18:27.

No, it wasn’t what the law demanded, it wasn’t even what was best for that slave owner personally. Sometimes compassion just needs to get in our way, block or reroute our path for the sake of others over self.

marc

Welcome to Highway 32 Church,

We are a group of Christians worshipping God according to the Teaching in the New Testament. May we all worship our loving Father today with sincere hearts, open and receptive to His Spirit and His love.

February Teachers

- Cradle Roll** - Yvonne Glover
- Pre-K-K** - Nancy Salisbury
- 1st-6th** - Sue Curfman

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Lowell Smith

Wed. Eve. Suspended until March when time springs forward.



February Teacher

Kacie Schunk

Note: Children will go to Bible Hour during the song before the morning lesson.

February Building & Communion

Keith & Linda Pennington



Zoom Meetings - every Thursday evening at 7pm. Let Sue know if you want the link to join in.

Announcements:

We want to welcome Helen Weiss, Robyn Cassidy, Herb Moyer and Aaron/Tanya & Colin Humphries as members of Highway 32.

Hannah Myers, a 3 year old with down syndrome that has been fighting leukemia is in need of our prayers.

Carol Basham is in Anderson Mercy with pneumonia keep her in your prayers.

Cade Hutching's new address: SR (Last name, First name, MI)

ROMEO 206 SIERRA 206

USCG Training Center

1 Munro Avenue

Cape May NJ 08204 5083

Send him a card and let him know we are thinking & praying for him.

February Birthdays

- 2/3 Ron Smith
- 2/10 Howard Basham
- 2/11 Cade Hutchings
- 2/19 Joyce Norvell
- 2/20 Frank Glover
- 2/24 Melodie Watkins
- 2/27 Kain Girshovich
- 2/27 Alan Springer & David Goble

February Anniversaries

- 2/24 Les/Lashanda Smith

Continue to Remember: Mark Book, Monty Gillespie, Kim Wright, Karen Smith, Carol Basham, Ruth Barnes and our church family.

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