

Inward Examination

By Dan Jenkins

We have looked outward to those whom God regards as fools. It is a serious matter for anyone to call another a fool (Matt. 5:24), yet our omniscient God often describes some people as fools. This week we look inward to see that our God may use these very words to describe our actions.

Before hastily deciding that we are not fools, hear these words from God. "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes" (Prov. 12:15). The fact that we may not think of ourselves in these terms does not mean that God does not see us that way. Because almost every fool does not see himself as being foolish, we must remember that we might be among that number.

As we look inward, hear these other words from Solomon. "Fools mock at sin" (Prov. 14:9). Our world so flippantly makes light of that which will cost men their souls. Look at the content of social media and take notice of how we are entertained by viewing sin. Wise men hear and live by these words, "Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good" (Rom. 12:9). Wise men will heed these words.

As you do a "fool check," read God's words about those who talk all the time. "A fool vents all his feelings, but a wise man holds them back" (Prov. 29:11). "And a fool's voice is known by his many words" (Ecc. 5:3). "A fool also multiplies words" (Ecc. 10:14). "He who answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him" (Prov. 18:13). Now read all these verses again and look inward to ask yourself if you are talking too much.

In the Parable of the Rich Fool, Jesus describes that man who was prospering in so many ways. He wanted new barns, greater barns, in which to store his riches. He looked to the future and found security in all that he had worked so hard to gain. He said to his soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry" (Luke 12:19). God said to him, "Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provide?" He then describes every man who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God. Look inward, and then if guilty of the same sin, hear the voice of God as it may describe you. "Fool!"

These words look at only a few times God describes not just the wicked and evil but His own people. As you read the Bible take time to think about how God determines who is a fool. May His words describing Israel never describe us: "My people are foolish, they have not known Me. They are silly children...they are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge...they are foolish; for they do not know the way of the Lord" (Jer. 4:42; 5:4). Look inward! Don't be a fool.

Serving AM & PM today and next Sunday AM:

Sunday Rotation	December 10, 2023 AM	December 10, 2023 PM	December 17, 2023 AM
Greeter	Brandon Fourman	Jerry Thompson	Dustin Desarro
Announcements	Tim Bang	John McGiffin	Tom Muter
Song Leading	Duane Kemp	Jason Bang	Mike Illinik
Opening Prayer/Usher Left	Jerry Thompson	Judah Gasper	Tim Bang
Lord's Supper Comments		Tim Bang	Duane Kemp
Scripture Reading	Rick Ferris	Chris McGiffin	Seth Arrell
Sermon	John McGiffin	John McGiffin	John McGiffin
Closing Prayer/Usher Right	Jason Bang		Jerry Thompson

Things you should know about...

We are sending donations to the Disaster Relief Fund quarterly. If you'd like to contribute, mark it as "DRF" or give the money to Jason. The next donation will be sent after the end of December.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dan Metcalf 12/10

Jerry Thompson 12/18

Dustin Dessaro 12/11

Rena Morgan 12/24

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Happy Anniversary!

Duane & Carol Kemp 12/24

Owen & Linda Whittington 12/30

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Men's meeting after AM services on December 17th

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Holiday gifts/food baskets handed out - December 17th

A list of gifts requested/needed for each family is on the back table, in addition to the food items needed. Please have wrapped gifts brought to the building by Wednesday, December 13th and food items on Sunday morning, December 17th.

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Please note that we will not be having Sunday evening services on December 24th .

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Ladies Bible Study - The Crown

Wednesday, January 10th @ 7pm

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This week's Bible Verse

“And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.” Acts 5:42



Remember in Prayer:

- *Our Country & leaders
- *Bible Studies currently being held
- *Phyllis Caldwell - encouragement, health issues
- *Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- *Ernst & Helen Sherrill (Bro/Sis in Christ from TN) - shut ins with ongoing health issues
- *Larry Bey - dealing with Parkinson's
- *Maxine Jones (Laura McGiffin's mom) - dementia and health issues
- *Debby Braefield (Alena Brown's Aunt) - health
- *Terry McGiffin (John McGiffin's dad) - health & comfort, also keep Doreen in prayer
- *Luanne Listner (wife of Tim Bang's friend, Jim) - health, transitioning being back home
- *Orville Thompson (Jerry Thompson's dad) - health - prostate cancer
- *Lynn Thompson - health
- *Karen Oyler (Stephanie Bang's friend) - having another PET scan on 12/14, encouragement
- *Christina Gilland (friend of the Ferris') - recovering from surgery
- *Josh Bang (Jason Bang's cousin) - stress related health issues and caring for wife/family
- *Tony Hembrook (Stephanie Bang's bro-in-law) - having foot surgery 12/14

- *Royce Seiber (Doug Seiber's brother) - recovering from surgery
- *Stan Wendt - recent visitor, moving to the area
- *Pamela Illinick - Stage 4 Kidney failure
- *Kecia Carney and Kacie Anderson (friends of Carla Patrick) - grieving the loss of their husband/father
- *Alexis Edge (Stephanie Bang's 2nd cousin) -15 yr old coping with/healing of anorexia
- *Amanda Cummings (food basket family) - struggling financially and mental/physical/health
- *George Gaynor's mother - health
- *Carl & Abby Daniels (family of Laura McGiffin) - aging/health
- *Connie Foght (friend of Kemp's) - recently lost her husband and mother
- *Connie Able (sister in Christ from Columbus area) - cancer, in hospital
- *Tom Cruze (Phyllis Caldwell's nephew) - health issues

How can we be praying for YOU?

Please call or email John (jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com) with any prayer requests or announcements you have for the congregation.



Attendance and Contribution Record

Sunday, December 3		Wednesday, December 6	
Bible Classes	34	Bible Classes	24
AM Attendance	40		
PM Attendance	27	Contribution	\$1,234.50



GREENVILLE CHURCH of CHRIST
CHRIST CENTERED. BIBLE BASED. FAMILY ORIENTED.

December 10, 2023

Worship Times:

Sunday Morning Bible class: 9:30am

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am

Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00pm

Minister, John McGiffin

4599 Children's Home Bradford Rd

Greenville, OH 45331

www.greenvillecoc.org

We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us. If you are visiting, we would love to have you back with us again. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor's card and let us get to know you.