

Seeking Peace Through Self-Control

By Travis Main

Have you ever done something good only to be blindsided by others questioning your motives? On the light side, what if you purchased some low fat strawberry ice cream for your spouse knowing she really likes it. Would you promptly, perhaps angrily, receive the question, “Do you think I am fat???” What you say next is the center of our examination involving the judge Gideon.

Led by the Spirit of God, Gideon called the Abiezrites (a clan of Mannaseh) and the men from the tribes Asher, Zebulun, and Naphtali (Judges 6:34ff). Gideon gathered these men that they might go up against the Midianites and Amalekites as the Lord had commanded. Ultimately, all but 300 would be sent home that the power of God would be seen in the victory. When the enemy was fleeing, Gideon called upon Naphtali, Manasseh, Asher, and Ephraim to pursue. Ephraim in their efforts would capture the Midian princes Oreb and Zeeb.

It seems this event would end in praises to God and kind words for Gideon. Instead, Ephraim voiced anger at Gideon for not calling them when the battle was first initiated. Did they believe Gideon was motivated by a desire for glory? Was jealousy the motivation Ephraim demonstrated anger toward Gideon? Judges 8:1 shares that Ephraim took the actions of Gideon as a personal offence and “they accused him fiercely”.

Gideon could have responded angrily to Ephraim. He could have said things he would have regretted. The situation could have been escalated. Often times, man chooses the wrong words (James 3:5-6). Instead, Gideon diminishes his accomplishments and praises Ephraim’s. He declares what he and his clan had done was not even comparable to Ephraim capturing Oreb and Zeeb. These words bring about peace. Ephraim’s anger subsides. Gideon demonstrated self-control.

The apostle Peter provides direction for our lives akin to that of Gideon: “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.” (1 Peter 3:10-11) In our interactions, we always have a choice as to what our action and words will be. We can seek peace through-self control or we can unleash a storm through rashness.

Things you should know about...

We would like to send donations to the Disaster Relief Fund quarterly. Our last contribution was \$1,050.00. If you want to contribute, mark it as “DRF” or give the money to Jason.

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**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Lois Ferris 1/12   | Gage Thompson 1/17  |
| Rhonda Gaynor 1/15 | Asha Strangle 1/23  |
| Macy Bang 1/17     | Jamie Robinson 1/23 |

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**Wednesday Supper!** On January 11<sup>th</sup> we will be having supper at 5:30 at the building for those who would like to join us before Bible Classes. There will not be a Sunday potluck this month.

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Men’s Meeting — January 21st @ 9am

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### Serving AM & PM today and next Sunday AM:

| Sunday Rotation              | January 1, 2023 AM | January 1, 2023 PM | January 8, 2023 AM |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Greeter                      | Tom Muter          | Rick Ferris        | Jerry Thompson     |
| Announcements                | Jerry Thompson     | Owen Whittington   | Tim Bang           |
| Song Leading                 | Owen Whittington   | Duane Kemp         | Duane Kemp         |
| Opening Prayer/Usher (left)  | Jerry Thompson     | Owen Whittington   | Tim Bang           |
| Lord's Supper Comments       | Jason Bang         | Jerry Thompson     | Tom Muter          |
| Scripture Reading            | Tom Muter          | Seth Arrell        | Owen Whittington   |
| Sermon                       | John McGiffin      | John McGiffin      | John McGiffin      |
| Closing Prayer/Usher (right) | Tim Bang           | Tom Muter          | Chris McGiffin     |



"How beautiful upon the mountains are feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Isaiah 52:7

**Lord's Supper Reflection**

*God provided witnesses to testify of Jesus Sacrifice. Evidence of God's Love*

"Then He said to them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things.'" Luke 24:46-48

**Offering Meditation**

*God gave His Only begotten Son. What shall we give in return?*

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16



**Remember in Prayer:**

- \*Our Country & leaders
- \*Phyllis Caldwell - encouragement
- \*Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- \*Ernst & Helen Sherrill (Bro/Sis in Christ from TN) - shut ins with ongoing health issues
- \*Larry Bey - Parkinson's
- \*Tom Cruze (Phyllis Caldwell's nephew) - health ,
- \*Orville Thompson (Jerry Thompson's dad) - recovering from an aneurism in his leg
- \*Pam Illinik—health
- \*Pamela Knapke (Sherrilynn Butt's daughter) - health concerns
- \*Carter Buckingham - will be having back surgery on Jan. 10th
- \*Gwen Brown (family friend of Thompson's) - had seizures, having tests done
- \*Debby Brayfield - is back in the rehab center in Versailles, dealing with cellulitis

- \*Sally Westover (Carrie Thompson's mom) - recovering from a fall and has upcoming appts
- \*Mark Ray (friend of Rosalee Yoder) - having treatments for liver and esophageal cancer
- \*Corey Clark (Lois Ferris' son) - recovering from a kidney transplant
- \*Haguewood Triplets (Tim and Dianna's great grandson's) healing from ear infections
- \*Kenny Russel (family of Lois Ferris) - dealing with Parkinson's
- \*Sandy Jones (Carol Kemp's daughter) - broke her foot

**How can we be praying for YOU?**

Please call John or email him at [jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com](mailto:jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com) with any prayer requests or announcements you may have for the congregation.



**Attendance and Contribution Record**

**Sunday, December 25**

Bible Classes  
AM Attendance  
PM Attendance

**Wednesday, December 21**

Bible Classes 21  
Contribution \$575.10

# Welcome to the Greenville Church of Christ



## January 1, 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](http://www.greenvillecoc.org)

We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us today!  
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.