

Paul's Motivation In His Writings

By Dan Jenkins

The history of the life of David is recorded in three Old Testament books, but it is in the book of Psalms that we begin to understand the heart of David. His heart is so important because it is so much like the heart of God (1 Sam. 13:14). There is somewhat of a parallel to David in the life and writings of Paul.

It is in the book of Acts we learn so much of the details of the life of the great apostle, but there are historical events revealed in his epistles. In a similar way, the heart of Paul is revealed in his letters, and they often give us insight as to the spiritual depth of his devotion to God and the truths of God showing the nature of his heart in serving God. Consider the following to see some of these truths.

"I AM PERSUADED that neither death nor life...nor things present nor things to come...shall be able to separate us from the love of God" (Rom. 8:38-39). Do you wonder how he could give up so much and endure such suffering? Do you struggle in your trials and seek motivation for all that is around you? Write these words from Paul on your heart. Be fully persuaded that there is nothing on this earth, neither in the demons of hell, which can keep God from loving us.

I AM NOTHING. "Though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, **I am nothing**" (1 Cor. 13:2). Imagine having complete understanding of all things and having all faith. Paul emphasizes something far greater than these and that is love. It was not that he was just persuaded of God's eternal love. Written deeply on his heart was his responsibility to place love above all of these. Write these words on the depths of your soul as you seek to imitate Paul as he imitated the Lord (1 Cor. 11:1).

"I...AM PERSUADED that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day" (2 Tim. 1:12). The life of every person on this earth is committed to something. We are investing all of our time and energy to self, to sin or to things much higher. Paul looked at every decision he made as an investment and knew the Lord would never forget them. You may, like Paul, have to turn the other cheek to those around you. You may have to bless those who are cursing you and to make decisions about what you must give up to follow Him. Think about these choices as being registered in a heavenly book which some day will be opened. Trust God to remember it all, even to as small a matter as a cup of cold water.

As you read Paul's doctrinal discussion in his writings, remember to discover hidden truths which show his heart.

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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This Wednesday 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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*Ladies Bible Study ~ The God of All Comfort*  
*We will meet this Thursday, January 12 @ 6:45pm*

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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 8, 2023 AM | January 8, 2023 PM | January 15, 2023 AM |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Greeter                      | Jerry Thompson     |                    | Dustin Desarro      |
| Announcements                | Tim Bang           | Duane Kemp         | Tom Muter           |
| Song Leading                 | Duane Kemp         | Owen Whittington   | Owen Whittington    |
| Opening Prayer/Usher (left)  | Tim Bang           | Brennan Arrell     | Tim Bang            |
| Lord's Supper Comments       | Tom Muter          | Tim Bang           | Jerry Thompson      |
| Scripture Reading            | Owen Whittington   | Rick Ferris        | Chris McGiffin      |
| Sermon                       | John McGiffin      | John McGiffin      | John McGiffin       |
| Closing Prayer/Usher (right) | Chris McGiffin     | Seth Arrell        | Jason Bang          |



"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock..." Matthew 7:24

**Lord's Supper Reflection**

*To Fulfill the Will of His Father*

"Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand." Isa 53:10

**Offering Meditation**

*Your Gift to God helps Support Ministries*

"Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God." Philippians 4:15-18



**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) - health
- \*Pam Illinik—health
- \*Pamela Knapke (Sherrilynn Butt's daughter) - health concerns
- \*Carter Buckingham - will be having back surgery on Jan. 10th
- \*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
- \*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, January 1**

|               |    |
|---------------|----|
| Bible Classes | 25 |
| AM Attendance | 27 |
| PM Attendance | 27 |

**Wednesday, January 4**

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| Bible Classes | 22         |
| Contribution  | \$1,623.50 |

# Welcome to the Greenville Church of Christ



## January 8, 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.