

It Is Not a Ritual, It Is a Path to Holiness

By Dan Jenkins

Because it happens every week, it is easy for the partaking of the Lord’s Supper to become somewhat of a religious ritual and we fail to understand the part it plays in our spiritual growth. The abuse of this feast in Corinth brought dire consequences. “For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep” (1 Corinthians 11:30). If one does not remember Jesus and discern His body as he partakes of the bread and cup, he eats and drinks damnation to his soul.

In the New Testament we remember Him, but in the Old Testament they remembered their deliverance from Egyptian bondage. From the time the Sabbath was given until the close of the Old Testament, there was not a weekly assembly, but a time when the Jews, their families, their Gentile neighbors, and even their animals stopped all activity and spent that day thinking about God delivering them from bondage. Tragically, by the time of the New Testament, it had become a day which involved the precise distance one could walk on that day, whether it was sinful to walk through a field of grain and eat the wheat in that field as they walked. It had become a day where one could water his donkey and help his ox get out of a ditch, but the Messiah was forbidden to heal on that day. It was so ritualistic that keeping the rites of that day became a symbol of righteousness!

The failure to keep that day holy by remembering their deliverance from Egypt was a primary reason for the Babylonian captivity that lasted seven decades. God described it this way: “Her priests have violated My law, and have profaned My holy things...and they have hidden their eyes from My Sabbaths, and I am profaned among them” (Ezekiel 22:26). The sabbath was holy and so is the Lord’s supper.

So, what happens to us as we remember, not the sabbath, but the Lord in His feast? Peter described those who were failing to add the “Christian Graces” to their faith when he says, “For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten he was cleansed from his old sins” (2 Peter 1:9). The Lord’s Supper is a weekly reminder of how He purged us from our sins and delivered us from the bondage of sin. It is a time we examine ourselves as we visit the cross. The Lord wanted Israel to remember deliverance from the bondage of Egypt every week and gave them a memorial day to ensure their spiritual growth. The Lord wants us to remember our deliverance from the bondage of sin every week and has given us a memorial feast to ensure our spiritual growth.

As you eat the bread and drink of the cup, never let it become a ritual. But let it be that time when you commune with Him around His table and visit the cross of our salvation.

Serving AM & PM today and next Sunday AM:

Sunday Rotation	March 24, 2024 AM	March 24, 2024 PM	March 31, 2024 AM
Greeter	Tom Muter	Brandon Fourman	Brandon Fourman
Announcements		Jerry Thompson	Tim Bang
Song Leading	Jason Bang	John McGiffin	Jason Bang
Opening Prayer/Usher Left	Tim Bang	Jason Bang	Tim Bang
Lord's Supper Comments	Jerry Thompson	Tom Muter	Duane Kemp
Scripture Reading	Brandon Fourman	Judah Gasper	Seth Arrell
Sermon	John McGiffin	John McGiffin	Tom Muter
Closing Prayer/Usher Right	Seth Arrell	Chris McGiffin	Jerry Thompon

Things to know...

Help is needed with communion preparation, if you'd be willing, please sign up on the list on the bulletin board by the entrance.

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**Men’s Meeting after AM services on TODAY!**

Ladies ~ you’re welcome to help stuff eggs while the men are meeting.

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Annual EGG hunt
TODAY after AM services

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*Ladies Bible Study - The Crown*  
*Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm*

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Doug Seiber 3/26 | Daniel Hittle 4/2 | Seth Arrell 4/11 |
| Rosalee Yoder 3/30 | Judah Gasper 4/7 | Chelsea Wilson 4/14 |
| Carter Buckingham 4/1 | Waylon Wilson 4/9 | Laylah Thompson 4/16 |

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*Happy Anniversary*

*Greg & Michelle Buckingham 4/14*  
*Tim & Dianna Bang 4/30*

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Men - mark your calendars for April’s Men’s Meeting

Saturday, April 20th @ 9:00 am

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**We rejoice with Savannah Garner and her decision to be baptized this past Wednesday!**

**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 - health & comfort
- \*Rena Morgan - encouragement & 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
- \*Luanne Listner (wife of Tim Bang's friend, Jim) - health
- \*Orville Thompson (Jerry Thompson's dad) - health - prostate cancer
- \*Lynn Thompson - health, needs hip surgery (pray for insurance to approve)
- \*Karen Oyler (Stephanie Bang's friend) - prayers for strength, energy and comfort - 1 chemo treatment left!
- \*Tom Cruze (Phyllis Caldwell's nephew) - health
- \*Laura McGiffin - health
- \*Viola Schultz - health
- \*Billy Jackson (Stephanie Bang's dad) - prostate cancer, upcoming appt with radiologist

- \*Brian Snell (Dustin & Sharon Desarro's neighbor) - may have colon cancer
- \*Nathan Clark (friend of Dustin Desarro) - cancer has returned
- \*Suzanne Grable (Evelyn Lam's friend) - stage 4 cancer
- \*Heather McFarland - cancer
- \*Dustin & Sharon Desarro - asking for prayers
- \*Michelle Gasper - health issues
- \*Marjorie Seiber - hip/knee pain
- \*Jennifer Garner - upcoming brain scan in June
- \*Mary Macey (friend of the Kemp's) - recovering from 2nd knee replacement surgery
- \*Nellie Hoff - recovering from knee surgery
- \*Paulette and her family - asking for prayers

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

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



**Attendance and Contribution Record**

**Sunday, March 17**

Bible Classes 37  
 AM Attendance 42  
 PM Attendance 22

**Wednesday, March 20**

Bible Classes 24  
 Contribution \$



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

**March 24, 2024**

**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

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 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.