

**Bible Verse of the Week**

“Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.” 2 Thessalonians 2:15



**Lord’s Supper Reflection - Help Me Believe in the Power of the Cross**

***The Hour Has Come to Be Glorified***

“Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast. Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus. But Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.” John 12:20-24

**Offering Meditation**

***Your Gift to God is to be Done Cheerfully***

“But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: “He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.” Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God. For the administration of this service not only supplies the needs of the saints, but also is abounding through many thanksgivings to God.” 2 Corinthians 9:6-12



**Remember in Prayer:**

- \*Our Country & leaders
- \*Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- \*Alexa Rohr - eyesight
- \*Phyllis Caldwell - eyesight, encouragement
- \*Family and friends of Dana Gray grieving her passing



**How may 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, March 14		Wednesday, March 17	
Bible Classes	14	Attendance	19
AM Attendance	25		
PM Attendance	25	Contribution	\$1195.00

# Welcome to Greenville Church of Christ



## March 21, 2021

**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 happy that you have chosen to worship with us today. If you are visiting, you are our honored guests and 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.

## Imitate Jesus Christ

By Travis Main

The apostle Paul called upon mankind to imitate himself (**I Corinthians 4:16, Philippians 3:17**), others who served God (**Hebrews 6:12, 2 Thessalonians 3:7-9**), and the Churches of God (**I Thessalonians 2:14**). However, hear his ultimate call: "Imitate Jesus Christ!" (**I Corinthians 11:1**).

Paul addressed the Thessalonians in **I Thessalonians 1:6**, noting they imitated Jesus Christ. Though persecution came to them, they joyfully embraced the inspired Word of God. Three verses earlier, Paul praised them for three behaviors: their work of faith, labor of love, and steadfastness of hope. By these, the Thessalonians demonstrated unity with Christ.

To students of scripture, the words imparted to James by the Holy Spirit, "*Even so, faith, if it has no works, is dead, by itself*", do not bring surprise. To those who believe Christ accepts them even with their lack of service, a sad ignorance exists.

**Galatians 2:16** – "*Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.*"

A man can do nothing by his own design to justify himself in the sight of God. The law demonstrated this fact. Man's justification comes from Christ's faith. Christ lived the Law of Moses without bringing its curse upon Him (**Deuteronomy 27:26**). What He did (**John 5:30**) and the blessings He brought upon all mankind (**Genesis 22:18**) came only through obedience to God. Jesus trusted God the Father and His works demonstrated His Faith. Man's faithful obedience earns nothing, but as in all ages, men who walk by faith shall live (**Hebrews 10:38**). They live through the faith of Jesus the Messiah. They live faithfully when they imitate Jesus Christ.

When Jesus declared in **Matthew 16:24** that man must "*deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me*", no one believed they would live a life of ease. Jesus labored while upon the earth. Jesus found persecution around every corner. He let his disciples know they should expect the same (**John 15:18-20**). Still, Jesus declared the labor done in obedience to God was easy and light (**Matthew 11:28-30**).

**John 17:22-26** – "*And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me. Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.*"

Jesus demonstrated the labor of love. God loves Jesus. God loves the world. Jesus desired we experience the same love so we might be one with the Father. Jesus states very clearly in **John 14:15**, our labor demonstrates our love toward Him. When we engage His labor of love, we imitate Jesus Christ.

Jesus exemplifies the steadfastness of hope which the Thessalonians employed. Through Jesus work of faith and His labor of love, He knew He would die being rejected by those He came to save and do so through great suffering (**Matthew 8:31**). Yet, He had hope. On the day of Pentecost, Peter spoke of Jesus' hope prophesied by King David over a thousand years before.

**Acts 2:25-28** – "*For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved: Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope: Because thou wilt not leave my soul in Hades, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.*"

Clearly, Jesus hope rested in the Father that He would not remain in the grave. He completely believed in the joy of being again with the Father and experiencing the glory of Heaven again (**John 17:5**). Those washed in the blood of Christ hold to the hope of resurrection as Christ himself experienced resurrection (**I Corinthians 15**). On the final day of the earth's existence, those who imitate Jesus Christ will rise to meet him in the clouds (**I Thessalonians 4:17**).

The apostle Paul, following the steps of Jesus, provides a pattern for everlasting life (**I Timothy 1:15-16**). He commends the Thessalonians for walking in the pattern. Within the pages of scripture, "*the faith which was once for all delivered*" (**Jude 3**) exists that all men might strive to obtain it. Passages such as **Ephesians 5** and others provide a very clear picture of what it means to engage in a work of faith, a labor of love, and the steadfastness of hope. In their simplest form, they declare "Imitate Jesus Christ". Pick up the Bible today and learn to walk the footsteps of God.

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## Announcements:

Communion is available as you come in the building, please take only what is needed for today. Hold on to the emblems until the proper time.

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### Happy Birthday!!

Isaac Mayes 3/24      Shane Brock 3/31

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Bible Readings for this week's Bible Class:  
Topic: "Studying God's Law" and "Prophets of God"

- Joshua 1:8
- Psalms 1:1-3
- Psalms 19:7-11, 14
- Psalms 119:97, 105-112
- 1 Timothy 2:15
- Haggai 1:8-14
- Haggai 2:3-9
- Malachi 1:6-14
- Malachi 2:7-10, 13-16
- Malachi 3:1, 4-10
- Malachi 4:1-6

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### This month's Potluck is TODAY!

Please plan to stay to eat and fellowship!

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Gospel Meeting @ Tipp City Church of Christ  
March 28th - 31st

Speaker - Terry Jones of Pennsboro, WV

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### Serving today and next Sunday:

Sunday AM Rotation	March 21, 2021	March 28, 2021
Announcements	Tim Bang	Tim Bang
Song Leading	Bryan Allen	Owen Whittington
Opening Prayer	Jerry Thompson	Jerry Thompson
Lord's Supper Comments	Owen Whittington	Tim Bang
Scripture Reading	Isaiah Rohr	Judah Gasper
Sermon	John McGiffin	John McGiffin
Closing Prayer	Jason Bang	Ezra Rohr