

Two Mules' Burdens of Earth

The story of Naaman receiving a cure for leprosy has been well known in the brotherhood, having been taught by just about every preacher. Most of the time, however, one only hears part of the story and that is the command for Naaman to plunge seven times in the Jordan River. There's more.

Naaman made another request after receiving his cure. He sought Elisha's permission to take some earth back to Syria (**2 Kings 5:17**). Naaman wanted to worship the God who cured him when he returned to Syria. Because Naaman was steeped in idolatry, he didn't believe that God could be worshiped except on his own land.

There was a little more to it as we learn from **2 Kings 5:18**. While the king of Syria was kneeling before the Syrian god, Rimmon, Naaman would appear to be doing the same, but would really be worshipping the true God.

Naaman was doing two things wrong here. First, he was attempting to deceive the Syrian king. And, he was attempting to pay homage to God inside an idol temple. Naaman was guilty of trying to perpetuate a case of divided loyalty. He wanted to have his job as a leader in the Syrian army and his place beside the king. But, he also knew he wanted to worship the God who had cured his leprosy.

God can't be divided this way. We can't have the true God and put an idol next to him and worship both. Many people mistakenly think they can do this. They think they can worship God and money, but Jesus said that was not possible (**Matthew 6:24**). People also think they can worship God and recreation, God and material possessions, or God and just about anything else. Such, however, is not possible. We must devote ourselves fully, completely to God: heart, body, and soul, or we will be guilty of the same split devotion Naaman was.

John Henson

Grand Blanc Church of Christ, Grand Blanc, MI

MINISTERS

Thank you for
your prayers!

Campus Minister
Brad Tolbert

Secretary
Joshua Pettigrew

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Joe Moore

Deacons

Marty Baker
Chris Bryant
Ray Linder
Jason Meier
Jeff Newton
Joshua Pettigrew
Kerry Rice
Jeremy Wilson

Assemblies

SUNDAY
Bible Study 9:30 AM
Assembly 10:30 AM
Assembly 5:00 PM
Live on Facebook

WEDNESDAY
Bible Study 6:30 PM



MONTICELLO

CHURCH OF CHRIST

"...speaking the truth in love..." Eph. 4:15

April 3, 2022

The Number One Stolen Book in the World.

How important is your bible to you? According to several sources the bible is the world's top selling book. More copies of the bible are sold each year than any other book. More copies of the bible have been sold than any other book in history, over 5 billion. The bible also has another record, it is the book that is stolen the most in the world. The importance of the Bible is impossible to overstate. ~Brad Tolbert

Some writers have called the Bible God's love letter to us. Others have described it as our handbook for life. It is both these things and so much more. The importance of the Bible is based on the fact that it is the revelation of God to us (**John 1:1-5**). Scripture is God's Word to humankind. It is inspired, or breathed by God, it comes from God: *"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work"* (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**). The Bible is a message sent by God to us through those inspired by the Holy Spirit (**2 Peter 1:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 2:13**).

The importance of the Bible is that it gives us the opportunity to see and know God. The Scriptures reveal His character and nature, His sovereignty and power, and His reason for creating us, the universe, and everything in it. We read about God's dealings with humankind, His goodness and grace, His light and love, His holiness and justice, and His mercy and compassion.

The Bible contains essential wisdom and guidance for making our way through life: *"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"* (**Psalms 119:105**). Jesus taught us to depend on God's Word for our *"daily bread."* We cannot underestimate the importance of consuming it regularly, for it is the fuel of our spiritual lives (**Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:1-4**). God's Word equips and empowers us to serve Him (**2 Timothy 3:17; Hebrews 4:12**), and we can wield it as our greatest offensive weapon against our adversary, the devil, and the powers of darkness (**Ephesians 6:17**).

Taken from www.gotquestions.org/importance-of-the-Bible.html

Memory Verse

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous.
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your
God will be with you wherever you go."

- Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

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HEART-TO-HEART

Jennifer Knight who is dealing with illness.

Mandy Tolbert had elbow surgery March 31st. She is home doing well but dealing with some pain.

Ricky Epps had heart surgery this past week. Everything went well, but he is dealing with pain.

Mason Ingram, received his scheduled kidney transplant and is improving daily.

Rick Naron starts treatments Monday.

Turner Roberts had surgery on his hand this past week.

Clint Waldrup (parents **Jimmy and Barbara Waldrup**) a neighbor and relative of **LaVerne Potter** and a former student of **Janet Staudinger**, was killed in an ATV accident Monday in Selma.

Congratulations to **Joshua Tolbert** for winning a **\$1,000 Master Gardener Scholarship!**

Thank you to all who pitched in to care for the **flower beds** around the church building!

TODAY'S EVENTS

-Worship livestreamed at 10:30

-Small Study Groups at 5:00

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members:

Linda Bates...Tony & Judy Beard...Terry Boykin... Roger & Margaret Harris... Jennifer Knight... Ray Leonard... Joe and Peggy Moore...LaVerne Potter...Eddy & Suzette Russell.. Cheryl Shirey... Jerry Smith... Rita Stiles... Mandy Tolbert... Carolyn Wilson...Donnie & Janice Wright

Shut-ins:

Jean Enlow...Betty McGuire...Bob & Pat Turner... Marie Wooten

Serving in the Military:

Mollie Aldridge...Corey Bryant...Bradyn Curtis... Noah Draper... David Foret... Taylor Koonce... Tucker Koonce...Matthew May... Justin Mills... Neil Rampy ... Christian Stepanovich... Mathew Tannehill...

SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Family of Tammy Adair... Chris Beard... Rusty Blanks... Naomi Burrow...Candice Carter... family of Nancy Chapman... the church in Ukraine... Eliane Clay... Alli Cooper...Ricky Epps... Deane Johnson...Jim Looney... Kathryn McDonough... Rick Naron... Mason Ingram... Loyce Ray.. Christy Rice...Turner Roberts...Leah Rye... Janice Sawyer... Robert and Sue Thomas...Sissy Tucker...family of Clint Waldrup... James Walton... Mark Wyers... Daisy and Lily Wilkerson... William Woods... Sue Woodard... family of Tom Wooten

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Today!	3	Betty McGuire
		Shawn & Jill Curtis
	4	David Wilson
	6	Terry Boykin
	11	Angela Stewart
	12	Lydia Meier
	14	Colton Knight
	21	Cordell Stewart
	22	Carolyn Ashcraft
	24	Margaret Harris
	27	Joel & Valerie Thompson

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

4	2 Samuel 17-19
5	2 Samuel 20-22
6	2 Samuel 23-24
7	1 Kings 1-4
8	1 Kings 5-7
9	1 Kings 8-10
10	1 Kings 11-13



Heart-To-Heart cont'd...

Thank you to everyone who donated items for **Ukraine** relief!

All *Ladies* are invited to the **Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Class** every Wednesday morning at 10:00 in room 134 at the building.

There are still openings to feed the **Wee-vils For Christ** students this semester. Check the sign up sheet in the foyer.

Best Choice labels are still being collected. Place the **UPC labels** in the box in room 134. The proceeds go to the **Paragould Children's Home**.

The Anvil of God's Word

"Last eve I paused beside the blacksmith's door,
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;
Then looking in, I saw upon the floor,
Old hammers, worn with beating years of time.

"'How many anvils have you had,' said I,
'To wear and batter all these hammers so?'
'Just one,' said he, and then with twinkling eye,
'The anvil wears the hammers out, you know.'

"And so, I thought, the Anvil of God's Word
For ages skeptic blows have beat upon;
Yet, though the noise of falling blows was heard,
The Anvil is unharmed, the hammers gone."

- Author Uncertain

Attendance

Bible Class 79
Sunday AM Worship... 100
Sunday PM Worship 59
Wed. Evening 73
Contribution \$4,431

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MISSIONS

Truth for Today
In Search of the
Lord's Way
Ghana Radio

NURSERY

Communion Preparation

Apr 3 Pam Beard
Apr 10 Terry Boykin
Apr 17 Terry Boykin
Apr 24 Leah Bryant

Ladies April Duties

Cards: Jessica Pettigrew
Food: Shirley Fisackerly
Stacy Usry