



The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ
Vol. XXXIV January 14, 2007 No. 2

From Where I Sit

Michael D. Greene

In recent days I have been working on getting all my activities for 2007 scheduled and on my calendar and the office calendar. It promises to be a busy year again this year. A highlight of the year will certainly be the **Homecoming and Gospel**

Meeting which is scheduled for June 3 - 6. John Kachelman will be the speaker for the meeting. There will be other activities that week, so make plans to be present for the Homecoming and Gospel Meeting.



Recently, I was having a discussion about the right and wrong of adding the instrument of music to the singing in worship. The advocate of the addition acknowledged that singing was scriptural, but he saw nothing wrong with the addition of the instrument. After sharing with him several reasons why we should not add to what God has given us, he said, "Show me the verse where God says it is wrong."

To be honest, there is no such verse. But there is no verse that says we should not have appointed leaders in addition to the elders. There is no verse that says we cannot add an altar of incense to our worship. There is no verse that prohibits adding some grape jelly to the unleavened bread on the Lord's table.

Must we have a prohibition for everything that is wrong? How many such prohibitions would we need? How large would a book with such a list of prohibitions be? Larger than we would want to carry around, I suspect.

In reality, asking for a prohibition is asking the wrong question. We should not be asking what we should **not** do. Rather we should ask what we **should** do. What does God tell us to do? When we discover what that is, we should be content to do what God has told us to do and nothing more.

With respect to the kind of music the Christian is to offer to God, the New Testament specifies singing. It never mentions the instrument to condemn it. But more importantly, it never mentions the instrument to approve it. And that it seems is a more important consideration.

Incidentally, there was language that was familiar to the Biblical writers that was available had God wanted them to say "play an instrument" or "make music..." The words are found in the Bible in such places as 1 Samuel 19:9, 1 Chronicles 16:5, and Luke 15:25.

That is why when faithful members of the churches of Christ gather together to worship God we praise Him with our voices in singing just as He has instructed us in the Bible. I look forward to lifting our voices together when next we meet to worship Him.

Ray's Ramblings

Ray Pack

As always it is good to be back home. The old adage is definitely true, there is no place like home.

As we begin a new year, with all the hopes and dreams of great success, let us be reminded of the past year and continue to build upon the successes that were

accomplished in it. We face some great challenges as we launch out into 2007, a challenging, but attainable budget, the need to grow both numerically and spiritually. Working together we will succeed in both of these areas.



We began our new Bible classes on Sunday Morning and Wednesday nights last week. New teachers are in place and one new Adult Bible class is being offered. Listed below are the classes and the respective teachers.

Sunday Morning Studies in Philippians

Class	Meeting Place	Teacher
Adult 1	Auditorium	Ray Pack
Adult 2	Room 10	Mike Greene
Young Adults	South Wing	Dennis Hogan
High School	Hang Out	Ken Bybee
Junior High	Room 15	Wayne McClaskey

Wednesday Night Studies in Leviticus

Adults	Auditorium	Mike Greene
High School	Hang Out	Ray Pack
Junior High	Room 16	Gene Stough

There are classes for other age groups. These classes have excellent teachers that work very hard in preparation to teach and develop the students in the class. Why not try to make it a point to attend Bible class each and every week with your family? I know that you will not be disappointed!!!

Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. *Things That Matter, Things That Don't, Philippians 1:3-11*

P.M. *What Is It That You Want? Psalm 21:1-7*

How Did That Happen?

Detective shows have always been pretty popular on TV. The audience is presented with the details about an event and then the detective goes about finding out why and how that event happened.

Even in our own lives there are times when we may stop and examine a situation and ask, "*How did that happen?*" Often the answer is obvious and offers a spiritual application as well. Consider these situations.

1. A couple of weeks after you buy that beautiful potted plant for your flower garden, you find it withered and dead. *How did that happen?* Likely because it was not yet planted in the garden and someone neglected to water it. Proper nourishment is necessary. Jesus said in Matthew 5:6, "**Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.**" Could it be that our spiritual lives can sometimes become withered because we lack the thirst for righteousness?

2. After a busy week of work you walk out to your garden to see it overtaken by weeds. *How did that happen?* Someone should have been pulling or cutting those weeds when they were young and sparse. Now they are entangled with the roots of the good plants. Jesus said in Matthew 13 that the weeds will choke out the good plants (vs. 7) causing the harvest to become unfruitful (vs. 22) and that once established it would be impossible to pull up the weeds without damaging the good plants (vs. 29-30).

Do we sometimes become so busy in our lives that we neglect to stop and remove the evil things from our lives? Better to take action sooner than later!

3. On the way to an appointment your car runs out of gas. *How did that happen?* Someone failed to properly prepare for the trip. Something necessary was neglected. We find the parable of the wise and foolish virgins in Matthew 25:1-13. The foolish ones knew better, but found themselves unprepared when the bridegroom arrived.

Many Christians will "fuel up" at baptism and then inconsistently come back to the body of Christ for more. This is a serious mistake of neglect. When we choose not to be with others in

worship we miss the opportunity to stir up love and good works and to exhort one another (Heb. 10:24-25).

4. You find yourself standing unprepared at the judgment. *How did that happen?* Perhaps you fell for Satan's ploy that there was plenty of time to "get right" with God before you died. But life is short, uncertain and vanishes as a vapor (Jas. 4:14). Don't be caught like the rich fool in Luke 12:13-21 who thought he had plenty of time. Live every day as if it were your last one before going to heaven.

5. As you look around at judgment, you see the faces of hundreds of family, friends and others who are also unprepared for this day. *How did that happen?* They were following your example. Since you didn't think it was important to have proper spiritual nourishment, pull the weeds of sin out of your life, properly prepare for a lifetime of faithful living they didn't see the need to do so either.

Friends, one need not be an expert detective to know that if we neglect what is right we will be in trouble. Let's encourage and strengthen one another so that we can all be faithful to the end. When we all get to heaven we will know how that happened. Because we were faithful to the end.

Mike Baker
Church Street church
Lewisburg, Tennessee



Taylor Christian Camp for 2007

Believe it or not it is time to begin making plans for summer Bible camp at Taylor Christian. We have had a great group of young folks and staff to go from Etown the last three years. I know this year will be no different. Camp is scheduled for **June 10-15, 2007**. Parents, please put this date on your calendar so you do not schedule conflicts for the young folks.

If there are those that would like to go as staff, please talk to me or Ray. Those who have gone and worked at camp can tell you how much fun (and work) is involved. But it is a great week, spent influencing young folks for the Lord.

There will be an organizational and planning meeting January 20th for all staff. Again, see Mike or Ray for more details.

News and Notes

NEIL BURDEN continues to deal with his breathing problems. **GAYLE MASSEY**, Barbara Underwood's sister, is scheduled for exploratory surgery this week in Nashville. **MARY WALKER** is now at home after a stay in Hardin Memorial Hospital. She needs to rest at home for awhile. **Sylvia Taylor**, sister of Mayford Spear is in a hospital in McAllen, Texas.

MEMBERS TO INCLUDE ON PRAYER LISTS

Betty Addington	J Martin
Alyenne Bates	Doris Martin
Neil Burden	Tom Morgan
LaVelle Dyer	Bonnie Payton
Howard Gardner	Marie Rose
Bernard Gillim	Terry Showers
Faye Guess	Grace Speer
Roy Johnson	Barbara Underwood
David Keister	Lonnie Underwood

Let us continue to remember the following military personnel in our prayers: Evan Guldenschuh, Justin Burg, Dave Fulbright, Scott Allen, Robert E. Wooten, Justin Gardner, Kelly Leverett, George Edwards

Additional Prayer List: Darcie Bergeson, Gil Berry, Sue Cantrell, Sydney Dover, Ina Jo & Ricky Duncan, Thomas Elkins, Kevin Fox, John & Connie Gardner, Evelyn Gattis, Betty Goheen, Tonya Harper, Greg Helm, Nicole Johnson, Art Lattanzi, Michelle Lawson, Lina Lee, Gayle Massey, Erman McClaskey, Mike McCormmic, Terri McDonald, Marjorie McKinney, Donald Montgomery & Family, Joe Pawley, Phyllis Pirtle, Charles Pottinger, Patsy & Joe Richter, Janet Rogan, Roge-Ge-Neal Smith, Reiko Tarasavage, Patsy Taylor, Juanita Tillery, Betty Tucker, Laura Walker, Kevin Weaver, Laura & Roy Woodcock, Sylvia Taylor

New Class

Remember the new for 18-30 years old in the South Wing. Dennis Hogan is the teacher.

Pantry Item of the Week

Week of 1/14/07 canned Pork'n Beans

Thank You

Thank you for the lovely flowers presented to me during the holidays.

Betty Addington

Bible Bowl

Bible Bowl practice has been cancelled for Jan. 14th. Practice will resume on Jan. 21st.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **CONGREGATIONAL SKATING PARTY**, Sunday, **January 14**, at Hardin County Roller Rink in Radcliff following evening services.
- **SINGING AT ATRIA**, Sunday afternoon, **January 28**, at 3:00 p.m.
- **ANNUAL SWEETHEART DINNER**, Saturday night, **February 10**, in the South Wing.
- **HOMECOMING, June 3-6**



Think About It:

A lawyer was overheard praying the following prayer: "We respectfully request, and entreat, that due and adequate provisions be made this day and the date hereinafter subscribed, for the organization of such methods and allocations and distribution as may be deemed necessary to properly assure the reception by and for said petitioner of such quantities of baked cereal products as shall, in the judgment of the aforementioned petitioner, constitute a sufficient supply thereof."

What that means when translated into everyday language is: "Give us this day our daily bread." One of the marvels of the Bible is the simplicity of most of its language... concise, clear, straightforward. Only when men attempts to add their wisdom to it doe it become garbled. Have you read God's word today? (*Note: lawyers are not the only ones who can be verbose and obtuse. Sometimes preachers can be the same. MG*)

OUR RECORD FOR

January 7, 2007

Sunday Bible Study	142
Sunday Morning Assembly	207
Sunday Evening Assembly	122
Tuesday Ladies Bible Class	
Wednesday Bible Study	115
Contribution (Budget -- \$5,885)	\$6414

**Elder/Coordinator for January
Dennis Hogan**

Elizabethtown Church of Christ
P. O. Box 652
1211 N. Dixie Ave.
Elizabethtown, KY 42701

Church Office: 765-6446
Fax # 737-0491

Elders:

Ron Carter	358-5792
Dennis Hogan	234-0705
Henry McAlister	765-7386
Mike Pence	737-8123
Rick Whobrey	769-9267

Ministers:

Michael D. Greene	862-9971
	cell # 735-6908
Ray Pack	982-3460
	cell # 723-7564

Secretary:

Kim Whobrey	769-9267
-------------	----------

Email: churchofchrist@kvnet.org

Visit us on the World Wide Web:
www.elizabethtownchurchofchrist.com

Bible Question

This Week's Bible Question: Multiplied sin, lying, and departure from God had caused justice to be at a "distance". What had happened to "truth"?

Last Week's Bible Question: What man's death during the days of David was described as being the fall of a great man and a prince? The correct answer is Abner, 2 Sameul 3:30-39. Mary Greene, Martha Cato (TN), Kay Thomason, Edna Ashlock, Mary Walker, Betty Bray, and Katy Watson correctly answered the question.

*Please write down your answer and give it to Ray, put it in the box outside the church office before next Wednesday or email your answer to **rpac119@bbtel.com** by Tuesday afternoon. Please include the Scripture reference and your name.*

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Classes	9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship	10:30 A.M.
Evening Worship	6:00 P.M.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class	10:30 A.M.
--------------------	------------

Wednesday

Evening Bible Class	7:00 P.M.
---------------------	-----------

Are You Part of the PARTICIPATION

Elizabethtown Church of Christ
P. O. Box 652
Elizabethtown, KY 42702

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit # 118
Elizabethtown, KY 42701

Daily Bible Reading Schedule
Week 2
1. Genesis 15-17; Matthew 5:21-48
2. Genesis 18, 19; Matthew 6:1-18
3. Genesis 20-22; Matthew 6:19-7:6
4. Genesis 23, 24; Matthew 7:7-29
5. Genesis 25, 26; Matthew 8:1-27

Jan 8 — Skating Party
January 38 — Singing at Atria
Feb. 10 — Sweetheart Dinner
Apr. 27-28 — Men's Retreat
June 3-6, 2007 — Homecoming