

April 18, 2021

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
P.O. Box 683
Olney, IL 62450
217-218-0803
www.olneychurchofchrist.org

Services

Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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Elders: Mike Gerber, Travis Hall

Deacons: John Frost, Dave Goff,
Roger Sholders

Visitors are welcome

We offer Bible classes for all ages

We also offer in-home Bible studies

We have Bible lessons on the radio
(92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

The Joy of Gospel Meetings

By Michael Hickox

Gospel meetings are wonderful opportunities both for those outside the body of Christ to learn and obey the truth, and for Christians to be edified.

It is a joy any time Christians assemble together to strengthen one another and worship God. The Holy Spirit's command to not forsake the assembly of the saints is prefaced by the words "***Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good works,***" (Heb. 10:24). Assembling with saints is a means by which Christians can help each other please God. Gospel meetings offer great opportunities for this.

It is likewise a joy for saints to join together to feast on the spiritual nourishment provided through God's Word (1 Pet. 2:2). Gospel meetings offer multiple opportunities for looking into divine truth, and doing so with others who share a desire to grow through the Word.

Gospel meetings also provide opportunities for worshipping God through singing (Eph. 5:19), and joining with fellow saints while approaching God in prayer.

Gospel meetings create opportunities for Christians to invite family, friends, and neighbors to come hear the saving Gospel, while benefitting ourselves through the opportunities provided.

May we appreciate opportunities such as these to be spiritually strengthened, strengthen others, and please our Creator.

“Be Zealous”

By Michael Hickox

Among the seven churches who the book of Revelation was directly addressed to (**Rev. 1:4, 11**), only the church at Laodicea received no commendation from the Lord.

What was their chief error addressed by the Lord? False doctrine? Division? Sexual immorality? While any of these sins might have existed there (and, if so, would also need to be corrected), the sin of theirs highlighted by the Lord is *lukewarmness*.

Notice **Revelation 3:15-16**: ***I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were cold or hot. So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of my mouth.***

The Christians at Laodicea were spiritually apathetic. They lacked fire, enthusiasm, and passion for the Lord. In other words, they were omitting the positive virtue of *zeal*.

God shows us that misdirected zeal can cause harm rather than good (**Rom. 10:2-3; Phil. 3:6**). This is reason for caution, but it doesn't excuse omitting *properly directed* zeal. Knowledge without zeal is no better than zeal without knowledge.

Properly directed zeal is summarized in **Titus 2:14**. Speaking of “***our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ***” (verse 13), the Holy Spirit says “***who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good works.***”

If our zeal is directed toward what God defines as “***good works,***” it will please

Him. To know what God defines as a good work, we need only look to inspired Scripture (**2 Tim. 3:17**). More specifically, we must look to what the New Testament authorizes as a good work (cf. **Col. 2:14**).

For instance, Scripture shows that studying God's Word is a good work (cf. **Acts 17:11**). We should be zealous for this. Such zeal is alluded to in the command, “***As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby***” (**1 Pet. 2:2**). Christians must have a strong spiritual appetite.

As we zealously feast on the spiritual nourishment God provides through His Word, we should be zealous to examine ourselves by it (**2 Cor. 13:5**). When we see something in our lives that does not measure up to God's standard, we should zealously correct it (cf. **2 Cor. 7:9-11**).

We should each be zealously devoted to prayer (**Eph. 6:18**). We should be zealous to edify brethren (**1 Thes. 5:11**), and help others as we have opportunity (**Gal. 6:10**).

Zeal for good works such as these is a must for God's children. If we are lukewarm like the Laodiceans, the same rebuke given to them could be given to us.

Moreover, the same *solution* given to them applies to any Christian living in spiritual apathy. **Revelation 3:19**: ***As many as I love, I reprove and chasten. Be zealous therefore, and repent.***

Area Gospel Meetings

Our Gospel Meeting is this week with Wayne Walker (see flyers for topics)
Sun: 9:30, 10:20, 2:00; Mon-Fri: 7:00

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God’s Plan for Saving Man

God’s Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ’s Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit’s Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner’s Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner’s Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner’s Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner’s Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian’s Work	James 2:24
Christian’s Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian’s Endurance	Revelation 2:10

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Words to Consider

“Behold, we call them blessed who endured. You have heard of the perseverance of Job, and have seen the Lord in the outcome, and how the Lord is full of compassion and mercy.” – James 5:11

Prayer List

Holly G
Sandy S
Mabel H
Cheryl S
Norma C
Raymond & Maxine
Barbara G (Cancer)
L.A. S (COVID recovery)
Justice G (Perthes disease)
Robert C
Yockey Family

Daily Bible Reading

April 18 – Numbers 1-3; Mark 3
April 19 – Numbers 4-6; Mark 4:1-20
April 20 – Numbers 7-8; Mark 4:21-41
April 21 – Numbers 9-11; Mark 5:1-20
April 22 – Numbers 12-14; Mark 5:21-43
April 23 – Numbers 15-16; Mark 6:1-29
April 24 – Numbers 17-19; Mark 6:30-56

“LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man who walks to direct his steps.” – Jeremiah 10:23

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, April 18, 2021

Bible Study: Roger
Worship: Dan D
Evening: Douglas

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

Mark

Assignments

Sunday, April 25, 2021

Reading: Jim
Announcements: Dave
Table: Steve
Serve: Mark
Roger

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

Invitation: Mike

Clean Building

Patty

Prepare Communion

Julzy

Upcoming Reminders

April 18-23: Gospel Meeting

(with Wayne Walker)

Anniversaries

Birthdays

April 25 – Jessica

April 29 – Emily

April 29 – Jerry