

June 2, 2019

# Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street  
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.

## Who Our Lord Calls Blessed

By Michael Hickox

At the beginning of **Matthew 5**, Jesus spoke what is often referred to as the “beatitudes.” In these verses, Jesus describes the person who finds favor with God and is thus truly and richly blessed.

The Poor in Spirit: Jesus began the beatitudes with the words, “**Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven**” (**Matt. 5:3**).

The one who is poor in spirit recognizes how *hopeless* we are without God. This is an attitude that involves recognizing we have sinned (**Rom. 3:23**), and thus *need*, but do not deserve, His grace (**Rom. 6:23**).

Those Who Mourn: Jesus continued the beatitudes by saying, “**Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted**” (**Matt. 5:4**). Jesus may have been referring here to one who mourns due to persecution, or one who sorrows for the wickedness of the world. It could also be that Jesus is including one who recognizes how grievous sin is, and thus mourns with godly sorrow over his or her sins (**2 Cor. 7:9-10**), causing him or her to thus repent.

The Meek: Jesus next said, “**Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth**” (**Matt. 5:5**).

The meekness God commands is not a “push-over” attitude (**Eph. 4:14**), but an attitude related to self-control, humility, and proper submissiveness. Meekness allows one to be *directed*.

Meekness applies to how we treat others.

# Who Our Lord Calls Blessed

(Continued)

Foremost, though, meekness involves submission to *God*. Meekness means letting God mold us like clay as we receive His instruction (**Jas. 1:21**).

Those Who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness: Jesus continued His teaching about our attitude toward God's will: "***Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled***" (**Matt. 5:6**).

We should earnestly strive to *be* right with God by *doing* what He says is right, which requires us to have a great appetite for *learning* what He says is right (**1 Pet. 2:2**).

The Merciful: While the first four beatitudes focus primarily on one's attitude toward God, the next four focus a lot on our attitudes toward others. This is seen in **Matthew 5:7**: ***Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.***

Being merciful includes having a willingness to forgive others. Jesus spoke a parable in **Matthew 18:23-35** that teaches our need to be forgiving. This parable tells of a servant whose master was willing to forgive him of a debt he could not pay, but this same servant was unwilling to show mercy toward a *fellow* servant.

An interesting thing about this parable is that the servant owed his master about 600,000 times as much as his fellow servant owed him (**verses 24, 28**). This contrast has a lesson for us. No one has wronged us nearly as much as we have

wronged God. If He is willing to show us mercy, how much more should we be willing to show others mercy?

The Pure in Heart: In the next beatitude, Jesus said, "***Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God***" (**Matt. 5:8**).

Many in Jesus' day focused on the "outward man" only, while ignoring the inward man (cf. **Matt. 23:25-28**). While God commands righteous actions and words, He wants us to do and speak things that come from a *sincere heart*.

The Peacemakers: Jesus went on to say, "***Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God***" (**Matt. 5:9**). In the context, it appears Jesus is foremost talking about seeking peace with *others*. We should do the best we can to pursue this (**Rom 12:18**).

Those Persecuted for Righteousness' Sake: Jesus continued by saying "***Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven***" (**Matt. 5:10**).

Those who live godly will face persecution of some kind (**2 Tim. 3:12**). This can be mental persecution, such as being mocked, falsely accused, or un-befriended. While it is hard to consider oneself blessed in this situation, those who face this glorify God (**1 Pet. 4:14**), and those who endure will receive eternal life (**Rev. 2:10**).

May we be among those who fit Jesus' description of the one who is blessed.

## Area Gospel Meetings

Walnut Chapel Church of Christ:

June 23-28 (with Mike Davis)

Sun: 9:30 AM, 10:20 AM, 6:00 PM; M-F: 7:00 PM

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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

***“Love is patient and is kind. Love doesn't envy. Love doesn't brag, is not proud, doesn't behave itself inappropriately, doesn't seek its own way, is not provoked, takes no account of evil; doesn't rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;” – 1 Corinthians 13:4-6***

## Prayer List

- Holly G
- Sandy S
- Betty P
- Mabel H
- Cheryl S
- Norma C
- Linda & Family
- Dody G
- Joe B
- Allen S (Cancer)
- Jeanette & Family
- Raymond & Maxine
- June H (Broken Pelvis)
- Loren G (Injuries from fall)

## Daily Bible Reading

- June 2 – 2 Chron. 4-6; John 10:24-42
- June 3 – 2 Chron. 7-9; John 11:1-29
- June 4 – 2 Chron. 10-12; John 11:30-57
- June 5 – 2 Chron. 13-14; John 12:1-26
- June 6 – 2 Chron. 15-16; John 12:27-50
- June 7 – 2 Chron. 17-18; John 13:1-20
- June 8 – 2 Chron. 19-20; John 13:21-38

***“I will delight myself in your commandments, because I love them.” – Psalm 119:47***

### **Prayer Leaders**

Sunday, June 2, 2019

Bible Study: John  
Worship: Dave  
Evening: Michael

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

Harold

### **Cleaning Building**

Janice

### **Prepare Communion**

Janice

### **Upcoming Reminders**

**June 15: Vacation Bible School**

*9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*

*Theme: Victory in Jesus*

**June 22: Ladies' Bible Class @ 9:30 a.m.**

*Study: The Honorable Boaz (Ruth 2:1-7)*

### **Assignments**

Sunday, June 9, 2019

Reading: Harold  
Announcements: Mike  
Table: Mark  
Serve: Mason  
Roger  
Dan D  
Steve

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Invitation: Travis

### **Anniversaries**

June 7 – Michael and Julzy  
June 10 – Jeff and Patty

### **Birthdays**

June 2 – June  
June 16 – Jenna