



Jennings Road Church of Christ
1124 Jennings Road, Van Wert, OH

www.jenningsroad.org

Pastor David Ray, Jr.

Sunday School – 9:00 AM / Worship – 10:00 AM

February, 2020

**The Road to Stupidity
February 2020 Sermon Series**

We believe...

...that Jesus Christ is the one and only Son of God, who died for our sins and rose from the dead.

1 Corinthians 15:1-8; John 3:16

...that the Bible is the inspired Word of God – a lamp unto our feet and light unto our path.

2 Timothy 3:16; Psalm 119:105

...that every person has worth in God's eyes, and that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

Romans 3:23

...that forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life are available to those who trust in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

John 3:16

...that those accepting Christ should repent of sin, confess their faith, and be baptized by immersion into Him.

Romans 10:9; Acts 2:38

...that the church is the body of Christ on earth, empowered by the Holy Spirit to bring the lost to Christ and the saved into a nurturing relationship with Jesus.

Ephesians 4:1-16

The Jennings Road Church of Christ exists to glorify God by turning unchurched people into fully devoted followers of Christ.

Partway through his letter to the Galatian church, Paul finally gets fed up and calls the church people stupid. "Foolish" if you have to be literal. Can you imagine a pastor calling his people that? (Don't give Pastor Dave any ideas!) So, Paul, how do we stop ourselves from being stupid in our Christian walk?

Feb 2

Brainwashed

Gal 3:1-9

Paul literally starts the chapter by calling the Galatians stupid. I'm fairly certain that's NOT on the list of "How To Win Friends"! Why use such fierce language? Just to get their attention? It might be because of the church emphasizing rules over relationships.

Feb 9

Blessedly Cursed

Gal 3:10-14

Many Christians would consider themselves blessed. Paul, however, says they're just fooling themselves; they're actually cursed! How can we tell which is which? The difference might just be in the way you live.

Feb 16

Tradition

Gal 3:15-22

What are the six most dangerous words in a healthy church? "We've always done it this way." The church in Paul's day hadn't heard from God in over 400 years, so they began to make up rules that were treated as if they were actually God's words.

What happens when traditions become more important than God's Word?

Feb 23

Are You an "-ist"?

Gal 3:23-39

"I'm not a racist, but..." is never a good way to start a sentence. In a world where it's suddenly okay to be angry but not communicate anything, what place does a Christian have in healing a world full of people that are known for what they are against? The answer is simple, but living it out can be very, very hard.

Youth News

Youth Group will start back up in February, and we will be meeting the first and third Wednesday. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Josh.

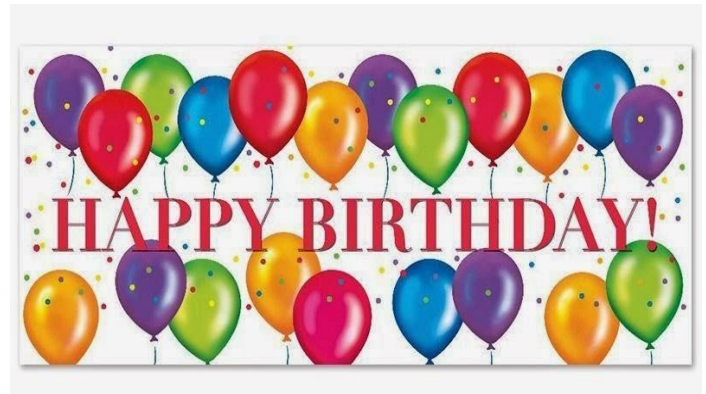
So many amazing things are happening with our Youth Ministry, and I want to take a moment to thank all those who help. Your impact will have an impact on our youth far beyond what you will ever see.

Jr. / Sr. High Sunday School is discussing the challenges kids face in today's culture. Kids face tough choices every day and they are learning about the tools and guidance the Bible gives us to live Christ-like.



Deanna and her team are teaching the story of Moses and his adventures with the Israelites as they learn to trust in God and follow him. Please as always we encourage the adults to talk to the kids about what they are learning and how we can all become more Christ-like.

You can reach the youth group through their Facebook page [jrccyouthgroup](#) or email JrccYouthGroup@outlook.com



Prayer Requests & Praises

- Pastor Dave – health*
- Rosie Miracle – health*
- Jerry Miracle – health*
- Kenisha Seibert – health*
- Modesta Taran - health*
- Donna Klinger - Lupus*
- Carol Thomas – Parkinson’s disease*
- Julie Kuhlhorst – physical & emotional pain*
- Wilma Peterson – Parkinson’s disease*
- Marie Ray – health*
- Jennie Glaze – health*
- Joseph Benavidez – health*

Please let Anita Searl know of any changes needed to the prayer request list.



- Kirsten Roberts – Marines*
 - Jayden Dickson – Air Force*
 - Josh Leiter – Marines*
 - Lee Clay – Marines*
 - Jeffrey Kinner – Navy*
 - Josh Ray – Marines*
 - Michael Kapangama – Air Force National Guard*
- Please remember all military men, women, Veterans and their families.***

Birthdays

- 2/2 Alisa Sharninghouse*
- 2/2 Travis Dickson*
- 2/3 Sommer Stepleton*
- 2/4 Daryl Dowdy*
- 2/8 Nan Smith*
- 2/8 Josh Shanrninghouse*
- 2/9 Rick Hines*
- 2/16 Mark Carlson*
- 2/22 Hila Kreischer*



2nd Annual Cabin Fever Break Vendor Event @ JRCC

*Saturday, Feb. 8th from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Proceeds to benefit Portal 2:20 Teen Center*

3rd Annual Chili Cook Off @ JRCC

*Saturday, Feb. 22nd from 4:00 - 6:00 PM
Proceeds to benefit Haven of Hope in Van Wert*

February Serving Schedule

Greeters

2/2 Ramon
2/9 Lisa & Rick
2/16 Lorraine & Brenda
2/23 Johnna

Prayer Room

2/2 Celia
2/9 Earl
2/16 Marie
2/23 Drake

Cleaning

2/2 Mike & Belinda
2/9 Mike & Belinda
2/16 Josh & Sara
2/23 Josh & Sara

Servers :

Doug
Drake
Candy
Greg

Communion Prep:

Josh & Sara

Jennings Road Church of Christ Leadership

Pastor: David Ray, Jr.

Elders: Keith Langdon Earl Bledsoe Matt Langdon

Ministry Leaders:

Music/Worship: Matt Langdon

Administrative: Anita Searl

Maintenance/Servers: Greg Roberts

Financials: Johnna Roberts

Hospitality: Jamie Ramos
Deb Bledsoe



The Five Love Languages In Our Relationship With Christ



WORDS OF AFFIRMATION

Words of Affirmation, is definitely a way to show love for God. In more conventional terms, we call it giving praise and thanksgiving. When we consider all that God has done for us, our praise should come automatically.

Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

– **Hebrews 13:15**

Praise is something you do with your tongue, not just your mind. Do you appreciate who God is and what He has done for you? Then tell Him. And don't just tell Him, tell others. Make a list of things that God has done for you, then thank Him for each one of those things. It says in **Hebrews 13:15** that we are to continually offer praise to God. We're not to stop, even when we don't feel like it.

QUALITY TIME

Quality Time is another one. We need to spend quality time with God. Some of the ways in which we are to do this are through Bible study and meditation, prayer, and personal worship time. When we spend time with someone, we get to know them better and they get to know us better.

Deuteronomy 17:18 and **19** give God's instructions to the kings of Israel. It says:

Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes,...

– **Deuteronomy 17:18-19**

The time the king spent reading the law made him more aware of what God is like and how he could improve his relationship with Him. When we read and study the Bible, we shouldn't do it to gain knowledge about the Bible. We should do it to know the Author better so that we can relate to Him better and love and appreciate Him more. Spending time with God shows love for Him. The act itself shows our love for God. It is the same as spending time with your friend. You could be doing something else, but instead you choose to honor your friend by spending your time just being with him or her. Whenever we make time for God, whenever we set aside the things that we want to do so that we can spend time with Him, we honor Him, and this is a way of showing our love for Him. Not only does Bible study qualify for quality time, so does prayer and worship. Going to church to worship God is a way of spending quality time with God.

GIFTS

This also is one of God's love languages. It's really strange, when you think of it, that we can give anything to God. He is the One who supplies all of our needs, and yet He has no needs of His own. Our choir sang a song a few years ago that asked the question, "What can I give to Him that He doesn't already have"?

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

– **Romans 12:1**

It's easy to give money and material things – that can be done without much thought. But to give oneself is difficult. When you give yourself, everything else that you have is included. This takes a lot of commitment, because when you give yourself to God, for Him to use as He sees fit, you have to continually keep giving yourself to God. Even after we submit our own will to God's, we keep wanting to run our own lives and do our own thing. When you truly give yourself to God, you don't provide stipulations on how your gift is to be used. You let God decide. It takes great effort of will to give up our will to God's will. But God really appreciates it when we do so. It is an expression of love for God for us to give ourselves to Him.

ACTS OF SERVICE

Many things happened while Jesus spent time with his disciples. First he washed His disciple's feet. Then he spoke to them of what was going to happen to Him and later to them. Jesus promised them the Holy Spirit. He told them to remain in Him and to remain in His love. In John 15:9-14 He told them how to abide in His love:

As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.

– **John 15:9-14**

We are to love Christ by keeping His commandments. When we disobey God's commandments, we are certainly not showing love to Him. **1 John 5:3** says:

For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. – 1 John 5:3 (MKJV)

He doesn't ask us to do tasks that are beyond our capability because He always supplies what is needed to do what He asks. His commandment is that we are to direct our love for Him into love for one another. We serve Christ by serving others. For what does God need that we can provide? Nothing. But His children have needs, and Jesus said that our service to Him is to be done in the form of service to others:

For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited Me in, I needed clothes and you clothed Me, I was sick and you looked after Me, I was in prison and you came to visit Me.' "Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink? When did we see You a stranger and invite You in, or needing clothes and clothe You? When did we see You sick, or in prison, and go to visit You?' The King will reply 'Truly, I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for Me.' – **Matthew 25:35-40** (HNV)

PHYSICAL TOUCH

This language is not so much about physical touch, but what physical touch communicates. In biblical times, there were a large number of people who were considered outcasts. (The same is true today.) Some were outcasts due to public knowledge of immoral lifestyles, and some were due to uncleanness caused by sickness through no fault of the person. Leprosy was a very bad disease. It not only had severe physical effects, but it also had more severe social effects. The law separated the unclean from the clean because only those who were ceremonially clean could worship at the tabernacle. Touching someone or something unclean would make you unclean. So lepers were commanded to cry out "Unclean, unclean!". They had to live outside of the camp or city. In **Matthew 8:1-3**, Jesus does something most Jews (and we ourselves) would find repulsive. He touched a leper...

When He had come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed Him. And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. – **Matthew 8:1-3** (RKJNT)

What was the significance of this touch? Jesus didn't have to touch him. He could have healed the man at a word. But He did touch him. He reached out with His hand and touched the untouchable. What did this communicate to the leper? That Jesus didn't consider him an outcast. That he was accepted in His eyes. Touch indicates acceptance of a person. You're willing to communicate with someone closely. It's easy to put your money in the collection plate every week or mail off your donation to some charitable organization to pay some other people to help the needy for you. It's hard to go out and help the needy yourself. Jesus didn't isolate Himself during His ministry years. He allowed anyone and everyone to come to Him and He went out of His way to help those nobody else would. Jesus even welcomed children and communicated love to them when he took them in His arms, put His hands on them and blessed them.

Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

– **Mark 10:13-16**

We show our love for God by loving the unlovable in the same way: by not being afraid or repulsed by those less fortunate than ourselves. To keep our relationship with God strong and healthy, we need to continually express our love for Him through these love languages. Some of these may be difficult, but with practice, we will become better at it and closer to God.