

A Time to Consider

by Jeremy Hodges Wildercroft church of Christ Riverdale, MD

Human beings are really good at doing the things they decide they want to do. However, we are really good at not doing the things that we don't want to do. "I didn't have the time" is a common way for us to hide the fact that we did the things we wanted with our time instead of the things that we didn't want to do. The truth is better represented as "I didn't make the time."

God's people have often struggled to "find the time" to do the things that God has commanded while still making sure they did what they wanted to do. Haggai was sent to God's nation of Israel who had failed to build the temple of YHWH, but had actively spent the time building their own houses. "This people says, 'The time has not come, even the time for the house of the LORD to be rebuilt.'" (Haggai 1:2) There had been many setbacks, which had brought about discouragement (Ezra 3-4), but even with those the people had found time to do what they wanted. "Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses while this house [lies] desolate?" (Haggai 1:4)

Haggai encourages the people to "Consider your ways!" The prophet reminds the people of how so much of their hard work wasn't producing. They were obsessed with taking care of themselves, but weren't succeeding. It was God Himself who was frustrating their plans because they were failing to obey Him in faith in building for His house instead of their own. (Haggai 1:5-11)

God made promises to the people, and invited them to "consider from this day onward." (Haggai 2:15) He told them to look at their incomes and look at their productivity and then measure it next to how things would be after they showed faithfulness. He reminded them to look at the fact that "the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate and the olive tree, it has not borne [fruit]." All of the failure they had seen would not be able to compare with the good He was going to do because when they people obeyed, "Yet from this day on I will bless [you]." (Haggai 2:19) By reading Ezra 5-6, we can see that it was accomplished exactly as Haggai prophesied, and was completely funded by Cyrus, and Darius after him.

We need to often "consider our ways" and determine if we are failing to make the time to do God's word because we are busy with our own projects. Once we begin to be truly faithful, we can "consider from that day forward" how we will have many more successes on spiritual, and many times, physical fronts. God's faithfulness is reliable and sure, but we will never know the whole of it until we decide to lean on Him while being obedient ourselves.

NEWSLETTER

Dec. 15, 2019

Mark Dailey, evangelist
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Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Study	9:45 AM
Sunday AM Worship	11:00 AM
No Sunday PM Service	
Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study	10:00 AM
Wednesday PM Bible Study	7:00 PM

La Salle church of Christ

A place of worship and healing.

1121 N. Military Rd.
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
(716) 283-1214

lasallechurchofchrist.org



We welcome all who are here today.

If you are a visitor we are honored to have you with us. Please fill out a *Visitor Card* (on the back of the pew in front of you) so we may have a record of your visit. Later in the service we will pass around a collection plate. As a visitor you are not expected to give money but we would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in the collection plate. Thanks.

There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs for infant care.

Please keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent during Bible study and worship.



Potter Children's Home & Family Ministries
2350 Nashville Rd.
Bowling Green, KY 42101
270 843-3038
potterministries.org

We offer a **free** Bible Correspondence Course



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Friendly Reminder - BLUE LIGHT

When the “blue light” is lit at the front of the auditorium it means “**Quiet Please**”

Prayers *In our prayers, let's praise God, recognize His greatness, and thank Him for His blessings.*

Let's keep Ray McArthur's mother in our prayers as she deals with some health issues.

Let's keep Jack Curnew and his mother in our prayers as they deal with health issues.

Bryan, Denise Garlitz' son in law, is having health issues. He will have ear surgery some time this month.

Georgia Smith, a neighbor of Maria Swindlehurst, is dealing with breast cancer.

Dennis Phillips Sr., Louella Hopkins former spouse who now lives in Florida, is under hospice care because his health has declined and it isn't looking good for him.

Nick, Bruce Brink's cousin is having a problem dealing with the loss of his father in Sept. Let's pray for God to help him and his family and loved ones. Let's also pray for Bruce to be able to say the right things to help them.

Let's pray for children, families, and the staff at **Potter Children's Home and Family Ministries**.

Let's pray as we continue our preacher search process.

Let's pray for the congregation in Fenwick, ONT as they do the same.

Also

Let's pray for our members that have ongoing health and other issues.

Let's pray for family, friends, and loved ones of our members who are having health and other issues.

Let's not only remember those that are physically sick but those that are spiritually sick as well.

Let's remember to pray for our shut-ins and to call and send cards.

Let's pray for those dealing with family situations as well as work situations.

Let's pray for those dealing with weather related disasters.

Let's pray for those of our number who are looking for employment.

Let's pray for those that are traveling. May they have a safe journey.

Let's pray for God's people that are doing mission work all over the world.

Let's pray for those taking Bible correspondence courses at the present time.

Let's pray for people the world over that we may all learn to get along with each other.

Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)*

Dec. 15 TODAY. Men's Business Meeting

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

Dec. 25 No Wednesday night Bible study tonight.

Dec. 31 New Year's Eve

Jan. 01, 2020 New Year's Day



2 Timothy 2:15

Classes and Sermon

Sun. AM Adult Bible Study Matthew

Sermon Topic Today: Part 1 Getting Ready For 2020

Scripture Reading: Numbers 13:30 thru 14:4

No Sun. PM Service

Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study 10 AM

Wed. PM Bible Study 2nd Kings



Serving Today

Announcements Michael Rice

Song Leader Rodney Jones

Direct Communion Wayne Carter

Serve Michael Rice

Serve Richard Wheeler

Serve Doug Flanagan

Clean Trays Lisa Hansen

Notice

There will be no Wednesday night Bible study Wednesday Dec. 25, 2019.

Thanks to those that helped with the House to House / Heart to Heart mailout this past Wednesday.

There are extra copies available. Please take one and read it.

Directory and Phone Tree

Last Sunday a new *Directory* and *Phone Tree* were made available. They are dated Dec. 08, 2019.

Since then there has been an update concerning a phone number for Edward Stearn.

Please see the posting in the back and make the appropriate changes to your *Directory & Phone Tree*.

via

BulletinGold

God doesn't love you because you are important. You are important because God loves you.

We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.

Worry never robs tomorrow of its sorrows; it only saps today of its strength.

A hypocrite is a person who is not himself on Sundays.

The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that they have.

Do the very best you can and leave the outcome to God.