


TIME OF SERVICES	
Sunday:	
Bible Classes	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Worship Service	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday:	
Bible Classes	7:00 p.m.
Office	(870) 933-9134
Elders	
Kemuel Camp	(870) 930-6970
Scott Stubblefield	(870) 934-8874
Deacons	
Phillip Cassidy	(870) 623-2588
Steve Lands	(870) 974-1976
Travis Moody	(870) 650-1649
Preacher	
John Mundy	870-623-5339
Editor	
Dick Blackford	870-919-2266
THE BIBLE AND THE BIBLE ONLY, MAKES CHRISTIANS AND CHRISTIANS ONLY. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS COMPOSED OF CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE NOT JOINED A DENOMINATION.	



StoneRidge

Church of Christ

where CHRIST is the chief cornerstone

1 Peter 2:7

Vol. 16, No . 31 February 4, 2024

The Last Fight

On the ruins of a theater in Ephesus there is a memorial to an athlete of the 2nd century A.D. which reads: "He fought three fights, and twice was crowned." Watch out for that last step! You see, those "athletes" fought to the death. A man's last fight was always fatal. So, the crown meant only that one changed opponents; and sooner or later the last would slay him.

What a difference in this crown, and that of the apostle Paul: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day..." (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

Paul did more than fight "unto death" — he fought unto life, eternal. If his fight of faith cost him his earthly life, it only meant he was now free to claim the crown that counted most (Revelation 2:10, 2 Cor. 5:6ff.). How different from those who die without hope.

Paul sought an enduring victory — one that could not be taken from him. He exhorted Timothy, "Lay hold on eternal life..." (1 Timothy 6:12). This called for training, perseverance, and above all, self-control (1 Corinthians 9:24-27). The athlete trained his body only to prolong the day when it would fail him; but Paul trained his that it might better serve the Lord, and thus serve his eternal purposes.

We are all engaged in some sort of battle, and in a very real sense it is "unto death." The fatalist, the fool, resigns himself to shortchange. Though he fights →

from front page

3,000 times, he can expect but 2,999 temporal crowns, not one of which he can take with him beyond that last fight. The futility of it all is enough to make a man throw in the towel.

The Faith gives purpose to life. The Christian fights, hard and often. But he has submitted himself to God's will, "strives lawfully" (2 Timothy 2:5), and his fight is never in vain. Jesus Christ has provided for him a crown, and not for him only, "but unto all them also that love his appearing."

Memorials

Oh pray that I should be so vain!
The very thought to entertain.
That some might want to remember me,
and build some image for posterity.

Or mark the spot that holds my pall
with marble or granite standing tall.
Oh, hear this ones living lament.
On such a venture waste not a cent.

Just lay me by on some grassy knoll
Where children play and people stroll.
Mark not the spot to show a death,
But place me near life, living and breath.

For my memorial would a living one be.
For all who remember and my life did see.
Not for generations eons hence,
To stare at and try to make sense.
For all ones deeds of honesty and love
Are already known by God above. *-John Hurt*

To err is human. To blame it on someone else is even more human.

News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. We've been asked to pray for **Amy Cooper's** cousin, **Shelly Vanderslice** who has cancer and is undergoing chemo ... **Debbie Spencer** has an appointment this week in Little Rock for back pain on Feb. 6... .. **Frances Jones** is to have a procedure to fuse some vertebrae in her back...Prayers are requested for **Mary Hamilton**, a member at New Haven, she is very sick and needs our prayers... **Karen Livesay** has been receiving botox treatments for migraines and they postponed her upper GI that was scheduled for January 29... **Virginia Bishop's** next appointment is on Feb 14...Prayers are requested for a friend of **Lavada Crisler, Jonnas Harding...Beverly Allen** is not receiving treatments at this time for her Lukemia but is being monitored.....**Pat Spencer** continues chemo treatments... Remember to pray for **Chloe Humblet** who is away from home for some extended treatment **Shut-ins: Rhea Vines** (at Roger's house)...**Gail Brooks** 423 Lawrence Hall, Walnut Ridge... **Rita Kieffer**, St. Bernard Village, ...**Shirley Coots**, Lawrence County Nursing (hospice care)... **Joyce Riley** at St. Elizabeth's Place... **Bob and Jean Evans** at home...**Betty Shrable** at home. Pray for these!

PODCAST! Hear a lesson from God's word each morning from John Mundy on Facebook & YouTube, 8 am., or you can catch it throughout the day.

LEADERSHIP. There are still copies of John's introductory lesson on **Leadership** available on the credenza. Get one!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS. 3rd – Shirley Coots; 5th – Jean Evans; 6th – Melissa Cassidy, Matt Sullivan; 9th – Creed Moody; 11th – Chris Cassidy; 12th – Leon Christenberry, Ashley Ladyman; 13th – Michael Cureton; 15th – LaNelle Morgan, Crockett Murphy; 18th – Pat Markle; 20th – Betty Shrable; 21st – Rita Kieffer, Melissa Pierce; ,22nd – Canaan Cassidy; 25th – Sara Beth Campbell, Ronald Dunman

Without God nothing is significant. With Him, nothing is insignificant.

Envy is the art of counting the other fellow's blessings instead of your own.
