

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.
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Office (870) 933-9134

Elders

Kemuel Camp	(870) 930-6970
Scott Stubblefield	(870) 934-8874

Deacons

Phillip Cassidy	(870) 623-2588
Jeff Ladyman	(479) 236-5365
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



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When two [stories] became one...

In the Jesus story of the good shepherd, the lost sheep strayed OUTSIDE - away from the flock. In the Jesus story of the lost coin, the prized possession is lost INSIDE the house. In the first, the sheep wandered off; in the second, the coin stayed near. Do you see what He did?

You can be lost in the wilderness of exile and ruin -wandering far from the center of faith. You can also be lost right inside God's house And. Never. See. It. Lost outside or lost inside -does it matter which? Lost is lost. That's the whole point.

With the telling of those stories, Jesus then tells the third.

"A certain man had two sons..." What follows isn't the story of one prodigal, but two. The younger prodigal wandered away from faith and family -he's the sheep lost (story #1). The older prodigal was just as lost inside his father's house -he's the coin lost (story #2). In the prodigal parable, He merges the stories.

Why? Because lost is lost -outside or inside.

The Pharisees were aghast. The very idea that they -the keepers of the Law, the staunchly religious, the bend-over-until-you-fall-over holy ones- they were lost? Preposterous! That's when He launched into the third story, "A certain man had two sons..." Count them: TWO. One lost outside; one lost inside. Taking the force of the two stories merging into a third, here it is: you are worth being found. You? Me? Yes!

Outside or inside, "I came to seek and save the _____. " -Wilson Adams

Another "Take" On The Younger Brother The Prodigal Son, Luke 15:11-24

Few preachers have not preached the three-point lesson on: **Sin - Sin Will Take You Farther Than You Want To Go, Keep You Longer Than You Want To Stay, And Cost You More Than You Want To Pay.** The younger brother is a prime example.

Sin took him farther than he wanted to go. He took his journey into a FAR country. He wanted to wipe the thoughts of home completely out of his mind, but geographical distance cannot erase memories no matter how far you may go. Fortunately, it was that memory that saved him and helped bring him to his senses. He probably never dreamed that he would lose all of his friends when he lost all of his money. Or that he would be feeding these unclean swine. That had to be repulsive.

Sin kept him longer than he wanted to stay. He was in a place that he didn't want to be, long after his inheritance ran out, which he had wasted on riotous living. He surely didn't want to be there during a famine when the food had run out. These swine had it better than he did! He would have eaten their food, but no man gave unto him.

Sin cost him more than he wanted to pay. When he left home he felt good and had plenty of money. He now has to make that long journey back - penniless, starving, and probably smelling like hogs, having lost all dignity. But the experience was humbling. And that's what it takes to admit our wrongs and dependence on God - humility. Where God is, is where home is.

An additional thought while we're still here. Parents ,your children will be leaving the nest much sooner than you realize. If they go astray, will the thoughts of a good home bring them to their senses? Or will it drive them farther into bitterness, rebellion, and corruption? It will be too late then to put that memory there. Do it now! There are some things, that if we don't do them when we can, then the opportunity is gone forever. **-db**

News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. ...**Pat Spencer** (Jerry's mom) is doing better with her chemo treatmentsg...**Jack Ladyman** and **Heath** have both been sick but things are looking better.... **Steve Land's** mother , **Lila Lands**, has been dismissed from the hospital...**Konor Erickson's** grandmother (Phyllis) has stabilized since her stroke... **Creed Moody** will be having another hearing test.....Remember **Virginia Bishop** is still having health issues. Also her mother, **Ruby Vanhooser** has been in the hospital but is now at home... **Courtney Harbin** has a broken collarbone and is having to wear a sling...**Charles Wayne French** (Nola Christenberry's brother) continues to battle cancer. **Sandra Stubblefield** took a bad fall recently but is doing much better..... Remember our shut-ins: **Madonna Vines** is confined at home.. **Bob** and **Jean Evans** are also confined at home...**Gail Brooks** and **Rita Kieffer** are both at St. Bernard Village...**Shirley Coots** at Lawrence County Nursing (hospice care)... **Joyce Riley** is at St. Elizabeth's Place... Remember all of these in prayer.

GOSPEL MEETINGS (Mark your calendar!)

April 9-14 - STONERIDGE - Wilson Adams

April 16-20 - Jonesboro (Northside) - Jacob Holman

April 23-28 - Kennett MO (Westside)) - Mike Prestininzi

April 28-30 - Mt. Home (Hwy 5) - Bruce Reeves

June 4-9 - Village Creek (Paragould) - Daniel Sanders

PODCAST! Hear a lesson from God's word each morning from John Mundy on Facebook & YouTube, 8 am.

GROUP MEETING. Group 1 will meet on April 15, 5:30, at **Travis's & JaNae's.**



