**Times of Services**

**Sunday** **Wednesday**

 9:00 a.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Bible Study

10:00 a.m. Worship



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**Other Study and Worship Opportunities**

* **The Pines/Cady Hills Bible Study -Sun. & Thurs. at 7:00 p.m.**
* **Young Bible Scholars –To be announced.**
* **Lady’s Bible Classes at YMCA – To be announced.**
* **Sunday Sermon is recorded and placed on Darrell Powell’s Facebook page and can be viewed later when posted.**
* **Second Sunday Neighborhood Bible Study – 3:30 p.m. TBA**
* **Third Sunday – Trinity Care Home Service - 1:30 p.m.**
* **Fourth Sunday Song Service following 10:00 a.m. sermon**

### East Columbus Bulletin

**Desires of a Godly Father**

"*As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a loyal heart and with a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever*" (1 Chronicles 28:9).

Before passing away, the aged King David calls an assembly of Israel’s leaders to announce the plan to build a house for God. His son Solomon has been chosen by God to undertake this task.

The expression here is one of strong emotion. A father who feels that his time is passing is expressing high hopes for his son. David will not confine his remarks to Solomon regarding his regal duties. Being acquainted with human nature, and knowing of life’s challenges, David expresses a desire for Solomon to be of a right heart, and to trust and to serve God.

Devoutness to God in embraces two things: 1) a knowledge of God, and 2) a habit of continual service to Him. A deep knowledge of God includes an intelligent understanding of His nature. One must understand that God is holy, pure, and ever present. He condemns our sin and ingratitude, and welcomes our tender, penitent hearts.

But then a true and deep knowledge of God will lead to serving him with a "*loyal heart and a willing mind*." The profession of Christians includes deeds of kindness, proper decorum in our homes, and on the job, and in the church. If all of these deeds are according to God’s instructions, they are accepted by him through Jesus Christ (1 Peter 2:5).

A prerequisite to true knowledge and service is a "*perfect heart*" and a "*willing mind*." A perfect heart would be one that is undivided. It is wholly focused on God at all times, and unwavering regardless of circumstances. The willing mind is one that desires only to please God.

David at last reminds his son that God knows what is in his heart. This great "Heart Searcher" is there to rule every sphere of our life. He searches our hearts for he is graciously interested in us. He lovingly holds us accountable to his high and noble purposes. And we can either view him as a terror or a blessing.

As I read these words, I ask what more would a godly father desire of his children? Our heavenly father wishes us for us to know him and to serve him willingly.
 **George Slover, Moment with the Master, 5-5-20**

**God Sometimes Does Things By Allowing Them To Happen**

2 Samuel 24:1 reads, "*And again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he moved David against them to say, Go, number Israel and Judah*." But 2 Chronicles 21:1 says, "*And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel*." How can both passages be true? Was it God or Satan who provoked David to do a census of the people?

"2 Samuel 24:1 must be understood in terms of what God allowed Satan to do, not direct action on the part of God" (Kyle Pope). So sometimes God does things by allowing Satan or man to do it. Another good example is "*Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him*" in Isaiah 53:10. It is not that God directly bruised Jesus, but he allowed the Jews to do it via the crucifixion of Christ by the Roman soldiers. And, God didn’t take pleasure in the torturous death of Christ. Instead, the verse is saying God was pleased with the results – the eternal salvation of mankind (for those who accept it – John 3:16).
 **Patrick Donahue**

**While the World Falls Apart**

The person who trusts in God is not falling apart. Why? “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea” (Psalm 46:1-2). There is a resource, “a river” that flows through our hearts to make us glad (verse 4). That river refreshes us. We have a “city” that is centered around God. Our citizenship is in heaven (Philippians 3:20f). We know we are only pilgrims passing through here. So, while we will try to do good for our temporal residence here, we are not so invested in this world that all our hope and happiness is dependent on it. Promote fairness, honesty, righteousness while here, but remember where your true citizenship is, and let its river refresh your heart and soul!
 **Terry Wane Benton**

**Give Me the Truth!**

If you are my friend, if you are concerned about my soul, give me the truth.

Do not flatter me. Do not praise my virtues while remaining silent about my vices. Do not fear that the truth will offend me. Do not treasure our friendship, our friendly relations, above my salvation. Do not think that by ignoring my sins you can help. Do not think that being blind to my sins will prove yourself charitable.

However I may react to it, whatever may be my attitude toward you
 after you have done it, give me the truth! For the truth, and only the truth, can make men free from the shackles of sin, strengthen me in the pathway of righteousness, and lead me to the joys of heaven.

If I am wavering, weak, lukewarm, indifferent, neglectful; if I have been overtaken in a trespass, if I have been drawn into the pleasures of the world; if I have left my first love; if I have been led astray by
error; or if I have done none of these, but simply need to grow in knowledge and be edified, give me the truth!
 **Bill Crews**

**News and Notes**

* **Prayer Requests:** Patsy Chunn, Jim Ratcliff, Wade McCrary, Doug Wheeler, Steve and LaNette Coburn, Mike Butler, Lee Gallop, the Andy Elliott Family Steve and Nikki Coburn.
* **Sick**: Steve Coburn is undergoing medical diagnostic tests. Patsy Chunn is taking cancer medications. Marion Butler is having lung infection issues. Mike Butler is homebound with multiple health issues.
* **Deaths**: Charles Craig, father of Nikki Coburn passed away on January 28th. Nikki is daughter-in-law to Steve and LaNette Coburn. Gregg Gravitt, preacher at Gardendale, AL who recently held a meeting at North Columbus church was killed in a motorcycle crash January 19th. Greg was a close friend of Sid Latham who formerly preached at East Columbus.

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