

## Crossville Church of Christ

P.O. Box 211

Crossville, TN 38557

Phone

484-5297 or 484-2960

Fax 707-0025

### Elders:

Frank Bohannon  
Jiggs Killgore  
Jonathan Loveday  
Larry McDuffee  
Brian McLaughlin  
Jon Tatum

### Deacons:

Jim Bell  
Charles Evans  
Kyle Fairman  
Dale Hennessee  
Mike Isaacson  
David Kerley  
Doug Loveday  
Greg Maxwell  
Don Napier  
Tom Parham  
Mark Roberts  
Roger Smith  
Jason Wyatt  
Jerry Wood

### Ministers:

Barry Kennedy  
Ken Mears

### Missionaries: (India)

Don Iverson  
Jim Waldron

### Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9 AM
Sunday Worship	10 AM
	6 PM
Wednesday	6 PM

### OTHER ACTIVITIES:

<b>Ladies Bible Class</b>	
Tuesdays	11AM
<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	
Tuesdays	10 AM
<b>Joyful Generation</b> <b>(Youth Devotional &amp; fellowship)</b>	
1st Sunday	7:00 PM

# COMPASS

Using God's Word to Chart The Course  
Of A Congregation

[www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org)

Email: [Office@crossvillechurchofchrist.org](mailto:Office@crossvillechurchofchrist.org)

[Elders@crossvillechurchofchrist.org](mailto:Elders@crossvillechurchofchrist.org)



October 11, 2015

Most modern freedom is at root fear. It is not so much that we are too bold to endure rules; it is rather that we are too timid to endure responsibilities.

**G. K. CHESTERTON**

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man" (Ecclesiastes 12:13).



# FAITH THAT WILL MOVE MOUNTAINS

**Barry Kennedy**

This title is in reference to the words of our Lord Jesus Christ. *“Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith”* (Mark 11:22, 23). Many people read these scriptures and never take what is being said seriously. On the other hand, some take this to mean that God will miraculously move a literal mountain for any person with great faith. Which is it, and can one assume that God does everything the true believer asks?

First, one must consider that the subject of Jesus’s statement has to do with man’s faith. Jesus said, *“Have faith in God”* (Mark 11:22). Notice the personal responsibility Jesus placed upon Peter, and all men for that matter. *“You”* have faith in God. He did not say, *“Wait for God to fill you with faith.”* Mankind has a God given exhortation to choose faith in God that comes by hearing His word (Romans 10:17; 2Timothy 2:15). This is of great importance when one considers the fact that a lack of faith makes it impossible to please God. *“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him”* (Hebrews 11:6). There is only one way for mankind to have faith in God, and that is through studying God’s word. If one is ever going to find the faith that moves mountains, it will be through countless hours of studying the word of God. Do we really have faith in God?

Second, did God actually mean that the faith of a human can move a literal mountain? One would do well to remember that Jesus sought spiritual change in His followers that would impact their physical lives (Matthew 5-7). Faith begins in the heart of man and the actions then follow (Proverbs 23:7). Man has accomplished many things that just a few years earlier would have seemed impossible (i.e. computers, cell phones, and yes even equipment that can move mountains). However, Jesus had a deeper meaning with His reference to mountains. One should remember that there will always be mountains of temptation in the way of God’s people. People tend to see temptation as a direct plague from Satan himself. That’s not to say that Satan is not involved, but this view often leads one to the impression that there is no personal responsibility, or in other words, *“the Devil made me do it.”* James had somewhat to say about temptation. *“But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed”* (James 1:14). Therefore, Jesus is saying that man can move that mountain of sin and temptation with God’s help. Of course, the word of God and prayer are key elements. *“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee”* (Psalm 119:11). *“Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them”* (Mark 11:24).

Every person who has ever walked, or will walk, this earth has a great need for faith. Sadly, many fail to realize this need until it is too late. Jesus was trying to prepare His disciples to be proactive in their faith. Any country would be foolish to wait until they are attacked to start preparing an army. In like fashion, the Lord’s church is the army of God, and thus, God’s soldiers should be prepared. Life is the battle for the soul, and Satan is the greatest foe to ever stand in opposition of the forces of good. Jesus simply wanted (and still wants) to make ready His forces to stand in the hour of trial. May God help us not wait to be in the clutches of Satan’s snares to try and get prepared. Be proactive and God will bless us to have the **“FAITH THAT WILL MOVE MOUNTAINS.”**



## HOW TO MAKE GOD SICK

Neal Pollard

When speaking of God's attributions and actions, the Bible often resorts to a literary device called anthropomorphism (where human characteristics or behaviors are attributed to God—"the hand of God," "the eyes of the Lord," etc.). But, there is one personification that's absolutely terrifying. Jesus utilizes it in describing the spiritual condition of Laodicea. He says, "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth" (Rev. 3:15-16). Some translations, knowing "vomit" is felt to be too strong and graphic to the sensitivities of some readers, have gone the more antiseptic route by translating it "spit." But the Greeks had a word for the phrase "spit out" (you find that word translated in John 9:6, Mark 7:33, and Mark 8:23).

It has been said that what makes God sick often is what makes our culture tick. When you look at the Laodiceans, they were guilty of the following:

- Indifferent to mission (Rev. 3:15-16).
- Incorrect in self-analysis (Rev. 3:17).
- Insensitive to need (Rev. 3:17).
- Impenitent (Rev. 3:19).

Certainly, the world is blind to God's purpose for their lives, is numb to its true spiritual condition, and is deaf to the biblical plea to repent and depend on God and His will. But these words are directed to Christians as a warning to us. Our mission is to engage in the work He has us on earth to do, which is not to accumulate wealth, indulge in fleshly pleasures, and pursue the honor and praise of this world. Our need for God's strength and help every step of the way must drive us to depend on Him and repent of a lack of zeal for and involvement in the work He has called us to do as Christians.

When we get so wrapped up in this world that we ignore His mission, when we get so conditioned to rely on our assets and attributes that we ignore His power, and when we get so hard-hearted that we ignore His grace and forgiveness, we make God sick. No matter how you look at that, the very thought is just chilling! He loves us, pleads with us, and wants to reward us (Rev. 3:19-22). But that requires us to live differently from those ancient Laodiceans. We must let Scripture properly diagnose our spiritual condition or it will make God sick.

## CHRISTIANS MUST REMAIN FAITHFUL

Charles Box

Christians must respect God's admonition concerning faithfulness. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." (Revelation 2:10) We must desire, purpose and plan to remain faithful to God. Paul wrote, "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:13-14) Faithfulness to God requires a strong personal commitment to God. Are you faithful and ready for the Judgment Day?

