

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:

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

COMPASS

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

www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org

Email: Office@crossvillechurchofchrist.org

Elders@crossvillechurchofchrist.org



May 24, 2015

TURN IT AROUND

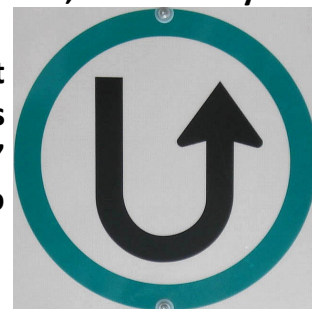
David Pharr

"Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country!" This challenge, made famous during the Kennedy presidency, suggests a like principle which should guide every Christian's attitude toward the church. We should be less concerned about what is being done for US and more attentive to what we are doing for others.

Ask not, therefore...

- whether this is a good congregation to be a member of, but ask whether I am a good member of the congregation.
- how much I am loved, but how much love have I shown.
- how many get well cards I received, but how many I have sent to others.
- who visited me, but who have I visited.
- how much I get out of classes, but how much I contribute to make the classes interesting and edifying.
- whether I was remembered in prayer, but whether I faithfully prayed for others.
- who did or did not speak to me, but how many others I greeted.
- whether my good work is recognized, but whether I have given honor to whom honor is due.
- how many of my prayer requests God has granted, but how grateful have I been for His innumerable blessings.
- to what extent my deeds have profited me now, but how my life will be remembered when I am gone.

"Look not every man on his own thing, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus" who "came not to be ministered unto, but to minister" (Phil. 2:4-5; Matt. 20:28).



THE WOLF SHALL DWELL WITH THE LAMB

Gary Colley

The prophetic words of Isaiah 11:6-7 have caused many questions, especially whether or not it is to be taken literally: "And the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox."

The rationalist and premillennialism refer to this literally as what will happen in the "coming millennial period," or that perhaps it has already literally happened in the time of Isaiah. Evidently, they think, in some unknown way to us, this would be beneficial to mankind for the wolf to dwell with the lamb literally, etc., but when asked of what possible benefit this could be to man, they have no answer.

Clearly, this beautiful and figurative language is prophetically to be understood. The several metaphors and allegories are spoken while looking forward to the rule of Christ. The lessons pictured of peace in the kingdom of Christ are to be learned from these rich truths.

The wolf is known for being an uneasy, ravenous animal, which attacks the sheepfold! The lamb is usually devoured by the wolf. The leopard follows or stalks a kid in order to overcome and finally kill. It is a known fact that the lion, the king of the beast, is able to kill and carry away an ox. For these to "dwell" or "lie down" together would represent one of the greatest of changes in the known practices of these animals.

From the context we understand that the Messiah is described as the "shoot out of the stock of Jesse" (Isa. 11:1), which shows that He is from the Royal Family of David, son of Jesse. Centuries later, Christ came, as also predicted in Micah 5:2. These figures represented men who conducted their lives like these animals.

Then is given the description of the Kingdom, where men who formerly acted like wild beasts, as Saul of Tarsus, would grow tame, with peace and harmony resulting in Christ, in the church! "For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of God, as the waters cover the sea" (Isa. 11:9). This corresponds with Jesus' giving of the Great Commission and saying in the Sermon on the Mount, "The meek shall inherit the earth" (Matt. 5:5), that is, by their teaching. Even the angels said at his birth, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Lk. 2:14). Among those who formerly were as dangerous as deadly reptiles, after conversion and entering the Kingdom, the most helpless are safe, because of the wonderful effects of the Gospel in the hearts of men under our Saviour's rule (Rom. 6:16-18).

We exhort all who have not entered the Kingdom by obedience (Jn. 3:5) to obtain these blessings for themselves!



WHY DOES THE CHURCH EXIST?

Edd Sterchi

Why does the Lord's church exist? For what purpose did He build and purchase it? What does Jesus want us as His body to be doing? A study of the Scriptures will reveal that the church exists to:

- **Exalt God.** Ephesians 3:21 mentions that God is given glory in the church. The church exalts God through proper worship and actions that honor Him. Everything what the church does should be to the glory and praise of the One who created it. The church is to always be offering spiritual sacrifices to God (1 Peter 2:5).

- **Evangelize The World.** In Acts 13-14 (as well as many other places in that book), we see Paul and company preaching the word of God to lost souls. This was a church sponsored mission (Acts 13:1-3; 14:27) which was in obedience to the Great Commission of Christ (Matt. 28:18-20). The church evangelizes through proper preaching and teaching. The church is the keeper and proclaimer of the truth (1 Tim. 3:15).

- **Edify The Believers.** In Eph. 4:16, we can see that when the body (the church) is joined together, encouragement and edification take place. These are to take place every time the church properly gathers and fellowships. This helps to keep the church energized which affects so many others (2 Cor. 9:2).

- **Equip The Saints.** Ephesians 4 also gives us another thing that should take place in the church – equipping the saints for service (v.12). It is vital that the church be developing it's members for the most effective use of their talents. This comes about through proper education, mentoring, and training programs (cf. 2 Tim. 2:2).

- **Ease The Burdens Of The Needy.** In 2 Corinthians 9:13, Paul commends the church at Corinth for their “liberal sharing with...all men.” The church should be concerned about helping those in need, both within and without. The church does this through proper benevolence programs and projects. This helps to get the name of the church (and her Lord) out in the community (Acts 2:44-47).

Obviously after studying these, it begs the question: “Why does the church here exist?” Are we glorifying God in all of our efforts of the above? Could we do more as a congregation? Are you helping this church in these areas? Let's resolve to do all that God asks us to do – in His name, by His authority, for His glory! ~ Edd Sterchi ~ Via Bulletin Gold

