



## The Good Word

We are to hear and obey the word of God! The Master said, "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it" (Luke 11:28). We are often admonished from the pulpit and in Bible class to study and apply the Bible daily. This is good advice for the Bible is "the good word of God" (Hebrews 6:5).

The word "good" (*kalos*) suggests that it is morally valuable and virtuous for use. The following references remind us why the Bible is "the good word of God" and worthy of our devotion:

**The good word is called "the Holy Scriptures"** (2 Timothy 3:15). The American Standard Version calls it, "the sacred writings." "The good word" is inspired, i.e., "God-breathed" (verse 16).

**The good word is called "the oracles of God"** (1 Peter 4:11). "Oracles" means "utterances"—the "utterances of God." It is not "the word of men, but as it is in truth, the Word of God" (1 Thessalonians 2: 13).

**The good word is called "the words of Christ"** (Colossians 3:16). We will be judged by His words (John 12:48).

**The good word is called "the word of truth"** (2 Timothy 2:15). His word is truth, and it alone can make us free (John 17:17; 8:32).

What does (should) "the good word" mean to our lives? It is the SEED sown in our hearts that brings life, productivity, and maturity (Luke 8:11,15). It is the SWORD that the Spirit provides for us to use in the battles of life (Ephesians 6:17). It is the MILK that nourishes us when we are spiritual babes (1 Peter 2:2). It is the MEAT that strengthens us so that we can discern good and evil (Hebrews 5:14).

James 1:21-25 gives a great summary of what "the good word" does in our lives and how we are to respond to it. It is to be received with meekness and implanted in our hearts (verse 21). It is to be applied — not just heard (verse 22). We are to use it to examine and correct our lives (verses 23-25). Doing this brings God's blessing (verse 25) and saves our souls (verse 21). The Bible is indeed "the good word of God!"

- Dwight Fuqua, Findlay church of Christ, Sparta, TN (via *Bulletin Digest*) -

Write it on your heart that every day is the best day of the year. - Ralph Waldo Emerson

## News & Notes

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:** *Sunday:* Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m. *Wednesday:* Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.

**FACE COVERINGS REQUIRED:** By request of our Elders, for **EVERYONE** in **ALL** of our assemblies regardless of where seated.

**SYMPATHY:** To the family of **Ilene Rayl** at her recent passing. She was a faithful member of this congregation for many years until moving to Florida. May God comfort the family.

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Each **Tuesday** at 7:00 p.m.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** Next **Saturday, Feb. 5th, 8:00 a.m.** at EJ's.

**PANTRY:** Pork and beans.

**PICTURE GALLERY OF PAST MEMBERS:** Submit pictures (black and white or color) to David Malcomson.

**REQUEST FOR PRAYERS:** **Linda Parkes** (upcoming radiation treatments), **Lori Rowan** (John Sprout's niece), Stage 4 lung cancer. **SICK & SHUT-IN:** **Weirton Medical:** **Tim Adkins, Mike West, Marie Lott** (Charlotte Jones' sister), **George Cox** (husband of Nancy). **City Hospital:** **Linda Wiersbicki.** **At Home:** **Kevin Richmond, Terri Patterson-Covid, Barbara DeLong, David McCoy, Marlene Evans, Russell Martin, Claudette Miller, Jim & Linda Hall** (members at Southern Hills).

## Looking Unto Jesus

If you have ever watched a choral group or orchestra, you will note one thing each member always does – they look at the conductor from time to time. This is to insure that they are in harmony and performing in accordance with the conductor's directive.

As members of the church, we make up a group that is performing before God. And as such, we must look to Him and His word for proper guidance concerning practice and harmony. When we turn the whole focus of our attention to our Lord and acknowledge that He is in command, and perform in spirit and truth in accordance with His will, our lives will give forth a song that is beautiful music to His ears. Sadly, too many people (and churches) focus on the world and let worldly influences lead them. Doing so is a recipe for disharmony and disaster. Let us be reminded of the need to follow Christ and His will only in everything we do.

"If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:1-2).

"...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith..." (Heb. 12:1-2).

- Edd Sterchi, Broadway church of Christ, Campbellsville, KY (via *Bulletin Digest*) -