

Vibrant Worship

Apparently, many are bored with church! They say, "I don't get anything out of it!" Isn't that the wrong question? It is not, "What can I get from it?" but "What can I bring to it?" Worship is not as much **getting** as it is **giving**.

Note the summons of Hebrews 10:22:

1. "Let us draw near."

That's the call to worship. The worshipper needs to be prepared.

2. "With a true heart."

That's the sincerity of the worshipper. God wants the heart of the worshipper. He wants the **whole** heart—not just your presence, not just your voice, not your money. He wants a **sincere** heart.

3. "In full assurance of faith."

Come with faith, assurance, and conviction. God is the rewarder of them who seek Him (Hebrews 11:6).

4. "Having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience."

That's humility! Come with a lowly, contrite heart! Come with a sense of need!

5. "And our bodies washed with pure water."

God calls for purity of life. The baptized believer is washed in the blood of the Lamb and knows that a clean life and effective worship go together (Romans 12:1).

The next time you're tempted to say, "I don't get anything from the worship," read Hebrews 10:22 and ask yourself, "What do I bring to it?"

- Author Unknown, *Bulletin Digest* -

DO YOU REALLY CARE?

It is hard for us to conceive of a person not giving eternal realities serious thought. Yet that is true of the masses of people today. An agnostic once said that when people have comfortable homes, good food, and money for pleasure, they will not be much concerned about God, or life after death.

As we look around us today, we must admit that there is more truth than poetry in what he said. In these days of prosperity, the vast majority have little or no time for God, and give little, and perhaps no thought to the things which concern the life to come.

Even many professed Christians show little wholehearted devotion to Him, and very little genuine concern for the lost, and heartbreak over sin is a rarity.

Ask yourself, "What is my attitude? Am I really concerned about my eternal welfare so that I put forth my best efforts? Or am I more concerned about the things of this life?"

Remember your eternal destiny is in YOUR hands.

- Henry Towell, *Bulletin Digest* -

ONE DAY AT A TIME

We worry about our tomorrows
Oft missing the joys of today
Troubled about what may happen
Yet tomorrow, may not come our way.

Life's pathway is ever uncertain
"Right now" is what's yours and mine.
The future is safe in God's keeping
We can live but one day at a time.

- Author Unknown -

*Sometimes we are so busy adding up our troubles
that we forget to count our blessings.*

The one who lives for this life only will have eternity to regret it.

News & Notes

NOTICE: Effective today and until further notice, ALL classes will meet in the auditorium while our renovations are ongoing.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER & EARLY AFTERNOON SERVICE: TODAY, about noon at the Fellowship Building followed by our **early afternoon service at 2:00 p.m.** at the church building.

SYMPATHY: To Charlie & Barb DeLong at the passing of Charlie's brother-in-law, Chuck Howell, and to Russell & Margie Martin at the passing Russell's brother-in-law, Clairel Tingler. God bless and comfort these families.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, Jan. 11th, 8:30 a.m. at the Church of Christ, Columbiana, OH. Sign-up sheet on the desk.

EVENTS SUSPENDED: The following are temporarily suspended until further notice during our building renovations:

- Ladies Bible Class (Room 206).
- ALL Classes except auditorium class
- Up Front Bible drills (Sunday evenings).
- Care and Share Bears (Tuesday mornings).
- Men's Enrichment Bible Class (Tuesday evenings),
- Membership Directory (pictures and updates).

PANTRY: Peanut butter & jelly.

SEND CARDS & PRAYERS: Fonda Parker (Latisha's sister), Delaney Park Health & Rehab Center, 214 Annie St, Orlando, FL 32806. Fonda thanks and appreciates all who signed the get well card from the class.

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS: Lucas Barnhart (2 year old great grandson of Carolyn Pallard). Lucas has multiple health issues and will undergo testing.

- SICK & SHUT-IN: CITY HOSPITAL: Ruth Hartzell. **CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE:** Carol Stillwell. **AT HOME:** Docie Moore, Emma Rine, Russell Martin, Blondenia Orr, Joann Webb, Doris Dunham, Mary Jane Bowers, Alex Harless, Chris Lamb (David Roach's sister). **BRIGHTWOOD CENTER:** Rich Robinson, 840 Lee Rd., Room 242, Follansbee, WV 26037. **FOX:** Tom Postlethwait. **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller. **VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER:** Fred Larrimore, (Room 210). **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

Loyalty To The Lord

Of all the noble traits a Christian may possess, surely **loyalty** is one of the most important! We should never give our Lord any reason to doubt our total fidelity to Him and His cause!

God has been so good to us, and has proven Himself a thousand times over as the One in whom we can have 100% confidence. He has never been "faithless" in all His dealings with His people, nor shall He ever be! Even if we are faithless, "**he abideth faithful!**" (2 Tim. 2:13) "**God is faithful ... in Him is yes!**" (2 Cor. 1:18-19; Lam. 3:22-23).

Therefore, in view of God's eternal steadfastness, and the need for us to respond to Him with love and gratitude, may we never waver! Let each resolve from the deep recesses of his heart "that God can count on me ... **I'll never, no never forsake my dear Lord!**" (Remember Rev. 2:10).

- Maxie B. Boren, *Bulletin Digest* -