

August 18, 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

- AUGUST 24-25: SHOW-ME YOUTH CONFERENCE – hosted by the Conway church of Christ – see Dwight or Scott for details.
- AUGUST 25: HUDSON HOUSE SERVICE: 2:30 p.m.
- AUGUST 25: SINGING PRACTICE: 4:30 p.m. We need you there!!! (see Steve Pearce for more details)
- SEPT 15-18 – BJ CLARKE – GOSPEL MEETING
- SEPT 28 – LADIES DAY

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN?

- Hear (Romans 10:17)
- Believe (Hebrews 11:6)
- Repent (Acts 17:30)
- Confess (Acts 8:36-37)
- Be Baptized (Acts 2:38)
- Live Faithfully (Revelation 2:10)

 **Aurora**
church of Christ

"The 1st Century church, serving in the 21st Century"

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SEASHELLS AND SOULS

By: Scott Thrasher

“For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

(I Timothy 2:3-4)

It has been said that “beauty is in the eye of the beholder.” This is never more fitting than with the sport of “shelling” or seashell hunting (beach version of mushroom hunting!) People daily walk the beaches of the coastlines throughout the world. Many search for their own version of a seashell treasure. But what makes one shell worth more than another? What makes one a keeper and another a castaway?

Seashells are a lot like the composite of humanity. They wash up on the shore in a variety of colors and conditions. Some are whole, clean, bright and shiny. Other are broken, stained, obscure and dull. Yet others are found upside down, half buried in the sand and scarred from its trip. Which do you keep? Which do you pass by? “Shellers” use those attributes to help separate the “good ones” from the “less valuable”. These same “shellers” each represent a soul and would never want their soul valued by such criteria. Do we value other souls in this manner?

I hope we don’t because God has taught us how to value humanity. We serve a God that is not a respecter of persons. Paul reminded those in Christ serving in Rome that it did not matter whether they were Jews or Gentiles. Romans 2:11 reads, *“For there is no partiality with God.”* In the verse quoted at the beginning of the article, Paul reminds Timothy that God desires all men to be saved. There is no partiality with God and His grace. The Bible teaches clearly that obedience makes the difference between one being “kept” or “tossed aside”. All other attributes do not matter.

Let’s always look at people like souls (and not seashells!). People come in different shapes, sizes, colors and conditions. Yet, they all are of precious value to our Heavenly Father. “Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.” For your soul’s sake, aren’t you glad that God is the beholder?!

PRAYERS PLEASE

- Matt Turnbull
- Lovins Family
- Tabbie Jenkins – (also Steve & Cindy Dyke)
- Gene Williams
- Kids going back to school
- Doug Tacker - health
- Ryan Cline – surgery recovery
- Ashley Mayberry
- Valarie Gilmartin
- Kamryn Rocket
- Upcoming Gospel Meeting
- Ladies Day

SUNDAY

9:30 AM Bible Study
10:30 AM Morning Worship
6:00 PM Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY

7:00 PM Bible Study

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ELDERS

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DEACONS

Dale Byrom (417) 229-1390
Colby Mattox (417) 229-9073
Scott Thrasher (417) 848-7793

MINISTER

Steve Pearce – (417) 840-0693

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alby Bos

COMMUNION PREP

The Richardsons

GREETERS

Gillian Mattox & Gracie Delcour

BIBLE CLASS: 84
WORSHIP AM: 107
WORSHIP PM: 78
WEDNESDAY PM: 84

