

CHECK OUT BIBLE TALK

Short lessons from God's word are available at www.freegroups.net/groups/bibletalk. This is a free service to all and provides a quick and easy way to spend a little more time with God's word. Short messages are posted twice a week (since 2005) with lessons designed to build up Christians as well as inform non-Christians about Bible topics. Invite your friends to take a look for Bible topics that interest them. For more information, see the flyer posted on the back bulletin board.

THINK IT OVER

Never once did the Lord have a path free from trouble.

- ❖ When He went into the wilderness, He was tempted of the devil.
- ❖ When He tried to rest, the multitudes followed.
- ❖ When He taught in the synagogue, they became angry and sought to throw Him off the top of the hill.
- ❖ When He sought peace in the garden, they came with swords and led Him away to be tried.
- ❖ And those whom He loved enough to die for, crucified Him.

Yet, in spite of it all, He never grumbled about burdens. Instead, He went about doing good.

Let us be about our Father's business also.

Via Sunset Dr. Bulletin, Miami, FL

Wisdom is the reward you get for a lifetime of listening when you'd prefer to talk.



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SPIRITUAL FOOD SOURCES

TV Programs

“In Search of the Lord's Way” with Phil Sanders at 7:00 a.m. Sundays
“Good News Today” at 7:30 a.m. Sundays
“A Bible Answer” at 8:00 a.m. Sundays

Internet

Capechurchofchrist.org (<https://www.facebook.com/CapeChurchofChrist/>)
Sundays at 10:00 a.m., Sundays at 5:00 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

From Harding University: Collegechurchofchrist.org
(<https://www.facebook.com/CollegeChurchofChrist/>) Sundays at 8 a.m.

Longing for Home

Longing for home. We all know the feeling. We plan a vacation for months, excitedly detailing each day's activities. We can't sleep the night before we leave because we are so anxious to get started. We are having a wonderful time, but invariably somewhere along the way our thoughts begin to turn toward home. Vacations are fun, but it's not home. It's nice to go camping or stay in a hotel on the beach, but it's not home. How often have you said and heard, *"It's great to get away, but it's sure good to be back home."* Why? Because home is where we belong, where life is most genuine and fulfilling.

It's great to have company over the holidays. It's great to have family visit for several days. But I've often thought, *"It was sure great to see them come, but it's also great to see them go."* Why? Longing for home as it is meant to be.

I believe the Apostle Paul might have been in that frame of mind when he wrote **2 Corinthians 5**. In a sense, our life on earth can be compared to going on a vacation. We live in temporary housing. There is much to do, much to experience and enjoy, but it's not like being home. The older we get, the nearer we come to ending our *vacation* here on earth, the more we long for home. At least that's the way Paul describes it for Christians.

In **2 Corinthians 5:1-9** Paul speaks of life as being in an *"earthly tent."* Yet, while in this tent, we *"long to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling."* ... *"Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord."* ... *"Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come."*

Sometimes we are enjoying our vacation so much that we don't want to go home. We don't even want to think of home. Instead, we long to stay another day or week. We may even wish for our vacation to be permanent. That's what Satan is wanting us to believe about *vacation* here on earth. He wants us to long for a few more days here more than longing to be at home with the Lord.

That's why we are to walk by faith, not by sight. Do you *"prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord"*? Does your faith allow you to see that the *heavenly dwelling* is so much better than this present *tent*? Are you longing for home? Then make it your goal to be pleasing to Him (**2 Corinthians 5:9**).

*Joe Chesser
Fruitland Church of Christ
Jackson, MO
(used by permission)*

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

Sam's sister, Emma, who lives in Oklahoma, is battling pneumonia as well as COVID and her family also has COVID, so your prayers are requested that all may return to their normal health.

<u>OUR MEMBERS</u>	<u>FAMILY & FRIENDS</u>	<u>WEEKLY REPORT</u>
Jennis Benefield Helen Coburn Joan England (Life Care Ctr) David Mattingly (rm 308 Life Care Ctr) Mark McAllister (glioblastoma) Pat Smart (stroke/fall) Betty Tanner (shut-in) Richard & Jane Volkerding (shut-in)	Betty Allen (hospice) Donna Barnes (cancer) Tom & Mary Bollman Michele Campbell (back) Liam Clark Angie Northern Fabing Scott Hartline Karen Hubbs (brain cancer) Chris Hutson Suzanne Meert (cancer) Kevin Plemons (brain tumor) Henry Sessoms (COVID) Barry Tate (stroke) Scott Taylor (cancer) Donna Thieman (cancer) Tony Wells	Sunday a.m. Worship: 45 Contributions: \$2,731.00 Budget: \$3,059.12 Family First: \$0 Please remember to leave your contribution in the tray on the table at the back of the auditorium.

DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE

The new directories are available at the back of the auditorium. There is already a correction to make. Jerry Keele's new email was left out, so replace the old email address with jerrykeele@charter.net, please. Also, if you would like a small booklet directory, let Karen know. There are a few that are available.

CHILDREN'S HOME

Thanks to all who donated to the Children's Home. The new list of items includes Chocolate Chips, Instant Potatoes, Canned Mushrooms, Powdered Sugar, Snack Crackers and Rotel. The next pick up will be in April.

<u>Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries</u>	
Jan. 24 – Johnna Potter	Jan. 25 – Glenna Ervin