

MEETING TIMES

Bible Study.....9:30 AM
Morning Worship.....10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM
Wednesday.....7:00 PM

3206 Ooltewah-Ringgold Road
Ooltewah, TN 37363

423-499-8080

Ooltewah Church of Christ

September 29, 2019

Wifi password: @r@maic1

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In the worst of times, God is working for the best of times!

How can this be? We are so down and the only way to look is up – the worst of times, and yet God is working for the best of times? We are at the “end of our rope” and the only thing we can do is tie a knot and hang on – the worst of times, and yet God is working for the best of times? The statement may appear to be contradictory, but not for the follower of God!

“The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.” (Genesis 6: 5) The worst of times – yet God is working for the best of times! Yes, mankind was destroyed, except for Noah and his family, eight souls. Yet, the lineage of the Seed of woman was preserved!

Joseph, hated by his brothers, sold into slavery, lied about, in prison, forgotten, in Egypt – away from home. The worst of times – yet God is working for the best of times. Not only the preservation of his family from famine, which meant his brother, Judah, was rescued, which meant the lineage of the Seed of woman was preserved!

Don't call me “Pleasant”, call me “Bitter” – the sentiment in Ruth 1: 20, “She said to them, ‘Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me.’” Naomi (“Pleasant”) blamed God for her worst of times and requested to be called Mara (“Bitter”). She was a widow, her two sons died, she is left with two daughter-in-laws from the country of Moab, not her home country. Ruth and Orpah, sister-in-laws, were without husbands, and without children. One daughter-in-law returns home, but not Ruth. Ruth made pledges to Naomi of constant companionship, commitment, and commemoration. In these worst of times, yet God is working for the best of times. Ruth marries Boaz, and the Seed of woman was preserved!

The Seed of woman (Jesus) is born. He keeps the law completely. He is tempted in all points like we are, but does not sin. He is completely innocent, yet is treated like a terrible criminal – whipped, beaten, mocked, spat upon, and crucified on that old rugged cross. The worst of times, yet God is working for the best of times! This has been His plan from the beginning. God laid out this plan in Genesis 3: 15. The bruising of the heel of the Seed of woman, but the bruising of the head of Satan. God raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus – the redemptive price for the sins of mankind. The propitiation (atoning sacrifice) for our sins. Jesus – the only way for salvation. Jesus commanded people, and made very clear the plan of salvation. We must take the Man, but also obey the plan!

“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called, according to his purpose.” (Rom. 8: 28) Not everything that happens is good! Wickedness was NOT good. Sold into slavery, lied about, forgotten was NOT good! Widowed, grieving, blaming God was NOT good! Treated like a criminal and crucified on an old rugged cross, physically was NOT good – but necessary. Notice in all of these situations, God worked them for good!

Things that happen to us, though not good, God works them together for good, “for those who are called according to his purpose”.

In HIM,
Larry



Dewight Rhemy - recovering from recent surgery

Sam Townsend - responded to the invitation this past Sunday

Glennon Caruthers - health issues

Caleb Brannon - 4 year old recovering from recent heart surgery

Marty Roberts - health issues, she is Rhyan Dishroom's mom

Liz Dillard - diagnosed with cancer

Cassie Howell - health issues

Patrick Cagle - needs encouragement

Nita Williams - Lindy Williams mom, dealing with serious health issues

Teresa Baker - recovering from recent hip surgery

Mary Leschak - diagnosed with breast cancer, Rhyan Dishroom's aunt

Marlin Graves - suffering from dementia and Parkinson's disease

Ann Benefield - serious health issues

Burton "Bo" Fuller - on hospice

Joe Morgan - health issues

Kathryn Caylor - health issues

Sue Ondercin - undergoing treatment for cancer

Frank Caruthers - health issues

Rita McDonald - long term health issues

Sue Yerbey - long term health issues

Ooltewah Card Program

Please be sure to stop by the fellowship hall today between services to sign the cards. Parents & teachers, please encourage you kids to sign too. Thanks!

DID YOU KNOW??

Did you realize that we have pre-packaged single serve bread and juice available for those who may need to take it home to a loved one who is unable to get out but would like to take communion? Please see Ty McGee if you need to pick one up.

Directory Update

J.J. Winston's new email address:
jjsw9687@outlook.com



Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Sat., October 5th at 9:00 a.m.

Ty and Lori will be cooking

Ladies Class & Luncheon

Sat., October 5th at 9:00 & 10:00

Location: Mulberry Park Clubhouse

Lunch: Taco Salads / Haystacks

There is a sign up sheet in the foyer

VBS - Super Saturday

Saturday, October 12th

9:00 a.m. - noon

Gospel Meeting at St. Elmo Church of Christ

October 13th-16th

Speaker: David R. Pharr

Gospel Meeting at LaFayette Church of Christ

October 13th-17th

Speaker: Jim Dearman

Teen Singing at Ooltewah Church of Christ

Sunday, October 13th at 2:30

We'll need snacks & drinks for approximately 120 young folks

Elders, Deacons, Preachers Meeting Oct. 20th at 4:30 p.m.

Gospel Meeting at Riverbend Church of Christ

October 20th-23rd

Speaker: Michael Shepherd

Trunk or Treat & Chili Cookoff

Saturday, October 26th

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Cards of Encouragement Needed

Patrick Cagle
Forrest Grove Apartments #615
2350 Blackburn Road
Cleveland, TN 37311

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Lord's Supper

Winston Stringfield Larry Judd

Rhyan Dishroom Manny Crochet

A.M.

Announcements.....Ty McGee

Opening Prayer.....Lynn Carson

Lead Singing.....J.J. Winston

Scripture Reading.....Trent Jackson

Sermon.....Denny Howell

Closing Prayer.....Allen Tackett

P.M.

Announcements.....Ty McGee

Lead Singing.....J.J. Winston

Sermon/Prayers/Mission Report

Lord's Supper.....Jason Parscale

Closing Prayer.....Rhyan Dishroom

WED.

Announcements.....Denny Howell

Opening Prayer.....Melvin Wilson

Lead Singing.....J.J. Winston

Invitation.....Allen Tackett

Closing Prayer.....David Wheeler

September Usher.....Ed Maxwell

October Usher.....Winston Stringfield

September Communion Prep.

Maria & Glenda Blair

October Communion Prep.

Denny & Susan Howell

Food For Thought

*When you're hanging on by a thread,
make sure it's the hem of His garment.*



Just a Reminder

Attendance Last Week

Bible School.....66

Sunday Morning Worship.....117

Sunday Evening Worship.....53

Wednesday.....62

Ooltewah Visitation Program

Those involved with the Ooltewah Visitation Program, please fill out the card on the back table, with the number of cards sent, visits made and phone calls placed to visitors for the month of Sept. Please sign and put in the little blue basket on the back table.