

HIGHWAY 32 MESSENGER



Highway 32 Church of Christ
 1688 Tri-County Highway
 P.O. Box 642
 Williamsburg, OH, 45176
www.highway32churchofchrist.com

Elders

Lowell Smith
Ron Smith
Marc Curfman
 (513) 553-3703

Sunday Bible Class	10:00AM
Sunday Morning Assembly	11:00AM
Sunday Evening Assembly	6:00PM
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00PM

Privileged to Serve

Announcements:	Lowell Smith
Song Leader:	Tom Mayes
Prayer:	Alan Springer
Lord's Table	Frank Glover Rich Book Bruce Curfman Dwane Morton
Sermon:	Marc Curfman
Closing Prayer:	Les Smith
PM Song Leader:	Ron Smith

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	39	40
Morn. Assembly	69	67
Sun Eve.	21	28
Wednesday	13	09
Zoom Class	16	19
Contribution:	\$2723.00	\$2410.00

Men with Sheathed Swords

Have you ever considered what it takes to be a great leader? In answering that question perhaps you think of descriptions such as courage, strength, ambition, talent and wisdom. All excellent traits. What I often find amazing is what we seek in others who lead compared to what we personally practice when in the role of a leader. What I look for in someone who has "authority" over me is understanding, patience, and compassion. The unfortunate reality is what many practice is leadership through intimidation, fear, anger and above all a demand of submission to their authority.

The godless of this world rule by domination. According to Jesus, it shall not be so among you.

"Jesus said" to them, "You know that those who are recognized as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them; and their great men exercise authority over them. ⁴³"But it is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant; ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all. ⁴⁵"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." Mark 10:42-45.

So, the question each one must ask oneself is: does my leadership follow the ways of the godless or the godly? Do I ***"exercise authority"*** or am I a ***"slave of all?"*** Would anyone interpret my leadership as that of Christ?

Yes, truth is truth and right is right. But a leader's task is to shepherd and lead, not drive and intimidate. Jesus also said: ***"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."*** Matt. 11:29. The word Jesus used is *πραῦς* praus. In ancient literature this word could be used to describe a powerful stallion under the control of it's rider or to describe a warrior whose sword is sheathed. In other words, to be gentle *πραῦς* praus describes one who is actually very dangerous but with great self-control. Not one to be feared but one who is trusted. Not angry but one who uses his/her strength to encourage, build up, protect and well..., one who shows love.

James tells us: ***"for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God."*** James 1:20. What does that anger look like in reality? We've all seen it in others. They raise their voice, they clench their fist, they do not compromise, they demand, command, and threaten. Such leaders who constantly unsheathe their swords do not persuade hearts. At best they bully people into submission. In God's family, they drive away the sheep they are supposed to gather.

A godly leader does not compromise truth or righteousness. Yet a firm conviction must be accompanied with a heart of kindness and understanding. We are told by Paul: ***"The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, ²⁵with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition..."*** 2 Tim. 2:24-

25a.

Here is the most difficult part of *πραῦς* praus, keeping that sword sheathed: You will be attacked, you will be hurt, you will suffer unjust words and attacks (especially in this age of electronic media). Satan's minions never sheathe their swords. But I believe God's people and those seeking God can see the difference. Regardless, all you need to ask yourself is: Does my leadership remind people of Jesus?

marc

Welcome to Highway 32 Church,

We are a group of Christians worshipping God according to the Teaching in the New Testament. May we all worship our loving Father today with sincere hearts, open and receptive to His Spirit and His love.

May Teachers

Cradle Roll - Yvonne Glover
Pre-K-K - Sue Curfman
1st-6th - Marc Curfman

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Frank Glover

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury - 7:00pm



May Teacher
Sue Curfman

Note: Children will go to Bible Hour during the song before the morning lesson.

May Building & Communion
Frank/Yvonne Glover



Zoom Meetings - every Thursday evening at 7pm. Let Sue know if you want the link to join in.

Announcements:

Potluck Luncheon for May will be a Graduation Luncheon for Melody Watkins and Jose DeLeon on May 19th due to May 12th is Mothers Day. They will be graduating from Live Oaks on 5/14/24.

Libby Watkins will be having a tumor removed in her brain at Childrens Hospital on Thursday May 2nd. Keep her in your prayers.

We will be holding VBS on Monday July 29 – Wednesday July 31st. 5:30pm to 7:30pm. We will be needing your help. Please sign up on the list in the lobby asap or see Lindsey Stith.

Work Day is Saturday, May 4th and Ron has put a sign up sheet on the bulletin board of projects that need to be done around the building. Frank Glover will be grilling out hamburgers on the work day so come, work and enjoy a luncheon together.

Linda Shinkle's cousin passed away yesterday. Keep this family in your prayers.

Welcome David & Sandy Turpin who are making Highway 32 their home congregation. So glad to have you here serving with all of us. They are out of town this weekend. Information will be made available soon.

Jovi Harrison put on Christ in baptism on Sunday March 31st. A directory page will be coming soon. Jovi Michelle Jean Harrison
52 Sixth Street
Milford, OH 45150
Birthday: 5/2
Email: joviharrison51@gmail.com

April Birthdays

4/29 Lindsey Stith

April Anniversaries

4/28 Jeremy/Kacie Schunk

May Birthdays

5/2 Daniel Beard
5/5 Emma Boggs
5/7 Kelsey Book
5/9 Frederick Mayes
5/22 Kacie Schunk

May Anniversaries

5/23 Brian/Linda Bukvic
5/30 Ron/Myrna Smith

Continue to Remember: Mary Carrothers, Karen Smith, Carol Basham, Joyce Warman's sister, Ruth Barnes and our church family.

"The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much."