

## Serving This Week:

### Sunday Morning

**Announcements:** Brian Horner  
**Song Leader:** Kyle Richardson  
**Opening Prayer:** Ken Grandstaff  
**Lord's Supper**

**Presiding:** Brian Horner  
**Serving:** Eric Horne  
Kyle Richardson  
**Preaching:** Gavin Goriell  
**Closing Prayer:** Howell Todd

### Sunday Evening

**Opening Prayer:** Howell Todd  
**Preaching:** Singing Night  
**Closing Prayer:** Ken Grandstaff

### Wednesday Evening

**Opening Prayer:** Howell Todd  
**Devotional:** Brian Horner  
**Closing Prayer:** Ken Grandstaff

### Serving Next Sunday:

**Lord's Supper:** Ken Grandstaff  
**Preaching:** Howell Todd  
**Opening Prayer:** Howell Todd  
**Closing Prayer:** Kyle Richardson

**To all our visitors - Welcome!**  
**We hope you will come back**  
**and worship with us soon!**

## TEAM MEETINGS

**Correspondence** - Sunday evenings after worship see Kyle Richardson.

**Visitation/Bible Study** - For assignments see Brian Horner.

**Member Care** - Regarding Member needs contact Kyle Richardson.

**Flower Request** - Please call Lynda Ann Sparkman: 444.0938(h) 587.8187(c)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Singing Night!

Fellowship Meal after. Invite your friends!

## Men's Business Meeting

After services this evening.

## Pantry:

Please let Howell know of anyone in our community who needs help!

## God's Plan of Salvation

**Hear** the Word  
(Rom 10:17)

**Believe** in Jesus  
(John 8:24)

**Repent** of your sins  
(Luke 13:3)

**Confess** faith in Christ  
(Rom 10:10)

Be **Baptized** for forgiveness of sins  
(Acts 2:38)

Live **Faithfully**  
(1 Cor. 15:58)

## Daily Bible Reading

Day	Scripture
<b>Sunday</b> ( <i>Epistles</i> )	Romans 9-10
<b>Monday</b> ( <i>The Law</i> )	Genesis 16-19
<b>Tuesday</b> ( <i>History</i> )	Joshua 21-24
<b>Wednesday</b> ( <i>Psalms</i> )	Psalms 12-14
<b>Thursday</b> ( <i>Poetry</i> )	Job 9-10
<b>Friday</b> ( <i>Prophecy</i> )	Isaiah 23-28
<b>Saturday</b> ( <i>Gospels</i> )	Matthew 11-13

# Bethel church of Christ

2427 Sparta Pike, Lebanon TN 37090

<http://www.bethelcoc.net>

February 3, 2013

Sunday Bible Study: 10 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship: 11 AM

Sunday Evening Worship: 6 PM  
Wed Bible Study: 7 PM

## I'll Try Anything Once

How many times have we heard statements such as, "I'll try anything once", "if you do it, it won't kill you" or "are you chicken"? Statements like this leads to pride and then to the famous statement, "well, I'll show you". When we consider things like alcohol, tobacco, drugs, sexual activities and other such things, people forget that while this may seem so innocent to try once, some do not realize how serious it is to give into temptation, even if it is once. I mean, you talk to those who have had their voice boxes removed due to dipping and smoking, or speak to those whose lives are destroyed from alcohol. In our society today, so many think that there are such things as safe sexual activities, while not realizing the millions who suffer from sexual diseases.

Our world is saturated with those who are not responsible and they tell faithful Christians that it is no big deal to try things like this once. But, what they do not say to you is that their one time event is laced in destruction. Jesus said, *"unto the disciples, It is impossible but that offences will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come! It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones."*  
**Lk. 17:1-2.**

The world becomes a stumbling block to Christians. Tragically, Christians try things that their friends want them to try and then they become addicted who then cannot understand why they feel trapped. Obviously, the harm is not the first time, but not being aware of the possibility for harm that exist before the drink, or before dipping, or before the sexual activities. Those who struggle with the first time, they do not see the ramifications of their actions. It is a shame that they have not heard of the accidents at parties, or while driving or those who have died in a neighbor's swimming pool, or who is disoriented with an influential substance and walks over a cliff to his death.

Surely, things like this do not happen. Oh, but they do and quite often because they have the mentality that trying anything once is not that big of a deal. The world asks the Christian to throw out good judgments

(continued from page 1)...

given by God. The world does not want us to be accountable and desires us to be in a stupor on life. Now, you may think this is all silly and that perhaps you have been involved in many things like this and you may think that the odds are in your favor and that nothing bad will happen. But, how many times does it take before they lose control of a car before they ruin their life forever and those who are also affected?

Do we, our children, friends and grandchildren know that the Bible teaches the importance of avoiding even one bad decision? How many times did Eve eat the forbidden fruit which affected the entire world? Or what about king David who decided to take another man's wife and kill her husband over sexual activities? Do we not see all the consequences that came from that event? Ask Nadab and Abihu and how many times they offered strange fire (**Lev. 10:1-2**). Ask Samson if he gave in just once and what happened. Ask Moses who struck the rock instead of speaking to it. Did it keep him out of the land of promise? Do you think God is pleased when we try something that we know is wrong, just once.

It only takes one dip in your mouth and you are hooked, only one drag on a cigarette and you are caught, one drink will set you down the road of drunkenness, one sexual activity will lead to more. The point is that we must guard ourselves against doing something wrong. We must guard against the lust of the flesh and eyes. We must guard ourselves against the darts of the devil. We need to realize that no matter how many times someone may call you chicken or cries out to just do it, we must respond with a resounding NO! Let them know of the consequences and that the risks outweigh temporary pleasures. Tell them that "if sinners entice you, do not consent" (**Prov. 1:10**). Tell them that you will not just try anything once.

Robert Notgrass  
churchofchristarticles.com

**January Birthdays:**

- 2 - Virginia Laudeman
- 12 - Mary L'Heureux
- 16 - Leslie Hembree
- 23 - Eric Horne
- 26 - Dorothy Bryan
- 27-Rissa Morris

**Anniversaries:**

- 12 - Deloris & Jackie Wright

"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Matthew 9:35-38

**The Almighty Needs You!**

There is a sense in which God needs nothing, for He is the source of all things. Yet the Bible shows that our Lord's eternal plan involves us. Before the world began, He devised this plan and we must never lose sight of our place in the scheme of redemption. As strange as it may seem—the Lord needs you.

Consider the events in Gethsemane. Jesus was facing His torturous death and came to that garden where He often went to pray. Leaving the disciples, He asked two things of them—pray that you do not enter into temptation and watch with me. He then went a short distance away from them and prayed fervently.

**The Almighty needed men to strengthen Him.** After His first prayer in the garden, He returned to the disciples, only to find them asleep. Why did He go to them? Perhaps the answer lies in the fact that while they slept an angel came to strengthen, encourage and comfort Him (**Luke 22:34**). The angel supplied what He needed, but do not miss the point—the Lord, who rules over all angels, needed His disciples. The Almighty needs you!

**The Almighty needs you to sing praises to Him.** When He came into the world, every angel in heaven was told to worship Him (**Heb. 1:6**). The shepherds on that night heard their anthem of praise. "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men" (**Luke 2:14**). Later, John wrote, "I heard the voice of many angels around the throne...the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb...'" (**Rev. 5:11-12**). Yet He wants us to praise Him. The praise of angels is not enough. The Almighty wants you to praise Him. The Almighty needs you!

**The Almighty needs you to serve Him.** It is hard to imagine that One served by myriad of angels needs more servants, but it is true. We sing about this often. Think about the words of hymns we sing, "Christ has no hands but our hands . . ." or "He needs brave volunteers to stand against the powers of sin." His eternal plans involve your service. The service of angels is not enough. The Almighty needs you!

**The Almighty needs you to be His messenger.** Think again of the vast number of angels who praised the Lord at His birth. They were heaven's messengers to tell the shepherds that the Savior had come. Yet God in His plan had other messengers to let the rest of the world know of His coming. His disciples were told to go to every nation and tell them about Jesus. Those converted were to then become messengers to others, and that chain reaches all the way to us. You are His "angel" to the lost around you. The Almighty needs you!

Dan Jenkins - churchofchristarticles.com

**Remember in Prayer**

**Shut Ins:**

- Fannie Bell Warren
- Janelle Arrington
- William Wells

**Others:**

- Hollis Cluck
- Muril Todd
- Karen Hudson - cancer
- Christy Garrett
- The Bryan Family
- Annie and JW Smith
- Margie Taylor
- Priscilla and Patrick Graves
- Jessica Richardson
- Dan Smith
- Diane Grandstaff and family
- Joe Allen
- Linda Kay Edwards - surgery recovery
- Edna Forbes
- Janice Garrett
- Carol Goins - Mary L.'s sister
- Lila Kirk
- Wanda Gates - cancer
- Kathy Greer
- Jeff Greenblatt - auto accident

Please call to inform us of News items or Prayer Requests: Kyle Richardson (495-7106) Dorothy Jean Smith (444-5437)