

Clarksville Church of Christ
 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649
 (812) 944-2305
www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org

Sundays
 Bible Study..... 9:30 AM
 Worship.....10:30 AM
 Worship.....6:00 PM

Wednesdays
 Bible Study.....7:30 PM

Elders
 Stephen W. Nale.....812-948-9917
 Allen L. Morris.....812-967-4536

Deacons
 Jeffrey B. Hunt.....502-931-5766
 Elbert Metcalf.....812-246-5938
 Rondal O. Thompson Jr....812-944-8295

Evangelist & Editor
 Brian Anderson.....317-442-9507
 Email: brian.anderson2@arconic.com

Goals For 2018
Theme
Body Building
Attendance: Sunday Bible Study: 40;
Sunday AM: 50
Sunday PM: 40; Wednesday Bible Study: 30

Giving: Meet Our Yearly Budget

Invitations: 104

Every Member Committed To Daily Bible Reading

Every Member Committed To Daily Prayer

Add Additional Child's Class

Each Member Do An in Depth Bible Study Of Their Own

-Like us on Facebook-View us on YouTube at Clarksvillechurch

We are now in the 13th week of our Bible Reading.

Prayer List
 Harry & Martha Croninger
 Sharon Nale
 Les & Novema Dunn
 Mary McAfee
 Jean Hume (Anita's Sister)
 Debby Spears (Roseann's sis)
 Sharon Thompson
 Debbie Beckham
 Sandra Anderson (Brian's Mom)

Lord's Supper Reading
I Cor. 11:23-28

Scripture Reading
 AM: Acts 5:11-14
 PM: I Cor. 3:6-9

Encouragement Tally
 Invites this month: 84
 Invites last month: 100
 Visitors YTD: 0

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The
Clarksville Beacon
www.Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org

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 Clarksville, IN 47129

Volume 30 Issue 12

Clarksville Church of Christ

Mar 25, 2018

What The Lord's Church Is Not

Welcome!
 If you're visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and we want you to feel like our honored guest! We also want you to know that all we're interested in here at the Clarksville Church of Christ is the Truth. Jesus said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32. The truth He's talking about is God's word. Jesus said, "Sanctify them by thy truth, Thy word is truth." John 17:17. Therefore we hope you'll appreciate that we'll give you book, chapter and verse from the Bible, the word of God, for everything that we say or do here today, so that everything that we do may bring glory unto God, I Pet. 4:11.

Read Matt 16:18-19. We continue to look at the Lord's Church this morning. Today we're going to look at what the Lord's church is not. Notice...

I. Not A Building

Acts 17:24, Mt 18:17, Acts 5:11; 8:3; 11:22; 12:5
 Acts 14:27, I Pet. 2:5

II. Is Not A Denomination

Matt 16:18, I Cor. 1:10, Jn 17:21, Ps 127:1

III. Not A Political Organization

Rom. 13:1ff, Jn 18:36, Mt 22:21

IV. Not A Social Organization

Rom. 14:17, I Tim. 5:16, I Cor. 11:20-22, 34
 Eph. 4:12, I Cor. 16:1-2

V. Not Just One Member

I Cor. 12:14, Col. 1:18, Mt 18:20, III Jn 9, Eph. 4:4, Col. 3:15
 I Tim. 5:8, 16, Gal. 6:10, Js 1:27

VI. Not A Religious Convenience Store

I Pet. 2:9, Heb. 10:25, Acts 2:47, Eph. 3:11

Hard Times

“For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, that flow out of valleys and hills . . . a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing . . . When you have eaten and are full . . . beware that you do not forget the Lord your God” (Deut. 8:7-11).

Poverty is not an easy experience, but if we stop to think about it, it's obvious that wealth has its difficulties too. When we speak of “hard times,” we need to be careful. For all the hardship we face when we suffer a shortage of life's necessities, we face an even greater challenge when we suffer a surplus.

The challenge of prosperity is greater because it challenges us at the level of our character. Poverty's hardship is mostly physical or outward, but affluence presents a host of harder problems that are spiritual in nature. Granted, there are some spiritual issues that must be dealt with when we're poor, but most people who've been poor would report that they found their inward characters growing in positive ways during that experience. By contrast, most people would have to say that their characters tend to weaken when life is completely comfortable. Indeed, it's all we can do to keep from dying in the suffocating atmosphere of affluence.

Hard Times con't

Paul made an interesting statement in Philippians 4:11-12: “I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.” It takes some “know how” to be full and to abound without losing our souls! When we're wealthy, our spiritual survival is anything but automatic. In fact, according to Jesus, the odds are quite against it: “And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God” (Matthew 19:24).

These truths have sobering implications for those of us who live in one of the wealthy nations, particularly the United States of America. We face some spiritual hardships that our brethren in poorer cultures don't have to deal with, and frankly, we're not handling our abundance conspicuously well. We're “full,” but in all too many cases, we're letting our spirits starve to death.

“If adversity hath killed his thousands, prosperity hath killed his ten thousands” (Robert Burton).