

~ Kevin's Kolumn ~

It's really about obedience

Even with reading God's Word like a story book there will inevitably be folks who say, "I just don't understand the Bible." It's one thing for folks who choose not to know God to struggle with biblical concepts but why do those who claim to know Him struggle? Although biblical education is valuable, the key to understanding scripture is not education as much as it is obedience. In today's lesson, the Israelites chose to allow the "vocal minority" to drown out the voices of Joshua & Caleb. The Promised Land was theirs for the taking, but fools prevailed and thousands upon thousands of people perished in the wilderness. God's Word is designed as such that as we act on what we read, the Bible "comes alive," and we begin to hear and understand the voice of God. However, if we have not obeyed what He's revealed to us, why would He give us His deeper truths? "The secret of the LORD is for those who fear Him" (Ps. 25:14), and those who fear Him are the ones who obey His commandments and are promised "a good understanding." Living a fleshly lifestyle of disobedience to the Lord clouds our eyes, diminishes our ability to hear, and fogs our thinking. Even though we might be privileged with full access to the mind of Christ at our finger tips, our attachment to our own sinful ways keeps us from tapping into the rich treasures of wisdom that are found in His Word. As we dig into today's lesson, listen to the lack of faith exhibited by the Israelites. Learn from their mistakes! Then with reliance upon the Holy Spirit, commit to do what He tells you. When you obey His voice, He'll reveal deeper truths, and your understanding will grow. A study of God's Word is designed to be a joy, not a bore and it gives life to the listener and understanding to the obedient!

Have a blessed day and remember the One who gave it to you!
Kevin

Good Morning!

Upcoming Events

- **Praise Singing Appreciation Class** – Beginning on Sunday, April 13th at 5:00 PM an instructional singing class will be conducted. Topics will include: Singing harmony parts, proper keying of songs, singing using shape notes, introduction of new songs, etc. Class is open to everyone – not just song leaders. Contact Ed Carpenter for more info.
- **Senior's Luncheon** – There will be a luncheon in honor of all members who are age 60 years old and up. This will be held on April 13th immediately following the morning service in the Lower Fellowship Hall. For more info, please see Pam Jackson or Marsha Sparks.
- **Ladies Inspiration Day** – There will be a Ladies Day at the Pumpkin Center Church of Christ on Saturday, April 26th. More info coming soon!
- **Friend Day** is Sunday, May 4th. Please mark your calendars and start inviting your friends and family!
- **Vacation Bible School** – If you would like to help with VBS, please see Mary or Kevin ASAP. VBS is June 8th – 12th from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM.

News & Notes

Attention Graduates: If you are graduating High School or College, please let Dianne know ASAP. We need 12 photos for the slide show and a wallet photo for the bulletin. These are due in by April 20th. The photos will be returned to you. This is for graduates who attend this congregation

◆ We are currently organizing an "Adopt a Grandparent" program here at Whitehall. We would like to pair younger generations with the older generation. If you would like to be paired, please see Kelly Holbert or Carla Lough. You do not need to have grandchildren in order to participate.

◆ **GOSPEL MEETING:** at the Mount Nebo Church of Christ April 6th-10th. Monday through Thursday evening meeting times are 7:00 PM.

Prayer Requests ♥

- ♥ Please continue to keep Edwina Summers in your prayers.
- ♥ Please keep all the families affected by the recent mud slides in Washington State in your prayers.
- ♥ Keep all those affected by the recent shooting at Fort Hood in your prayers as well.
- ♥ Please keep Jennifer Seccuro in your prayers with her pregnancy.