

Worship Servants:

This week: 12/17/23

Sermon: Matt J
Preside: John S, McCloud
Scott S, Dalton S
Opening Prayer: James M
Closing Prayer: Matt J
Singing AM: Alex H
Singing PM: Dalton S

Next week: 12/24/23

Sermon: Matt J
Preside: David H, Alex H
Justin H, Don C
Opening Prayer: John S
Closing Prayer: Dylan N
Singing AM: Doug M
Singing PM: Braxton M

Sermon Notes



Mercedes Drive
Church of Christ

December 17, 2023

VOL. 16 NO. 51

Welcome

UPCOMING EVENTS

LADIES' BIBLE STUDY | January 2, 6:30pm
MDCOC Fellowship Hall
Held monthly on the first Tuesday.

SATURDAY SISTERS | TBD

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY |
January 9th, 6:00pm
Held monthly on the Second Tuesday.

TEENS IN THE WORD | TBD

MEN'S BREAKFAST | December 31 @ 7:45am
At the building.

SERVICE SCHEDULE DECEMBER 24th
9AM Bible Class
10AM Worship Service
1PM Song/Sermon

Service Times

Sunday:

Bible Class 9 AM
Worship 10 AM
Worship 6 PM

Wednesday:

Bible Class 6 PM

Elders

Danny Dailey 205-799-0917
David Harbin 205-292-3515

Deacons

John Sloan
James McDonald

Minister

Matt Jones 205-616-1165
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- facebook.com/mdchurchofchrist

Check the bulletin in the foyer for more announcements and upcoming events.

The Wise Drunk Dr. Dennis Petrillo

“Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler,
And whoever is intoxicated by it is not wise”
(Proverbs 20:1)

News flash! There is no such thing as a wise drunk. There is, however, overwhelming evidence for the foolish drunk. Wine is frequently mentioned in the Old Testament. Sometimes it is referred to in a positive light. It was considered an example of God’s blessings to His people (Gen. 27:28; Ex. 29:40; Lev. 23:13; Deut. 7:13; 1 Sam. 1:24). It could bring joy (Ps. 104:15; Ecc. 2:3; 9:7; 10:19; Zech. 10:7). Yet there are numerous warnings attached to the drinking of wine. Far too often one would misuse the blessing and overindulge. He became a drunk, and there is no such thing as a wise drunk. The drunk does foolish things and says foolish things. This is why there are so many warnings about drunkenness (21:17; 23:30-31; Isaiah 5:11-12; Habakkuk 2:5; 1 Peter 4:3).

Have you ever considered who was instructed not to drink in the Bible? Consider this list (and the reasons they were not to drink).

1. Priests – These holy men were expected to be spiritual examples. When leading others in worship they needed to be in full control of themselves and their words (Leviticus 10:9).
2. Nazirites – these were individuals who made a special vow to God; a vow of holiness and dedication. A part of that vow was to drink no wine (Numbers 6:3, 20; cf. Amos 2:12).
3. Israelites – While they were in the wilderness for forty years, they drank no wine. They did this, as God said, “in order that you might know that I am the Lord your God” (Deuteronomy 29:6). God did not want them distracted by other things, or to fail to give Him their complete devotion.
4. Rechabites – This interesting Old Testament family determined that they wanted to live by a higher standard; a high standard that did not include wine (Jeremiah 35:6).
5. Daniel and his friends – Their determination to be faithful to God and to not defile themselves included abstinence from wine (Dan. 1:8).
6. Kings were warned to avoid it, because it negatively impacted their ability to rule well (Proverbs 31:4-5).
7. Elders – As leaders of God’s church, they were to have no association with wine (1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7).

The reasons are many that these, and others, did not consume alcohol. It is that which destroys understanding (Hosea 4:11) and is frequently associated with corruption and a lack of spirituality (Genesis 9:21; 19:32; Isaiah 28:7; Jeremiah 51:7).

It is estimated that there are at least 18 million people in the United States that have alcohol problems. The alcohol industry makes over \$212,000,000,000 (billion!) in revenue.[1] So there is no way there is going to be an elimination of the production and sale of alcohol. Yet, the number of alcohol-related health issues continues to rise. The World Health Organization reported that alcohol contributed to more than 200 diseases (2014). There were an estimated 88,000 alcohol-related deaths. Failed marriages and destroyed lives are frequently associated with alcohol. According to statistics, there were an estimated 88,000 alcohol-related deaths. The economic burden caused by alcohol (in 2010) was an astounding \$249.0 billion.[2]

How does God’s word describe alcohol use? “Whoever is intoxicated by it is not wise.” That seems pretty clear.

WEEKLY PRAYER REQUESTS

- Jones family
- Edwards family with the loss of their sister Almarena
- Connie Kersey, Barbie’s mom, is not feeling well and is in a bad health condition.
- Regina Summerlin is sick with COVID
- 2 students at BHS lost their fathers recently
- Faye Caddell is having health struggles
- Wayne Worley, Harbin’s neighbor, is in need of prayers
- Donna Dailey is recovering from surgery
- Capri Day’s mother passed away, UPDATE. Capri is really struggling
- Bill Finnen, coworker with Scott Sloan, has pneumonia and is in bad shape
- Ken Ramay and his recovery from procedure / spiritual struggles
- Todd Pierce, Jay and Kitty’s neighbor, having life struggles
- Kenzi Swindel has started her treatments, has had some victories lately
- Jimmy Bearden, West Blocton resident, diagnosed with lung cancer
- Wayne, brother in law of Kitty’s friend, having health struggles
- Reatha Griffin is having a lot of health issues.
- Joel Booth, member of Cicero family, has health struggles.
- 2 young ladies from Brookwood High School who are having mental struggles
- Mike Marlowe spot on arm biopsied awaiting test results
- Bekah Vining, West Blocton resident, has breast cancer. She is young.
- Yvonne Cicero’s great aunt Nell Tomlin is starting radiation for cancer.
- Bridgett Hobson friend of Juanita, her brain tumor is back. Treatment plan figured out
- SHANE ACRE’S DAD, Eddie, had his port put in for chemo
- Kyson Farley, Donna Dailey’s grandnephew, has kidney cancer and is on Chemo
- BARBIE SMITH’S FATHER and all of health issues, is making progress.

ATTENDANCE

Worship A.M. ... 70
Worship P.M. 39
Wed P.M.29

CONTRIBUTION

Last Week.....\$2,805.00
BUDGET\$3,000.00

