

# THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

*"...ye should earnestly contend for the faith..." (Jude 3)*  
**January 24, 2016**

## **Coldwater church of Christ**

8467 State Route 121 N  
Murray, KY 42071

(270) 489-2219

www.coldwatercoc.org

coldwatercoc@wk.net

### **ELDERS**

Richard Price  
Kevin Smith  
Bill Vincent

### **DEACONS**

Johnny Downs  
Josh Fulcher  
Josh Price  
Wesley Tucker

### **PREACHER**

Luke Puckett

### **SUNDAY SERVICE**

Bible Class: 9:30  
AM Worship: 10:15  
PM Worship: 1:00

### **WEDNESDAY**

Bible Class: 7:00pm

### **LADIES CLASS**

Tuesday 10:00am



## **A Message To Our Visitors**

It is our privilege to have you visiting with us today. Please know that you are our honored guest. Please let us get to know you, and fill out an attendance card so we can have record of you being here. Please return to be with us again at your earliest opportunity. If you have questions or would like to study the Bible with us, please let us know. Thanks again for visiting with us, and may God continue to bless you according to His divine purpose.

## **THOSE TO SERVE**

### **Announcements:**

Josh Fulcher

### **Lead Singing:**

Bradley Smith

### **Opening Prayer:**

Bill Vincent

### **Scripture Reading:**

Chris Smith

### **Lord's Table**

Richard Jones  
David Dodd  
Nathia Whitley  
Bill Vincent

### **Closing Prayer:**

David Dodd

### **Greeters (East)**

Chris and Theresa

### **Greeters (West)**

Josh and Jennifer

### **LESSONS**

**AM:** Goodbye May  
Seem Forever

**Scripture reading:**  
1Thessalonians 4:13-18

**PM:** Characteristics  
of the Church

**Scripture reading:**  
1Corinthians 12:12-20

# A CHILD IS LIKE....

By: John Chowning

Through the years, many ways of comparing a child to his parents or others have been used: "He's just a chip off the old block"; "she's a spittin' image of her mother." The inner capability of a child to learn and absorb knowledge has caused some to compare children to sponges. My father finds inquisitive youngsters comparable to H.A. Rey's fictitious monkey "Curious George." Biblically speaking, the psalmist makes two insightful comparisons worthy of thoughtful consideration and practical application.

**A child is like ... an arrow.** Psalm 127:3-4 reads, "*Behold children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth.*" If handled properly, an arrow possesses great potential for good. If mishandled, an arrow possesses great potential for harm. So it is with a child. A child possesses an enormous potential for good and an equally large potential for evil. What determines the outcome? The amount and type of guidance and direction given.

A child needs parents to aim him/her properly and skillfully (Prov. 22:6). Parents, what goals have you set for each of your children? Do you have any spiritual goals? If so, what are they? What are you doing to reach these goals? Far, far too often a couple will have children but won't have any truly worthwhile goals for their offspring. A child is like an arrow. If you aim at nothing, you are bound to hit it **every time!**

**A child is like ... an olive plant.** Psalm 128:1-3 reads, "*Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in His ways. When you eat the labor of your hands, you shall be happy, and it shall be well with you. Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the very heart of your house. Your children like olive plants all around your table.*" Since we do not live in a climate or a culture in which olive trees are commonly grown, this comparison may be difficult for us to understand. Maybe the following quote will prove helpful:

"The olive tree has all through history been one of the most characteristic, most valued, and most useful of trees in Palestine .... The olive is a slow

growing tree, requiring years of patient labor before reaching full fruitfulness. Its growth implies a certain degree of settlement and peace, for a hostile army can in a few days destroy the patient work of two generations" (International Standard Bible Encyclopedia, 3:2183).

There is much to learn from this analogy. First, children ought to be valued and prized. Children are a gift from God (Psalm 127:3). They are precious and need to be esteemed as such. Second, raising children is a protracted, time-consuming endeavor. They require much nurturing, patience, and perseverance. There are very few, if any, instant rewards in parenting. Delayed gratification is inherent in child rearing. Third, children are very vulnerable. Just as a hostile army can quickly destroy two generations of olive nurturing, so evil forces and evil companions can destroy years of parental nurturing. Because of a child's vulnerability, all parents need to be consciously and constantly protective of their child(ren). Today's parents have very few real allies. The humanists in government, entertainment, and education desire to prey upon the vulnerability of today's youth. Their success rate is positively alarming. Fourth, children need stability and security. An olive tree that gets uprooted and transplanted every three months or even at critical points in its development has very little hope of flourishing. So, too, with a child. The security of parents who passionately love each other and are not too busy doing their own thing that they have very limited time for their children is essential to a child's development. Because of a child's need for training, guidance, instruction, and discipline, the Bible declares that a child is like an arrow. Because of a child's need for nurturing, protection, valuing, and stability, the Bible declares that a child is like an olive plant. Because children are like arrows and olive plants, the Bible declares, "*fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up (nurture them A.S.V.) in the training and admonition of the Lord.*" (Ephesians 6:4).

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

⇒ Jordan Hobbs (22nd)

## Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Ezekiel
- ⇒ **Team:** Team 4 meets today
- ⇒ **Area events:** Please see bulletin board for more info. Several meetings, singings, and Bible schools are coming up in our area.
- ⇒ **New Personal invitation handouts** are available . Please make sure to take some and handout or leave with a tip, and invite someone to our service!
- ⇒ **Monthly Men's Class:** Will be held on Tuesday Feb 02 at 6:30pm here at the building.
- ⇒ **Workday:** Saturday 1-30 at 8am
- ⇒ **Visit:** We will Visit Kirksey on 1-31. They start at 6pm.
- ⇒ **5th Sunday Singing and Potluck:** on 1-31
- ⇒ **Guest Speaker:** Rickie Burse will speak on 1-31
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Green Peas

## Prayer/Sick List

- ⇒ Hazel Brandon
- ⇒ Mae Downs
- ⇒ Johnny Downs
- ⇒ Hyland Darnell (recovering from knee replacement surgery)
- ⇒ Norma Darnell (Has found out she has Parkinson's disease)
- ⇒ Richard Jones
- ⇒ Jonnie Hutchison (Amber's father is having eye trouble)
- ⇒ David Brandon
- ⇒ Debbie Smith (Kevin's sister-in-law-cancer)
- ⇒ Greg Black (Kathy Black's son)
- ⇒ Larry Pea (Cousin of Judy Black, has cancer)
- ⇒ Loretta Haley (cancer)
- ⇒ David Edwards (Josh Fulcher's uncle-cancer)
- ⇒ Billy Irvan
- ⇒ Debbie Edwards (Josh Fulcher's)
- ⇒ Trudy Smith
- ⇒ Mallory Harrison (cancer)
- ⇒ Wanda Riley (Josh Fulcher's Aunt)
- ⇒ James McAbee
- ⇒ Dorothy McNeely (Richard Adams' sister, has cancer)
- ⇒ Derek Adams (Richard Adams' grandson, has leukemia)
- ⇒ Richard & Rachel Guill (Rachel was placed in a nursing home)
- ⇒ Lashell Jones
- ⇒ Michael Inman (Tonya Jones' stepdad)
- ⇒ Maria's sister-continuing to recover from heart surgery.
- ⇒ Lucetria Hutchison (Ronnie's mother)
- ⇒ Jay Kolb (Friend of Bill and Maria has brain tumor)
- ⇒ Caleb Teasley (Kevin's cousin's son, 4 years old)
- ⇒ Continue to remember all those who have lost loved ones this year

## **WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?**

Hear the Word  
*(Rom 10:17)*

Believe the Word  
*(John 8:24)*

Repent  
*(Luke 13:3)*

Confess Christ  
*(Rom 10:10)*  
*(Acts 8:37)*

Be Baptized  
*(Acts 2:38)*  
*(Acts 22:16)*

Remain Faithful  
*(Rev 2:10)*  
*(Acts 8:12-24)*

Heaven can be your  
home if you obey God!  
*(Heb 5:8-9)*

Please visit our website at  
[www.coldwatercoc.org](http://www.coldwatercoc.org).  
You will find bulletins,  
sermon outlines, and  
other helpful links and  
material.



## MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Ezekiel 20:30 Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Are you defiling yourselves in the manner of your fathers, and committing harlotry according to their abominations?"

## GREEK WORD OF THE WEEK

**Word:** bdelugma (βδέλυγμα)

**Pronounced:** bdel'-oog-mah

**Translated** into the word we use today: **Abomination**

**Meaning:** according to Strong is: a detestation, that is, (specifically) idolatry: - abomination. Thayer adds, 1) a foul thing, a detestable thing, 1a) of idols and things pertaining to idolatry

**Supporting verse:** Luke 16:15 And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God.

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Committing abominations in God's sight? What a horrible thought that we can and do abominable acts in His sight. Going back to Ezekiel 20:30, we see this was done by idolatry. Many had gone back and given themselves to idols like those before them. They were cheating on God with other false gods and walking in their abominations. Many today still commit idolatry and abominable acts in God's sight. This is done by loving something more than you do God. It doesn't have to be a man made idol. It can be anything that we place in front of God or covet more than we love Him. Notice in Col 3:5 it says that "covetousness which is idolatry". When we put something ahead of God, whether family, job, or other physical things then we are committing idolatry which is an abomination to God. Also, there are other acts which are an abomination to God. In Lev 20:13, we find that homosexuality is an abomination to God. This sinful act along with other sinful acts are all wrong in God's sight. We need to be careful what we do and only do those things that are pleasing in His sight. Let us never do things that are an abomination to God, but rather do those things which are righteous in His sight.



**Bible question:** What will happen to the one who "mocks his father" and "scorns obedience to his mother"?

**Last week's question and answer:** Who disputed with the devil about the body of Moses?

**Answer:** Michael the archangel (Jude 1:9)

**Those answering:** Kay Robertson, Linda Jones, Helen Tidwell, Peggy Newsome, Rachel Adams