

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

"...ye should earnestly contend for the faith..." (Jude 3)
March 06, 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:

Bill Vincent

Lead Singing:

Wesley Tucker

Opening Prayer:

Andy Johnson

Scripture Reading:

Kyle Hobbs

Lord's Table

Richard Price
Mitchell Smith
Josh Price
Johnny Downs

Closing Prayer:

Hyland Darnell

Greeters (East)

Kevin and Tammy

Greeters (West)

Helen and Peggy N

LESSONS

AM: Life, Death, Sin,
and Christ

Scripture reading:

Romans 5:6-11

PM: Not Sent to Baptize?

Scripture reading:

1 Corinthians 1:14-17

GIVING JUST FOR THE SAKE OF GIVING

By: Mike Gifford

I think I'm about to ruffle some feathers. Maybe not. If nothing else, I hope what I am about to say will make us all think. Paul exhorted the Ephesian elders to remember the words of Jesus, *"It is more blessed to give than to receive."* (**Acts 20:35**). Jesus said to a roomful of self-serving Pharisees, *"When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee. But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just."* (**Luke 14:12-14**). Both of these statements remind us that when we give of our means in the name of the Lord, we are to do so because we want to serve the Lord by serving our fellow man. So now, here comes the potential feather ruffling part. If you suddenly had the tax deductibility of your charitable contributions taken away by the federal government, would you stop giving? Would you decrease your giving? How about this: Suppose you had been asked to give \$1,000 to a great cause. Would you be more likely to give it if it came with a meal and a chance to listen to and rub shoulders with a celebrity or political leader or would you just go ahead and give it because you believed in the cause? This line of questioning could go on but hopefully by now you see where I'm headed. This is not a condemnation of taking tax deductions or going to banquets. It's a plea for each of us to look at our motives for giving.

I'm not limiting this discussion to our weekly giving to the work of the church. There is no authority in the New Testament for the church to raise funds by anything other than free-will contributions (**I Corinthians 16:1-2**). There is nothing in the New Testament about banquets, car washes, bake sales, et al. to support the work of the church. I'm talking about giving in general. We are stewards of that which God has bestowed upon us. He expects us to share what we have (**Matthew 25:34-45; James 2:15-16; I John 3:17**). Why do we do it? What, if anything, are we expecting in return? The hypocrites of Jesus' day gave so that they could get pats on the back from other people (**Matthew 6:1-2**). In contrast, a poor

widow gave just because she wanted to and she knew it was the right thing to do (**Mark 12:41-44**). See the difference? Jesus even expounded on the difference. Of the hypocrites, He said, *"They have their reward."* The pats on the back, the praises of men, were all they would get. Of the widow, He said that she gave more than any wealthy contributor who had tossed his bag of coins into the treasury. The widow did not receive the commendation of men. She received the commendation of the Lord. Which is better?

Let's face it. Giving, or at least the way in which the Lord intends for us to give, is not glamorous. Nobody sounds a siren when someone sacrifices to support a faithful brother and his family in the preaching of the Gospel. Newspaper reporters do not typically come out of the woodwork to write about someone who donates generously to an orphanage. The internet does not typically explode with excitement when someone delivers groceries to a family who has fallen on hard times. So why do people give like that? Could it be that they give just for the sake of giving? When we see a need, should that not be our motivation as well? Solomon wrote, *"Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it. Say not unto thy neighbour, Go, and come again, and to morrow I will give; when thou hast it by thee."* (**Proverbs 3:27-28**). Paul commended the Macedonian Christians because they saw a need and they gave. They didn't have much, but they gave anyway (**II Corinthians 8:1ff**).

There are ample opportunities to share our blessings with others. The next time one of these opportunities is brought to your attention, may I urge you to carefully stop and consider it. Perhaps you can help spread the Gospel. Perhaps you can feed and clothe an orphan. Whatever the opportunity is, perhaps your contribution can help lead souls to Christ. Even if the ones to whom you give don't give you anything back, remember again, *"It is more blessed to give than to receive"* and remember that the Lord's blessings are greater gifts than any person can bestow.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- ⇒ Kyle and Tiffany (8th)
- ⇒ Mae Downs (10th)
- ⇒ Amber Puckett (11th)

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Jeremiah
- ⇒ **Team workgroup:** Team 1 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!
- ⇒ **Day Light Saving time:** Spring your clock forward one hour Sunday, March 13.
- ⇒ **Monthly Men's Class:** April 5th at 6:30pm here at the building.
- ⇒ **Gospel Meeting:** April 10-13 with Alan Adams. Make plans to be here this week.
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Hand Soap

Prayer/Sick List

- ⇒ Hazel Brandon
- ⇒ Mae Downs
- ⇒ Johnny Downs
- ⇒ Hyland Darnell
- ⇒ Norma Darnell (Has found out she has Parkinson's disease)
- ⇒ Virgil Hale (In Spring Creek)
- ⇒ Jonnie Hutchison (Amber's father is having eye trouble)
- ⇒ 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)
- ⇒ Lucetria Hutchison (Ronnie's mother)
- ⇒ Jay Kolb (Friend of Bill and Maria has brain tumor)
- ⇒ Caleb Teasly (Kevin's cousin's son, 4 years old)
- ⇒ Bob Austin (having test ran for issues with his lungs)
- ⇒ Paula Fulcher (Back surgery)
- ⇒ 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.
You will find bulletins,
sermon outlines, and
other helpful links and
material.



MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

GREEK WORD OF THE WEEK

Word: plassō (πλάσσω)

Pronounced: plas'-so

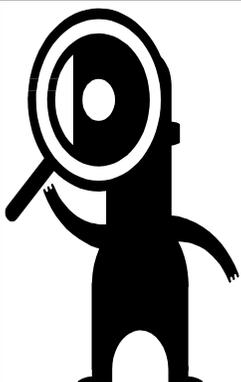
Translated into the word we use today: **FORMED or SHAPE**

Meaning: according to Strong is: A primary verb; to *mould*, that is, *shape* or *fabricate*: - form. Thayer adds 1) to form, mould (something from clay, wax, etc.) 1a) used of a potter

Supporting verse: 1Ti 2:13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

1, 2, 3, 4, 5....By the time you read these numbers approximately 4 babies have been aborted. Since the 1973 decision of Roe VS Wade, there have been around 59 MILLION babies “legally” killed in the USA alone. These stats are very disturbing to me and hope that they are to you as well. As we look through the Bible, God’s inspired word, we see that murder, or knowingly taking a human life, is sinful. There is nothing more precious and innocent as the life of an unborn child. There are many today that say this isn’t a life, that it is a fetus. They say it is the “mother’s choice” to make in regard to this unborn baby, whether it lives or dies. God’s word tells us differently. It tells us that life begins at conception, and the taking of this life is sinful. There are many passages we could look at that talk about this, but we want to look at Jeremiah 1:5. “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.” God tells Jeremiah that He knew who he was even before his birth. How did God know and recognize Jeremiah before his birth? As a PERSON! Even while still in the womb, the child is its own person. It is a separate body from the mother, and God knows them as such. What if Jeremiah’s mother would have aborted him? Then he couldn't have done what God wanted him to do! It’s not our right to kill innocent life!



Bible question: What group of Israelites were to separate themselves from wine and strong drink?

Last week’s question and answer: Who built the first altar?

Answer: Noah (Genesis 8:20)

Those answering: Kay Robertson, Linda Jones, Helen Tidwell, Rachel Adams, Johnny and Mae Downs, Peggy Newsome