

The Church of Christ at **SUNSHINE** *Bulletin*

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What is that in thine hand?

And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee. And the LORD said unto him, What is that in thine hand?" Exodus 4:1-2

Through Moses, God used a simple walking staff cut from the branches of a bush or tree ("**rod**" - Ex. 4:2) as a "**tool**" or a "**blessing**" to be used in accomplishing His will (vs. 5). Today, we as Christians, have been given "**tools**" and "**blessings**" for the exact same purpose - to carry out God's will. In this article, we will look at seven of these tools or blessings.

God's Seven Tools In Accomplishing His Will

1) The Gospel

The church's mission statement is found in Matthew 28:19, "**Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.**"

The church's action plan is found in vs. 20, "**Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you....**"

In Romans 10:18 and Colossians 1:6, 23 the scripture says that the Gospel was preached to the whole world during the lifetime of the apostle Paul. The question is: Can we today in the 21st Century preach this same Gospel to "**every creature**"? If not - why not?

2) Our Talents

In the parable of the Talents (Mt. 25:14-30), the three servants were entrusted with a different amount of talents. Each servant was to use his full ability to produce more talents (vs. 16-17). The first and second servant reported their accounting with great "**joy**" to their master (vs. 21, 23) but the third servant who had done nothing for his master waited until last. He had despised the small trust committed to him (vs. 18) and now he begins to make excuses (vs. 24-25). His excuses, however, were in vain because his master had a right to as much faithfulness in this servant with one talent as he did in the one who had five talents.

The point is that God looks for as much faithfulness and fidelity in his children today who have but little talent as He does in those who have much talent! Let us be like

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For those who have been hit by Hurricane Ike

For our national leaders and world leaders as they lead their respective nations.

For our troops in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Korea, Iraq, Liberia, Haiti and other places.

For the "people in the box" -- the lost in our families and community.

For those who are being martyred and persecuted for Christ in our own time

For marriage to stand in our laws as God ordained it.

For the innocent who are suffering in the midst of war.

For the church in Siliguri and Naresh Chetri

For the churches in Honduras and Haiti who partner with us in the gospel.

Ellen Lemon has reached the midway point of her radiation therapy.

Aaron Salyers will be having a surgery to restore his cranium on November 10 at St. Mary's in Huntington.

Harold Gampp was hospitalized last week with pneumonia. Home now recuperating.

Rodney Lens (Northwest HS student and friend of Rachel Jarvis) is battling brain cancer. He has been treated but the cancer has come back.

Shelby Cornell (7 yr old granddaughter of Sarah Gilliland's friend) suffering with a serious eye disease.

Robert Caseman (Jim Jacobs' brother in law) had a stent placed in his heart this week at KDMC.

Steven Boggs (classmate of Rikki Richmond at Bloom-Vernon Schools) was seriously burned over his arms, face and chest area while setting a brush fire last weekend. He was taken to Cabell Huntington Hospital where he had surgery on Thursday.



**LET US KNEEL
BEFORE THE
LORD, OUR
MAKER!**

Psalms 96:6

Women's Retreat Reminder

Registration for Gimme A Break ladies retreat will begin at 5 pm this Friday at Fort Hill Christian Youth Camp. By now everyone who signed up should have received a letter with instructions on how to get there along with a schedule. If you did not receive one, please let us (Rhonda or Serena) know. Lots of good things are planned and our teachers have been working hard getting ready for their classes. Even the weather is looking good. Let's have some fellowship and fun! Rhonda & Serena

Survey Deadline Today

Today is the last chance to respond to the Directory Survey and the Ministry Survey. If you have not completed either one of these forms, please take the time to do so today and deposit the completed form in the box in the foyer.

Birth Announcement

Bryce Victor McLaughlin was born October 17, 2008 to Doug and Rachel McLaughlin. He weighed 7 lbs 5 oz and measured 18 inches in length. He is home now at 509 Coriell Road, Portsmouth, Ohio and is doing well. Congratulations to parents, grandparents (Ed and Elaine McLaughlin and Mr. and Mrs. Victor Colley) and Uncle Eric.

Welcome, Woodsfield

Our special guests today are the teens and chaperones from Woodsfield church of Christ. They came last night to be part of our annual teen hayride and stayed overnight in the homes of some of our members. They will be leaving for Woodsfield after our services conclude today. Welcome, Woodsfield.

Sympathy Extended

To the family of **Lori Higbee** (Sean Higbee's sister in law) who passed away on October 24 in Batesville, Indiana. The funeral was Tuesday in Marysville, Ohio. Special prayers requested for Lori's husband, Shad and her four year old daughter.

Voters' Guide Available

The Ohio Christian Alliance has sent us several copies of their voters' guide. These are available on the table in the foyer. Feel free to take one for yourself.

Spirit Club Meeting

Tonight at 6 pm.



11/7-8 - Women's Retreat @ FHCYC
11/30 - Thanksgiving Service

VERSE OF THE MONTH

Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved.
Acts 16:31



Bible Study Curriculum

Sunday

11/02 2 Corinthians 6-7
11/9 2 Corinthians 8-9
11/16 2 Corinthians 10-11
11/23 2 Corinthians 12-13
11/30 Galatians 1-2
12/7 Galatians 3-4
12/14 Galatians 5-6
12/21 Ephesians 1
12/28 Ephesians 2

Wednesday

11/05 Genesis 49-50
11/12 Exodus 1-2
11/19 Exodus 3-4
11/26 Exodus 5-7
12/03 Exodus 8-10
12/10 Exodus 11-13
12/17 Exodus 14-15
12/24 Exodus 16-18
12/31 Exodus 19-20

Script-O-Gram Solution:

Do ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath
righteousness with unrighteousness? — 2 Corinthians 6:14a

What is that in thine hand?

Continued from page 1

Mary (who was sister to Lazarus and Martha - Jn. 12:1-3) and be found **"doing what we can"** (Mk. 14:8) in carrying out our Master's will (Mk. 14:9).

3) Time

Each of us has been allocated 168 hours per week. From the scriptures, we are taught to be careful **how** we allocate or use that time in relationship to our understanding of what our Lord's will is - using our time wisely for the Lord's glory and benefit and not our own (Eph. 5:9-17).

We are to walk in (spiritual) wisdom toward them who are non-believers, making the greatest use of our time influencing them for Christ - **not** the Devil (Col. 4:5). Our actions **always** speak louder than our words. The lives of Christians are in many cases the only **"Bible"** that the world reads (2 Cor. 3:2-3).

4) Opportunity

The inspired apostle instructs us, **"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith"** (Gal. 6:10). Why should we do good to all men? Because the eternal principle of **sowing** and **reaping** applies (Gal. 6:7-8). If we **"sow"** good things, we shall **"reap"** good things (Gal. 6:9). We are also instructed to make the **"most"** of every opportunity (Eph. 5:16).

God has given each of us only **so much** time to do His will. Christ said in Jn. 9:4, **"I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh, when no man can work"** (also read Eccl. 9:10; Deut. 6:5; Jer. 48:10).

5) Resources

Our money, possessions, power and fame should **all** be used for God's glory and honor because God owns **all** of them anyway (Jam. 1:17; Jn. 3:27).

Recall Pilate's question in John 19:10-11 when he said to Jesus, **"Don't you know that I have power to crucify thee, and have the power to release thee?"** To which Christ replied, **"Thou couldst have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above."**

6) Means Or Medium

We are to share the Gospel through any means or medium available to us today. The great apostle Paul was **limited** in the means or mediums presented to him in by which to preach the simple saving Gospel of Christ, yet he preached the Gospel with more **fergency** and **devotion** to Christ than anyone before or since.

He stated to the Corinthian brethren that he came not with a great oratory capability but he came to them with the **simple truth** that Christ died for them (1 Cor. 2:1-5). His sole purpose was to lay a solid foundation of Bible faith so their faith **"should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God"** (vs. 5).

7) Motivation To Act

By and through the love and blessings of God (Rom. 4:24; 5:1-15), are we **using** all of those blessings to give glory and honor to God in the fulfillment of His purpose for the church?

The apostle Paul stated to the Ephesian brethren that it is through the church of our Lord that the Gospel is to be preached to a lost and dying world of people living in sin. We as children of God should thus be **motivated** to preach and teach that **saving Gospel** (Rom. 1:16) by whatever means or medium necessary because of what God has done for us through Christ's sacrifice (Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:5-9; 1 Jn. 4:8-11).

It is indeed **sad** that some members of the Lord's body aren't even motivated to attend the services of the church much less teach and preach the Gospel. What a shame it is to the Lord's church that He gave His life and shed His blood for! (Acts 20:28). Surely we **can** render **better service** to our Lord than this!

Conclusion

In this study we have looked at seven **"tools"** or **"blessings"** that God has put **"into our hand."** These tools or blessings, however, will not be for the glory and benefit of our heavenly Father unless and until we are willing to **use** them for His glory and honor!

Just like the **"rod"** in Moses' hand did not **fulfill** the purpose of God until Moses **used** the rod in **exactly** the way God prescribed, the same holds true for us in the Lord's church today.

Are we properly **using** the **"tools"** and **"blessings"** of:

- 1) The **Gospel**
- 2) Our **Talents**
- 3) Our **Time**
- 4) Our **Opportunities**
- 5) Our **Resources**
- 6) Our **Means** or **Medium**
- 7) Our **Motivation** to Act

Our heavenly Father is **still** asking us today, **"What is that in thine hand?"**

Mike Riley
Montana Street Church of Christ
Waco, TX

Those Who Serve

Sunday Morning

Welcome & Prayer
Song Director
Scripture Reading
Prayer
L Server 6
O Server 5
R Server 4
D Wine
S Bread
S Server 3
U Server 2
P Server 1
P
E
R
Message
Closing Prayer

November 2

Wayne Gampp
Nick Davis
Troy Gahm
Gabe Coriell
Jack Jennings
Mike Coriell
Alan Graff
Jeff Hayward
Aaron McCray
Josh Coriell
Michael Dixon
Chuck Allison
Steve Miller
Jamie Riley

November 9

Tom Kelley
Ralph Gampp
Steve Williams
David Gampp
Eric Copas
Spike Ferrell
Zach Coriell
Dewey Cordle
Jamie Riley
Barry Hayward
Price Gammon
Lane Raiser
Steve Miller
Mark Risner

Sunday Evening

Song Director
Scripture Reading
Lord's Supper
Assist
Prayer
Bible Class

Mark Gampp
Matt Hoskins
Gary Glispie
Ryan Coriell
Greg Coriell
2 Corinthians 6-7

Shawn Gragg
Bob Havens
Don Ramey
Ira Coriell
Jason Coriell
2 Corinthians 8-9

Wednesday Evening

Song Director
Prayer
Bible Class Text

Caleb Miller
Don Ramey
Genesis 49-50

Jacob Miller
Aaron Kallner
Exodus 1-2

Children's Bible Time

Nov 3/5: Stephanie Copas, Eric Copas, Debbie Sullivan
Nov 6/8: Mary Lemon, Kristine Coriell, Teresa Hayward
Dec 3/5: Jennette Ferrell, Pam Coriell, Irmalee Gampp
Dec 6/8: Kerri Davis, Kim McCray, Jessie Coriell

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please contact Dewey Cordle at 820-4624

Regular Service Times

Sunday

Worship - 10:00 am
Bible Study - 6:30 p.m

Wednesday

Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

This bulletin is a publication of the Sunshine Church of Christ. To learn more about the Church of Christ you may contact us at the telephone number or address on the front cover.

Deadline for each issue is 5 p.m. Friday. News items may be called to **Al Graff** or **Steve Miller** or e-mailed to:

info@sunshine-church.org

VISIT US ONLINE AT
sunshine-church.org
sunshine-church.blogspot.com
innermissionssu.com



The jumble of letters at the right is a portion of a familiar verse from 2 Corinthians 6 that has been encoded using a simple letter substitution code. Decipher the code to reveal the scripture.

The solution can be found at the bottom of page 2 in this bulletin.

Hints: K=Y & M=L

D F K F C E O N C F R N P M M K K E H F S
O E J F O W F Z X U O W N C D F M U F I F Z G :
T E Z X W P O T F M M E X G W U B W P O W
Z U J W O F E N G C F G G X U O W
N C Z U J W O F E N G C F G G ?