



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 27

December 29, 2009

Number 52

ELDERS

John Brinkley
Rex Enoch
Hayes Grady
Billy Joe Stubblefield
Bobby Ward

DEACONS

Robert Barrett
Larry Enoch
Rob Enoch
Bobby Hall
Max Henry
Robert Meredith
Jesse Vincent
Eddie Ward

PREACHER

Robert Meredith
Telephone:
(270) 492-8206

A NEW YEAR

It seems that a great deal of emphasis has been placed upon a new year. Let us try to make this new year the best ever.

Hold fast to your faith.....Hebrews 4:14
Assemble with the saints.....Hebrews 10:25
Pray earnestly every day.....1 Thessalonians 5:17-18
Pray for great blessings.....Malachi 3:10
Yield not to temptation.....1 Thessalonians 5:22

Neglect not your talents & opportunities.....Galatians 6:10
Examine yourself daily.....2 Corinthians 13:5
Work diligently for the Lord.....1 Corinthians 15:58

Yield your members to righteousness.....Romans 6:11, 16
Exercise yourself in Godliness.....1 Timothy 4:7
Aim at sinless perfection.....Hebrews 6:1
Redeem the time.....Ephesians 5:15-16
...Gus Nichols

Every Member's Work Enhances Church Growth

Robert Meredith



In Matthew 20:1, one reads, *"For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard."*

Jesus goes on to teach us what we call the parable of the vineyard, or of the eleventh hour, where a householder hires laborers into his vineyard. The householder represents Christ and the vineyard, His church. Therefore, Jesus is pictures as calling (2 Thessalonians 2:14) workers for His vineyard. This verse shows us that the church is a place of labor, and it is every Christian's responsibility to be laboring in His kingdom/vineyard. Too often, some think that it is the Elders', Deacons' or Preacher's job to tend to the work of the church. However, James, writing to the church (James 1:1) declares, *"Pure religion, and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world"* (James 1:27). When one considers the topic of church growth, there are two areas one needs to consider, spiritual and numerical. Peter commands us to grow spiritually (1 Peter 2:2; 2 Peter 3:18) as does

Paul (2 Timothy 2:15). Jesus Himself taught that numerical growth will come when the seed of God's word is sown in a good heart (Luke 8:15).

Evangelism is one of the three works of the church, and a part in which every member should be involved. Jesus commanded us to go into all the world (Mark 16:15). It may be that you can not go overseas to a foreign land, however, the mission field lies right outside your door. The first century church gives us a great example to follow. Saul of Tarsus made havoc of the church and the scattered church went everywhere preaching the word (Acts 8:4). Today in the United States, we do not face such persecution, but we should have the desire to teach as we have the opportunity. Christians today can evangelize by teaching Bible classes, inviting others to services, or conducting home Bible studies. All of these help fulfill the Great Commission.

Benevolence is another way of enhancing church growth. When the world sees that the church cares not only for her own, but also for those of the world (Galatians 6:10), it will help open doors of opportunity for numerical growth. But even if that does not happen, the spiritual growth of the members will be enhanced.

A third work in which every member can be involved is edification, which means to build up or to strengthen. Each of us has the responsibility of edifying our fellow Christians. Too many in Christ's church have the attitude of the one talent man of Matthew 25, and feel that they can not do great things, so they do nothing at all. One needs to realize that the one talent man was not lost because he only had one talent, but because he did not do what was expected of him. Each church member can speak words of encouragement to the downtrodden, to new converts, and to the Elders who labor in overseeing the flock. Furthermore, every member can edify by his attendance. In Hebrews 10:24, the Holy Spirit commands us to, "*Consider one another to provoke unto love*

and to good works." Once again this is a command and it is not optional. One must provoke unto love and to good works. But how? Verse 25 tells us, "*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together.*"

Every individual has influence, which can be used for good or bad. Several years ago my wife invited someone to church services, and the lady asked, "Is that where so and so goes?" When my wife responded, "Yes", the lady said, "I do not have anything against the church of Christ, but if he goes there I do not want anything to do with it." Is your influence such that church growth is enhanced or diminished? The Apostle Paul commands us to "*Present your bodies a living sacrifice...which if your reasonable service*" (Romans 12:1). Each member's work enhances church growth. Jesus proclaimed, "*He that is not with Me is against Me: and he that gathereth not with Me scattereth*" (Luke 11:23). Paul wrote, "*I have planted, Apollos watered: but God gave the increase*" (1 Corinthians 3:6). Let us strive to do our part to enhance church growth.

*"I want to be a worker
for the Lord,
I want to love and trust
His Holy Word,
I want to sing and pray
And be busy everyday,
In the Vineyard of the Lord.
I will work, I will pray.
In the vineyard,
in the vineyard
Of the Lord.
I will work, I will pray,
I will labor everyday,
In the Vineyard of the Lord."*

THE NEW LEAF

He came to my desk with
quivering lip;

The lesson was done.

“Have you a new leaf for me,
dear Teacher?

I have spoiled this one.”

I took his leaf all soiled and
blotted, and gave him a new
one all unspotted.

Then into his tired heart
I smiled:

“Do better now, my child.”

I went to the throne with
trembling heart; the year was
done.

“Have you a new year for me,
dear Master?

I have spoiled this one!”

He took my year, all soiled
and blotted; and gave a new
one, all unspotted.

Then into my tired heart He
smiled:

“Do better now my child.”
...Selected



Prayer List: James “Ed” Edwards (Betty Enoch’s brother-in-law), Darlene Hale (Mary Vincent’s sister), Binita Irvin, Joan Turnbow (Betty Enoch’s mother), Ovie Ward (Bobby’s father), Frances Wyatt (Roy & Marie Wyatt’s sister-in-law) and any who may be in need of our prayers.

Shut-ins: Anne Brinkley, Tom Meredith & Mary Miller.

News at Green Plain



Our annual New Years Eve party will begin at 7:00 pm in the church annex. Bring food, soft drinks and games.

A donation was made to the India missionary fund in honor of Priestly & Margie Scott by Charlotte Chilcutt, their daughter.

Visitation Group #1 meets Sunday, the 3rd.

New Phone Number: Mary Vincent - 270-293-9713. Please make a note in your directory.



Congratulations to Jay Paul & Amiee Herndon on the birth of their baby girl, Emmerson Raine. She was born Sunday, the 27th, and weighed 7 lbs 12 oz, and is 19” long.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK

“Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?”
(Ezekiel 18:31).

ATTENDANCE December 27, 2009

Bible Study	82	Worship P.M.	67
Worship A.M.	101	Mid-week (12-23)	47

GREEN PLAIN CHURCH OF CHRIST
3980 MURRAY PARIS ROAD
HAZEL, KY 42049

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
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Hazel, KY
Permit No. 6

The church building is located
southeast of Murray -
One mile off highway 641 -
Near the corner of the Green
Plain and Murray Paris Roads

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE
January 2010

USHERS: Robert & Preston Barrett
ANNOUNCEMENTS: Larry Enoch

PRESIDE AT THE LORD'S TABLE
AM: Bobby Ward & Roy Wyatt
Substitute: Bobby Hall

ASSIST AT THE LORD'S TABLE:
AM: Dave Thompson & Jesse Vincent
Substitute: Frank Towery

Sunday PM
1-3.....Eddie Ward
1-10.....James Pigg
1-17.....Paul Brandon
1-24.....Chad Canter
1-31.....Frank Pool

SCRIPTURE READING:
1-3.....Max Henry
1-10.....Charles Enoch
1-17.....James Pigg
1-24.....Rob Enoch
1-31.....Bill Stubblefield

OPENING PRAYER:
1-3.....Frank Pool
1-10.....Dave Thompson
1-17.....Larry Enoch
1-24.....Robert Meredith
1-31.....Paul Brandon

CLOSING PRAYER:
1-3.....Bobby Hall
1-10.....Brent Morris, Jr.
1-17.....Hayes Grady
1-24.....Roy Wyatt
1-31.....Ira Sellars

COUNT CONTRIBUTION:
Jesse Vincent & Preston Barrett

SONG LEADERS:
Sunday Morning.....Charles Enoch
Sunday Evening.....Chad Canter
Wednesday.....Eddie Ward
Substitute.....Bill Stubblefield

COLLECT COMMUNION CUPS:
Isaac Ward & Katelyn Canter

GREETERS: Bobby & Faye Ward

If you are unable to serve, please
contact Jesse Vincent at 293-1537.

 **Mark 9**

1. Jesus said most things are possible to those that believe.
2. Who were the three Jesus took with Him to His transfiguration?
3. Who else appeared, talking with Jesus?
4. Why didn't His disciples cast out the evil spirit from the boy?

1. False (v. 23)
2. Peter, James & John (v. 2)
3. Elias and Moses (v. 4)
4. Jesus said O faithless generation how long shall I be with you, how long shall I suffer (allow) you, bring him to Me (v. 19)

**Remember to
bring snacks for
the hospital.**

**Pantry Item
Canned Fruit**

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday:

Bible Classes.....10:00 A.M.
Worship.....10:45 A.M.
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Classes.....7:00 P.M.
For transportation call 492-8206
"A Friendly Welcome Awaits You"

RADIO PROGRAMS

WORDS OF LIFE RADIO BROADCAST
Weekdays, 11:30 AM.WNBS RADIO (1340 AM) Murray, KY

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES RADIO BROADCAST
Sunday, 7:30 A.M...WNBS RADIO (1340 AM) Murray, KY

PHONE:(270) 492-8206

WEB SITE: www.greenplain.org

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**SERMON TOPICS FOR
January 3, 2010**

A.M. - Barabbas

P.M. - The Feeding of the Five Thousand

WHAT ONE MUST DO TO BE SAVED

Hear the gospel

Jn. 20:30-31; Rom. 10:17

Believe

Rom. 1:16; Acts 18:8; Heb. 11:6

Repent

Lk. 13:3; 24:47; Acts 3:19; 17:30

Confess faith in Christ

Mt. 10:32, Acts 8:37, Rom. 10:10

Be baptized (immersed)

Mt. 28:19; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 10:47-48; 22:16;

Rom. 6:1-6; Gal. 3:27; Col. 2:12; 1 Pet. 3:21

Continue faithful unto death

Mt. 25:21,34; 2 Pt. 1:1-11; Rev. 2:10; 1 Jn. 1:6-9