



Ron's Reflections

What are the book ends of the Christian life? This is the question that Bob Bevington and Jerry Bridges, two favorite authors of mine, have written about recently. According to Bob and Jerry, these book ends are the “righteousness of Christ and the power to change”.

Both concepts originate from outside of ourselves. The source of righteousness comes from none other than Jesus Christ. In fact, it is in the righteousness of Christ that perfect obedience is found. A person walking in righteousness is one who always does what is right. Jesus was perfect, he never sinned. In contrast when it comes to me and yourself, according to Romans 3:10a “None is righteous, no, not one.”

One wants to quickly protest and say that “I am not so bad, I don't steal, engage in sexual immorality or murder and I am a law-abiding citizen, I even attend church and I take my family to church as well! I am a good person!”

A second reaction that is much more subtle is that we can move quickly into judgement of others because we measure them by our own interpretation of righteousness and quickly conclude that we are much better, (more good) than they are. Could it be that we respond this way because we fail to realize just how high God's standard is? It has been said that we tend to think that God grades on a curve. Because it is easy to look at the scandalous sins in society around us, count ourselves exempt, and conclude that God is pleased with us. The fact of the matter is, God does not grade on a curve. All have sinned, there is none righteous, no, not one. Except, Jesus.

It is only through welcoming Jesus as our only hope, our Savior, and realizing that, he as the perfect righteous person took my/our place on the cross, dying for my/our sins that we can be saved and declared righteous, just as if we have never sinned, and are now holy in the eyes of God. This is the first bookend of our Salvation. Jesus and only Jesus is the way, the truth, and the Life! John 14:6. Salvation is through Christ alone! He became our righteousness through obedience to the Father on the cross! It is not our good behavior.

The second book end also comes from beyond ourselves. The power to change comes only from the power of the Holy Spirit that Christ gives to those who chose to receive the righteousness that Jesus provided by dying for our sins on the cross! The Spirit of Christ works within us to bring us to Christ and the Spirit of Christ also works with us in the ongoing work of maturing to enable us to become more like Christ. Paul in Romans 8:13 says it this way: “For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.”

In conclusion: It is only by the grace and mercy of God shown to us through the perfect work and righteousness of Jesus that we are saved and it is by the power of the Holy Spirit and his ongoing work in our lives that we can grow, mature and put to death the deeds of the flesh. May we apply these two God given book ends to every task and trial of our lives each day. In summary: Take your eyes off others, Fix them on Jesus! God is good, his mercies are new every morning. TRUST Him, love like him, forgive like Jesus! Love ya!



Gatherings this week

Monday through Friday

6:00-7:00am: God moves through prayer, come pray with us every morning!

Mon, April 22– Calvin Breda’s Birthday!

Wednesday, April 24– Paul Schrock’s Birthday!

8:00am: Senior Men’s Bible Study in our Fellowship Hall.

7:00pm: Woman’s, Men’s group AND Youth Group!

Kids 6th grade to 12th grade are welcome.

Thursday, April 25

5:30-7:00pm: Community Meal, CCC Fellowship Hall

6:00pm: Worship Team Practice

Friday, April 26– Brenda King’s & Carrie King’s Birthdays AND John & Esther Hershberger’s Anniversary!!

9:30am: Senior Community Group in our Fellowship Hall.

5:00pm: Men’s Retreat with Bethany Mennonite Church at

Camp Muskingum 3266 Dyewood Rd SW, Carrollton, Ohio 44615

Sunday, April 28

8:30am: Preservice Prayer in the Fellowship Hall/ Nursery Extension

9:00am: Coffee and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall and foyer.
Get to know new faces and catch up with your church family over coffee or tea.

9:30am: Sunday School, a class for every age

10:30am: Worship Service. Come and join in praising God the Father through song.
After the offering is lifted, children 5th grade and under are invited to walk down to the Fellowship Hall for Junior Worship while the pastor shares the sermon.

5:00pm: Perspective’s wrap up session and carry in meal





Volunteer Schedules

Children's Church

Director: Nicole Miller

This week: Carrie King & Charlotte Riedl

Next week: Nicole Miller & Sarah Byler

Nursery

Director: Brenda King

This week: Barb Miller & Larena Byler

Next week: Yadira Miller & Christie Johnson

Bread Ministry

This week (4/21-4/27): Kevin Beachy

Next week (4/28-5/4)- Dorman Kuhns

Worship Leader

This week: Scott Miller

Next week: TBA (meeting Sunday after church)

Lead Cook for our Thursday Meal

This week: Ian Johnson

Next week: Ian Johnson

Thank you all for volunteering your time and energy! You are so greatly appreciated for serving in this way. We love you!

If you'd like to be part of one of these ministries please see the leader of the ministry or Katie Harsh



Church News

Life Group/Bible Study opportunities:

Jason & Chelsea Breda's Life Group is meeting Sunday, May 5th & May 19th (Sunday Afternoon) 12:30 until about 2pm in the CCC Fellowship Hall. All are welcome! It is a kid friendly environment. The focus is reflecting on the sermon text.

Brian & Christie Johnson's Life Group is meeting May 7th & 21st (Tuesday night) at their home (336 King Church Ave, Hartville 44632) led by Pastor Ron at 6:00pm. The focus is watching and discussing the second season of The Chosen.

Steve & Amy Ross's Life Group is meeting Friday May 3rd to do an outreach (details TBA), May 17th in the CCC Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm. Due to Memorial Day the 31st is TBA.

Clay Akins' Young Adult Life Group is meeting Friday May 3rd, 17th, & 31st (Friday night) at his house (8632 Wedgewood Ave. N. Canton 44720) at 7:00pm.

*Do you have a request for which you need prayer? Do you have a question about the sermon? Would you like to discuss questions about the Bible? Great! Call or text Pastor Ron at 330-704-3690 (Please not until after April 21st)

*Any other questions feel free to call the church at 330-877-1250 or Katie Harsh at 330-685-2689

Spring is here! We love to see kids, of all ages, playing outside, just being kids. However, we have noticed that the basketballs and dodgeballs are not making it back inside the church when they're done being used. To help remedy this, we are going to have a sign out sheet hanging by the side door. Please sign out whatever ball you/your kid(s) are going to use and then when they are returned sign the last column. If the balls are lost, the last person to have it is responsible for replacing it.



For the Record

Church attendance for last week (April 21, 2024) was 135

The total tithes & offerings given was \$5,697

Total needed to reach the approved budget is \$5,340.00



[Volunteer opportunities](#)

Volunteer opportunity at **FISH**: We are in need of volunteers on Tuesday mornings & Thursday evenings to deliver groceries to our clients who are in need of delivery services. Clients are eligible for delivery if they are senior citizens, lacking transportation, and live in 44632 & 44685 zip codes. Volunteers that deliver groceries are asked to use their personal vehicles. Volunteers can pickup groceries as early as 9:15am on Tuesday mornings and 5:15 on Thursday evenings. The amount of deliveries varies from 1-4 per driver depending on needs that day. Deliveries are usually able to be completed by 10am Tuesdays and 6pm Thursdays. If you are able to help us with our delivery services, please head over to our website: www.laketownshipfish.org and click the green "Volunteer" button. Or go to our direct link: <https://laketownshipfish.volunteerlocal.com>

Love Our Community is doing their Summer Meal Program! Meals will be served on Mondays & Thursdays in June, July, & August. Please scan the QR code for more information or visit www.loveourcommunity.net. If you are in need of a meal delivered please visit <https://forms.gle/g4yswBxJJ23Qf1fDa>



[Community Outreach Opportunities](#)

COMMUNITY PRAYER WALK
MAY 22, 2024 | 6:30 PM

STARTING AT HARTVILLE THRIFT SHOPPE PARKING LOT

BETHANY MENONITE CHURCH
 CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHAPEL
 EVERMORE COMMUNITY CHAPEL
 NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
 RIVERTREE LAKE



Prayer Requests

Please consider writing a card, sending a text, making a call, or visiting some of our church family members that are going through a rough time. There are cards available in the church office if you need some. If you need additional info, please contact Katie Harsh or Pastor Ron Embleton.

Mary Ellen Yoder- 850 Sunnyside St. SW, Hartville 44632; 330-904-2105

Eva Kuhns Potts- 1420 Smith-Kramer St. NE, Hartville 44632; 330-453-0748

Kathleen Patterson- 1976 Gulf St. NW, Uniontown 44632; 330-877-1606

Audrey Ritter– 11750 Klinger Ave, Alliance 44601 Altercare of Alliance
Rm 406; 330-823-8263

Deb Zaluski- 1291 Countryside Cir NE, Hartville 44632; 330-575-8532

Susie Boyd– St. Luke’s Lutheran Community Rm 107 Pinehurst; 220 Applegrove St
NE, North Canton OH 44720; 330-498-5539

Ruth DeLong– 4900 Massillon Rd. Apt. 19, North Canton 44720; 330-697-5323

Lorene Coblenz– 156 Woodbury Glen St. Hartville 44632; 330-606-2359



Read the Bible in a year

This year’s **Bible Reading Plan** give us a little more flexibility. Instead of 7 days, it is only 5, that way in case you miss a day you’re not behind. We hope it helps you read through your Bible in a year! Happy reading! 😊

Week 16

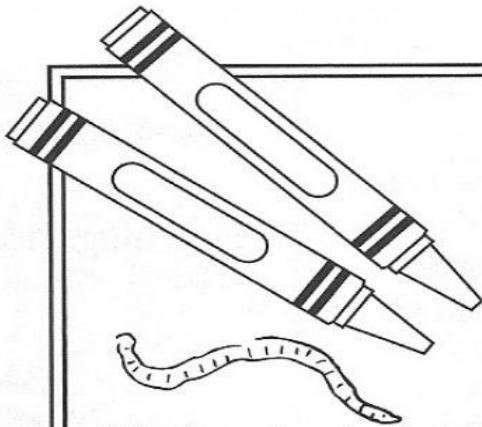
Ruth 1-2; Acts 3

Ruth 3-4; Psalm 37; Acts 4

1 Samuel 1-2; Psalm 120; Acts 5

1 Samuel 3-5; Psalm 124; Acts 6

1 Samuel 6-8; Acts 7



Just for **KIDS**

Bugs in the Bible



Whether at a picnic, on the beach or playing outdoors, it seems like we're always joined by uninvited guests – bugs!

Bugs and other little creatures are mentioned in the Bible.



*Fill in the blanks with the little creatures mentioned in each verse.
Circle them in the puzzle below.*

Proverbs 6:6 _____

Exodus 16:20 _____

Psalms 78:45 _____

1 Sam. 24:14 _____

Matt. 23:24 _____

Isaiah 50:9 _____

Judges 14:8 _____

Isaiah 59:5 _____

Acts 12:23 _____

Leviticus 11:22 _____

Leviticus 11:22 _____

Leviticus 11:22 _____

Leviticus 11:22 _____

Deuteronomy 7:20 _____



M	O	T	H	S	G	N	A	T	B	H
A	N	T	A	L	L	C	H	P	E	O
G	R	A	S	S	H	O	P	P	E	R
G	F	C	R	I	C	K	E	T	S	N
O	L	S	P	I	D	E	R	S	B	E
T	E	C	L	O	C	U	S	T	D	T
S	A	E	F	K	A	T	Y	D	I	D
G	F	L	I	E	S	W	O	R	M	S