



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

www.wcfamily.org

Volume 45, Issue 5 • February 3, 2013

A Preacher's Perspective

Hearts and treasure. What do you dream of and long for? I've been reading recently the works of J.R.R. Tolkien. His slimy, creepy character Gollum loves and lusts after a magical ring called the Ring of Power. He had found it, but then lost it. He calls it "my precious."

Gollum is not a lovable character. He is repulsive in form and in the smallness of his obsessive desire. But he is very straightforward. Everything he does is to get back the ring he had once possessed.

He is a pretty good illustration of the truth that your heart and treasure reside together.

Many are not as open as Gollum. They have a "precious" which they don't acknowledge. An example were the couple Ananias and Sapphira whose story is told in Acts 5. They liked the example set by Barnabas of selling his own land and giving the money to God by laying it at the feet of the apostles.

They decided to follow Barnabas' example. But not really. They wanted the church to think they had given all their proceeds to God, but they had held some back.

So far as I can tell, they were totally free to give all or only a part of their gift. But they lied. They tried to deceive the Holy Spirit.

Peter confronted their deception and the

Spirit struck them dead. How tragic that their corrupted spirits brought death and dishonor where there was such potential for true wealth of soul.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus makes a very clear statement: "You cannot serve God and money."

This is a particularly challenging teaching for Americans of the 21st century. Our nation has been blessed by great wealth. But I believe we have been cursed by love of material things at the expense of

holiness, righteousness, and love for our

neighbor. We may have found "our precious," but our grasp of it and our selfish obsession with it has choked our souls.

I find it interesting that many of the young idealists of our day reject the dream of financial wealth which their fathers have sought after. Whatever else

cause this reaction, it does demonstrate that there is no spiritual power in wealth that is not used to bless others and serve God.

So, what is precious to you? What fills your dreams and fuels your efforts to succeed?

As Christians, we have the opportunity to know true wealth. Our Lord Jesus showed that to Him, relationship with us was worth giving up the very glories of heaven.

We should challenge and encourage one another to know the true riches of life in Him.



– Matthew 6:20 –
But store up for yourselves
treasures in heaven, where
moth and rust do not destroy,
and where thieves do not
break in and steal.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

WWW.HEARTLIGHT.ORG

Chuck Miller

Welcome to the West Chicago Church of Christ

If you are visiting with us, we especially want to welcome you. We pray our time together worshipping our Father in heaven will be uplifting and encouraging. You are an honored guest and we want to thank you for being a part of our worship this morning!

Bible classes begin at 9:30 and are available for all ages. Babies can be taken to the nursery located at the back of the auditorium. Pre-school and elementary-age children meet in classrooms downstairs. Teens meet in the teen room at the back of the auditorium. The adult class meets in the fellowship room.

Our Community Groups meet every Sunday throughout the year, except for the last Sunday of each month. The last Sunday of each month, we will meet at 6:00 p.m. for a time of praise and fellowship.

A weekly web-cast of our Sunday morning worship services is available by following these instructions:

<http://wcfamily.viewnetcam.com>
 Username: wcfamily
 Password: 6302312062
 Click "SINGLE" tab
 Allow any Active X controls

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our Elders: Don Brewster Chuck Miller

Our Deacons are:

Justin Avey: Benevolence, Fellowship, Stewardship & Leadership
 Jay Hearn: Worship & Pulpit, Communications, Outreach, Education, Benevolence
 Curt Robinson: Education, Stewardship & Leadership
 Rick Root: Communications, Education, Stewardship & Leadership

Sunday Morning Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday Evening (last Sunday of each month) . . . 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Evening Bible Class 7:00 p.m.



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This Morning ...

Please take a moment this morning to fill out an attendance card, especially if you are a guest. Prayer cards are also available in the pew rack. You may choose to have prayers by the elders, a prayer warrior or by the whole church family. If you choose "whole church family" it will be announced following the sermon.

Worship Order

Welcome, Announcements, Birthdays *Curt Robinson*
 Kids Connection *Brian Gifford*
 Praise Songs *Tim Boyd*
 #15 *Step by Step*
 #749 *The Battle Belongs to the Lord*
 #484 *You are My All in All*
 As the Deer
 #180 *Jesus is Lord*
 Communion Message *Bob Jett*
 Prayers, Pass Emblems & Collection
 Sermon *Chuck Miller*
 Break My Heart
 Prayer Cards *Bob Voigts*
 #96 *I Stand in Awe*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

February 4 Kelly Ieler, Marilyn Smith
 February 6 Logan Ieler

Dates to Remember

TODAY Community Groups
 February 4 Teen Parent Connection
 February 5 Tuesday Ladies Class
 February 6 Wednesday Evening Bible Classes
 February 7 Food Pantry Delivery
 February 8 Mens Prayer & Pancakes
 February 10 Community Groups
 February 11 Living Room Cafe
 February 11 Teen Parent Connection
 February 14-17 Winterfest

Records You Helped Make

Sunday Morning Bible Class 53
 Sunday Morning Worship 77
 Contribution \$3,592.00

Nursery Workers Shelby Root, Kim Sitler

Collection Counters

Paul Mullins, Rick Root



In Our Prayers...

Continue to pray for our leadership and the process of appointing additional elders and deacons.

Elma Abbott, a former member, passed away last week. She suffered with Alzheimers for quite a few years.

Betsy, Bob Voigts's supervisor, is undergoing chemotherapy treatments.

Nelson Cunningham, a friend of the Triplett's, had surgery this week for cancer on his tongue.

Chuck Hearn, Jay's father, is recuperating from knee replacement surgery.

Kathy, a friend of Dana Howard's, has cancer. Also, continue to pray for **Sylvia Atten, Waseem James and her aunt, Pat Johnson.**

Liz Pritchett, the wife of a college friend of Joe Voigts, has cancer.

Lynette Root had her gall bladder removed on Thursday. She is home and doing well.

Frances Shearer has been suffering with several health issues for the last few weeks.

Freda Witham, Sally Hearn's mother, has a kidney infection.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Herman Aultman – Bobbie Whitman's brother

Paul & Judy Bertrand – Lynette Root's parents

Nancy Brewster

Bob & Phyllis Cissne – Cindy Drumheller's parents

John Day

Al Dorsey

Doug Dorsey – Al's son

Brad Fowler – Joan Lockett's nephew

Josephine Haggerton

Cliff Holladay – a friend of the Miller's

Lauren Helton – Josephine Haggerton's nephew

Kathy Huml – John Pedersen's sister

Mason Hutchins – friend of Alec Boyd & Rourke Mullins

Sue Lake – Marion's sister-in-law

John Mark Lango, son of former members Keith & Kim

Debbie Lawrence – Bobbie Whitman's niece

Don Lemley

Jack Lockett – father of Charlie, Mike, Julie Chavez, Shelley Prosser, Missy Kissane, & Becky Pedersen

Mike Lockett – Joan's son

Joan Mullins – Paul's mother

Josh Otte – Chris Czernik's nephew & the son of Marion Lake's cousin

Henry Phillips, from Rockford Church of Christ

Scott Robinson – Curt's brother

Kay Schrader

Phyllis Sitler

Bruce Snyder & Cindy Stewart – Bob Voigts' cousins

Ernie & Rose Stirrup – Kelly Ieler's parents

Jim Whitman

Bob York

Mom-to-be:

Sarah Rentschler – Sally Hearn's niece

Armed forces:

Josh Aultman – Bobbie Whitman's grand-nephew, Afghanistan

Ryan Gleason – Dana Howard's nephew

Kristen Hauser – a friend of the Avey's, Afghanistan

Jacob Headtko – U.S. Marines, RCC alumni

Joey Wertz – the friend of Lynette Root's friend, Iraq

Jonathon Young – a Warrant Officer in the army

Missions:

City of Children – Ensenada, Mexico

Obadiah Doka – Nigeria

Living Room Café – Chicago

Mission Lazarus – Honduras & Haiti

Shults-Lewis – the teens, their families, the workers

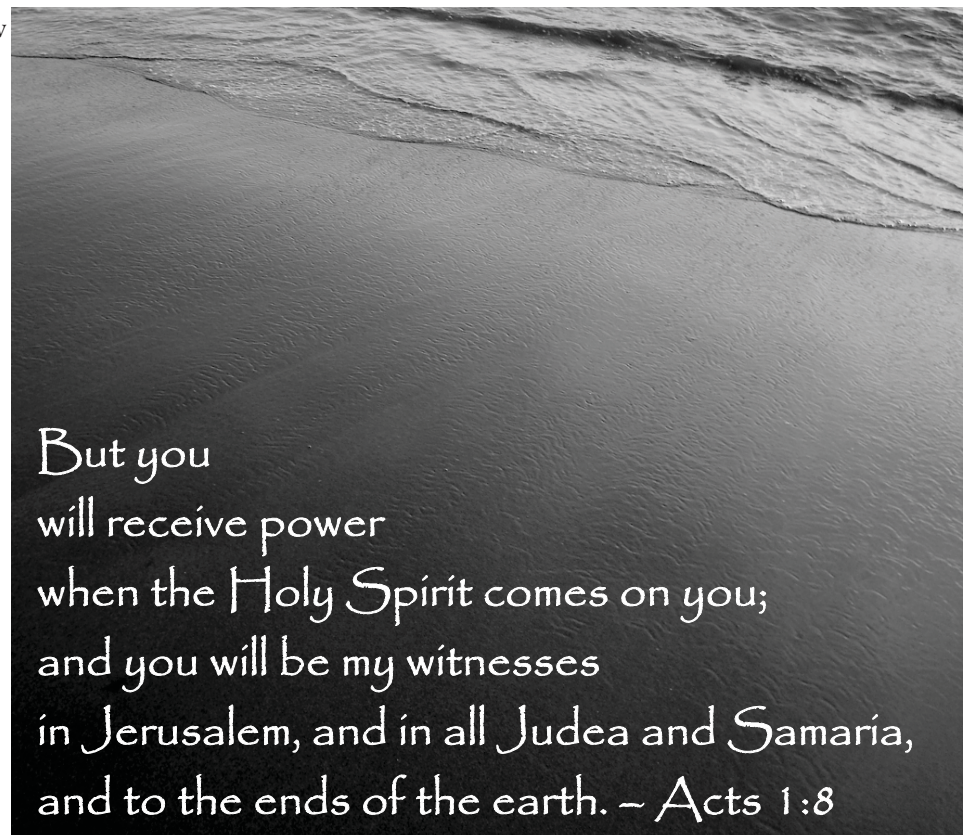
Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt – Taiwan

Teen Parent Connection - West Chicago

Joe & Allison Voigts – Korea

Students of Joe Voigts – China

Ayodele Waleola – Nigeria



But you
will receive power
when the Holy Spirit comes on you;
and you will be my witnesses
in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria,
and to the ends of the earth. – Acts 1:8

Today!

Community Groups are scheduled to meet **TODAY**. "...They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. – Acts 2:46-47



West Chicago Community Groups

Food Pantry Delivery

This Thursday, February 7, the food for our pantry will be delivered around 10:30 a.m. Join us to help carry boxes downstairs, stock the shelves and tear down boxes. It usually only takes about an hour. Hope to see you here for a time of work and fellowship!

New Directory

Please get your photo taken today for the church directory that will be distributed soon. Jay, Sally or Rachel Hearn are prepared to take your photo this morning.



If you are new to our congregation, please have your photo taken this morning, too. Forms are available in the foyer for your information to be included in the directory. Please include your address, phone number(s), e-mail address(es), birthdays and anniversaries (including year) and give it to Chuck or Don.

Let's try to get this completed as soon as possible! And please...don't be camera-shy!

Tuesday Ladies Class

The Tuesday Ladies Class will be beginning a new course of study in a few weeks. The ladies meet every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship room. Please see Pat Brewster if you are interested.

Southern Sudan

Kelsey Drumheller is collecting funds to provide training for literacy instructors for women in Sudan. **The last possible day to donate is Wednesday, February 13.** Check the flyer she posted in the foyer and visit the website www.rebuildingsouthernsudan.org.



They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers. – Acts 1:14



Winterfest 2013 is February 15-17. This morning is your last chance! If you have not done so already, **let Brian know today** that you are planning to go.



Wednesday Evening Class

The elders have decided to combine the Men's and Women's classes on Wednesday evening beginning this **Wednesday, February 6**. The Men's class was planning to start this new topic, but it really is a subject that concerns all of us so they have decided the women should be included. The study is "The Growth of the Church" and we will be using the Chronological Daily Bible as a guide starting with the book of Acts. However, you do not need the Chronological Daily Bible to follow the study. Please see Don if you did not receive an e-mail and/or would like the hand-out he has prepared

| Reading Dates | Scriptures | Title, Theme |
|---------------|------------|--|
| 1/30 – 2/6 | Acts 1-2 | Christ's Church and Apostles and the Holy Spirit (A.D. 30) |
| 2/6 – 2/13 | Acts 3-6:7 | Growth of the Church |

Thank You!

To our church family at West Chicago,

On behalf of Jay, Missy, Jamie and myself (and family) – we cannot adequately express our thanks for your example of God's love and grace in your prayers, comfort, and support during the last five years.

The last few weeks, surrounding Justin's passing, you continued to excel in surrounding us in the love of God's mighty family which allowed all of us to focus on spending as much time with Justin as possible. For that we can't thank you enough.

The arrangements and food you provided after the funeral again showed many people just how loved Justin and our family are by all of you.

Trying to express in a few sentences what you have meant to us the last 29 years is impossible! All we can say is, we feel honored to continue to serve with you, our mighty family, in God's kingdom here, on earth, as long as He allows. We love you, Aveys (Joan, Jay, Missy, Jamie, and family)