

Reflections

Volume 1 Issue 10

A Weekly Publication Of The Pine Street Church Of Christ

June 1, 2008

Pine Street
CHURCH OF CHRIST
429 Pine Street
New Martinsville, WV
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ASSEMBLY TIMES

Sunday Bible Study
9:45 AM

Sunday Worship
10:45 AM & 6:30 PM

Wednesday Bible Study
7:30 PM

RADIO PROGRAM

"For The Glory Of God"
8:45-9:00 AM
MAGIC 99.5 FM
Cable Channel 15

WEB SITE
www.pinestreetcoc.com

Reflections is a weekly publication of the Pine Street church of Christ including Bible-based articles for the spiritual edification and education of all readers. Please contact us if you have comments or questions about the content of the paper.

Trusting Jesus For Forgiveness

By Jeremy D. Joy

The house was packed with people who had come to hear the teachings of Jesus and perhaps to see healings and miracles. Four men brought a paralytic to be healed, but the overflow crowd blocked the entrance to the dwelling. They climbed to the top of the house and uncovered the roof over the room where Jesus was preaching.

The physical healing made the pronouncement of forgiveness more credible.

Imagine the hush that came over the room as the paralytic was lowered through the roof on a bed. How would Jesus respond? Would He scold them for interrupting His sermon or would He heal the man in the presence of them all? The answer would come as a surprise to both the paralytic and the scribes who were sitting in the room.

"When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, 'Son, your sins are forgiven you'" (Mark 2:5). Not only did the four men demonstrate faith in Jesus, but the paralytic also had faith that Jesus was the Messiah, which He acknowledged by pronouncing that the man's sins were forgiven. The paralytic came for physical healing, but he received spiritual healing!



**I will meditate on Your precepts, and
contemplate Your ways.
— Psalm 119:18**

However, instead of rejoicing with the paralytic in his salvation, the scribes questioned the actions of Jesus accusing Him of blasphemy. In order to prove that He had the power to forgive sins, which could not be confirmed, Jesus instructed the paralytic to "arise, take up your bed, and go to your house" (Mark 2:11). The healing was immediate and the paralytic walked out of the house "in the presence of them all" (Mark 2:12). The physical healing made the pronouncement of forgiveness more credible.

Jesus seeks the same life-changing faith from us today. We must trust Him completely for our salvation and resist the lies that prevent us from receiving forgiveness. Will you trust Him today? 📖

The Challenge Of Evangelizing The City Of Corinth

By Jeremy D. Joy

The city of Corinth was a center of trade and commerce because of its location. It controlled the trade routes between northern and southern Greece as well as the harbors between its eastern and western shores. It was a rich city as a result, but it was also an immoral city, not unlike many cities in the United States today. It was notorious for its sexual promiscuity. To “Corinthianize” meant to be a playboy and even a woman with loose morals was referred to throughout the Roman empire as a “Corinthian woman.” The temple of Aphrodite, the goddess of love, beauty, and fertility, who is identified with the Roman goddess Venus, overlooked the city, where 1,000 female slaves committed various acts of sexual immorality as an act of worship. The city was immoral, even by pagan standards. In a city saturated with materialism and

immorality, what could the gospel accomplish? How could a church prosper under such harsh conditions?

According to Like, the inspired historian, the gospel succeeded, contrary to human wisdom: “Then Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his household. And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized” (Acts 18:8). Corinth presented a unique challenge, but the gospel is not limited by popular culture.

There are people in New Martinsville and surrounding communities who are consumed by materialism and condone or commit various forms of immorality. If the gospel can change people in the first century, it can change people today. We must not lose heart! 📖

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Pine Street News And Notes

“Let brotherly love continue” — Hebrews 13:1

Members of our church family who are sick and in need of our prayers: **Judy Haught** has begun physical therapy and continues to improve.

Others who are sick and in need of our prayers: **Bill Price** who is a brother-in-law to **Wanda Rockwell** and a great-uncle to Jeremy recently had a heart attack and is battling other health problems...**Crystal Shockley's** grandmother is improving, but she is still in the hospital.

Check the bulletin board for Gospel Meetings throughout the Ohio Valley.

Preaching reports from **Kent Clark** and **Daniel Ruegg** are posted on the bulletin board.

The next Training Class will be Sunday evening, June 15. The schedule is posted on the bulletin board.

The Scripture reading today is: Psalm 119:73-80.

The sermon today is: “When The Church Assembles” (AM) and “Can I Trust The Bible?” (PM).