

***For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision
has any value. The only thing that counts is faith
expressing itself through love.***

Galatians 5:6

If you live long enough in this world you will come to one unavoidable conclusion: it is a hard place to win approval for any length of time. Everywhere you look, people are standing on their heads (metaphorically speaking) trying to get someone to notice and to say, "Good job! I wish I could do that." The trouble is that once they have said that, they move on, looking for something that is really worthwhile. They may be one step behind you or one step ahead of you, but we are all pretty much on the same track, following the same carrot. Standing on your head gets old, and jumping through hoops brings no satisfaction. Let's be honest--- it's just plain foolish.

Do you really expect to gain satisfaction today? Is it actually *possible* to hit the mark? I mean THE MARK, not *a* mark that might help you get to THE MARK. I mean THE MARK that you only ever need to hit one time. Paul wrote to the church in Galatia because he could see a bunch of people standing on their heads, and some who liked to pull the strings that made other people stand on their heads. What fools we are sometimes – thinking that pulling the strings is hitting THE MARK. Paul refers to this foolishness in Galatians 3:3:

*Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit,
are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?*

He tells them that they had hit THE MARK when they began with the Spirit, when they had simply trusted Jesus by being baptized into Him (Galatians 3:26-29). It was good enough for their salvation then, why not now? We expect the world to be caught up in foolishness, but not people of faith. Paul warns them that if they want to go back to standing on their heads that they will have "fallen from grace" (Galatians 5:1-3).

Christians are people who have come to terms with their failure to hit the mark in this world. They no longer seek approval in this world because they know that THE MARK is Jesus. They seek to be at peace with all men and they definitely are admonished to encourage and support one another, because these things please God and hit the mark. But they can no longer be caught up in the foolishness of pleasing men. Paul had learned that lesson (Galatians 1:10). When he saw Peter "standing on his head" in Antioch (Galatians 2:11-14) he publicly denounced his actions. We should remember that when anyone attempts to change the terms of salvation to suit their own desires, and people fall in line to please men, God expects us to pronounce the anathema upon them. (Galatians 1:6-11)

Are you standing on your head or falling on your face?
Are you really Spirit-led or falling from grace?



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

January 14, 2018

WELCOME!

<u>Sunday</u>	Bible Class- 9:30 a.m. Worship- 10:30 a.m.
<u>Tuesday</u>	Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.
<u>Wednesday</u>	Bible Study-7:00pm

All the churches of Christ greet you.
ROMANS 16:16

Today's Sermon: [Study of Deuteronomy, Part 2](#)

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

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Scripture: Deuteronomy 30:11-14

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class: Tuesday, January 16th, 10am. We will be studying Day 4 of the first chapter.**
- **Midweek Bible study Wednesday at 7pm here at the building.**
- **Bill Colwell from World Bible School in TX will be here on April 14th to do a workshop presentation for the purpose of getting us involved in using that very effective resource for reaching the lost all over the world as well as locally.**
- **5th Sunday Regional Singing @ Horseheads, April 29th, 4:30pm.**
- **Housewarming Celebration- Thursday, May 31st- Sunday, June 3rd. Speakers TBD**

Next Potluck: January 21st. Theme: **NEW** try a new recipe for the new year! Next Week!



- ✓ Today, we will meet after worship to adopt the bylaws and elect 2 or 3 men as trustees for our nonprofit corporation. We will also have a short discussion about the baptistery so we can get it ordered as it is a 4-6 week delivery period.
- ✓ The men's meeting planned for yesterday was postponed due to inclement weather. We will try for this Saturday at 8:30am.
- ✓ Kelly had hernia repair surgery on Monday at Packer. She suffered much with pain following the op, so was kept in for a couple of nights. We are thankful that Nate's mom, Linda' came to the rescue and cared for Kelly after she came home.

PRAYERS...

- Please remember **Kiley and Thomas** in prayer. Also pray for their grandmother, **Judy Brotzman**, as she cares for her husband.
- Pray for **Darlene** as she has tests here in Sayre to determine what her problems are and the best way to treat them.
- Pray for **Andrea Lentz** who has a mass on her lung.
- Pray for pain relief for **Kelly** following her recent surgery.
- Pray for **Joshua Dunn**, who is suffering from stage 4 lung cancer. Pray experimental treatment in St. Louis continues to help him.
- **Lori Kashorek** from Plattsburgh, NY, who has lung cancer which recently metastasized to the brain, is planning on seeking treatment at Dana Farber in Boston to see if they have any new ideas for her.
- Pray for **Vicki Joice** as she continues Herceptin treatments for breast cancer (until June). Also pray for relief from lymphedema. She is anticipating bypass surgery to enable the lymphatic fluid better flow.
- Sandy and Arthur's neighbor, **Erin Beiber** has metastatic breast cancer throughout her body. Pray for pain relief and courage and opportunity to speak to her about salvation.
- **Pat Guthrie** from Kittanning was supposed to be having open heart surgery to repair valves a week ago Wednesday, but it was postponed because he had a cold. Pray that repair is possible and he won't need replacement valves.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry :

barnecat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.