

## ***Are Your Feet Dusty?***

*And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. As you enter the house, greet it. And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. Matthew 10:11-14*

When Jesus sent His disciples into the towns and villages of their homeland, He did not do so lightly. He was keenly aware of the challenges that awaited them, and His instructions were full of ominous warnings as well as exciting encouragement. They would be literally getting a taste of what it was like to be Jesus in this world. In other words, they would carry powerful testimony to the folks as they healed the sick, drove out demons and raised the dead, but most of the folks would reject their testimony and want to kill them.

Jesus makes a distinction between houses that are worthy and houses that are unworthy. They are to greet every house but they are only to dispense peace to a house that is worthy. His command to them, when they encounter a house that is unworthy, is to actually "Let your peace return to you."

Isn't that interesting? I think there is some vital psychological advice there, and it matches our Lord's command to shake the dust off your feet. How many of us have dealt with rejection because of our testimony about Jesus? It stings us, especially when we know the one who rejects us. Unfortunately, the Lord's command to "greet" every house means we are to open ourselves up to the occupants and offer ourselves to them as servants of the LORD. We are to invest ourselves into the relationship.

Jesus knew, only too well, what sort of pain can come from that way of life, so He lovingly gave them His key to peace of mind. After all, it is not us being rejected but God Himself, and it is His acceptance that we seek, not the world's. We still need to be reminded to keep our peace but leave their dust.

This does not mean reject them, or castigate them, though warnings are appropriate; it does mean that we should move on and not castigate or reject ourselves. If you have shared your faith and been rejected, know that Jesus has got this. Do not exchange your peace for some old dust. AB



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 886-1838  
Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732  
Oct 1, 2017

### **WELCOME!**

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

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

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### **Today's Sermon:** *Seven Holy Gatherings in One*

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

Bulletins are archived on the website.

**[valleycitieschurchofchrist.org](http://valleycitieschurchofchrist.org)**  
**[aicoc.org](http://aicoc.org)** (Antioch Initiative)

Find us on Face Book

**[www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc](http://www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc)**

**Scripture:** Hebrews 9:15 – 10:1

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class: Tuesday, October 3rd. 10am Bring ideas for our next unit of study.**
- **Midweek Bible study Thursday nights at 7pm.**
- **Next Potluck: October 15<sup>th</sup>. Cowboy theme!**



- ✓ **NEW CHURCH BUILDING!** We are all sending letters out to churches we are familiar with or know members who attend there to ask for help with the purchase price. Please help by sending a letter to places and people you know. We will be discussing when we will have a “giving” Sunday of our own.
- ✓ If you would like to be involved in helping the people affected by recent **hurricanes, wildfires** raging out west or the terrible **earthquakes** plaguing Mexico and killing hundreds, contact **Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort, Inc.** [info@disasterrelieffort.org](mailto:info@disasterrelieffort.org)  
Send donations to 410 Allied Drive, PO Box 111180, Nashville, TN 37222-1180

## PRAYERS...

- Pray for all of our **family members and loved ones who are yet lost** or have strayed far away to come (back) to Christ.
- Pray for Darlene’s sister, **Vicki Joice**, in OK. She continues to have problems with lymph edema. She has had 10 radiation treatments and has 10 to go. Pray that she feels well and has no further problems resulting from treatments.
- **Doug Elsbree** is being considered as a possible match to donate a kidney to his brother Mark, who is having renal failure. He will be tested soon.
- Pray for **Lori Kashorek**, that her lung cancer stays contained and there will be no more spreading.
- **Emily Barry** is planning thyroid surgery in November. She will be having an MRI with contrast this afternoon at 3pm as further examination concerning her irregular mammogram.
- Please remember **Kiley and Thomas** in prayer.
- **Darlene** continues to have digestive problems and an aching throat. Pray that she feels better soon and is able to keep up with her music engagements as well as with her teaching job and hairdressing business.
- **Kevan Barry** is in Kuwait. Pray for his safety and for his family as they carry on at home.
- Kelly asked for prayer for **her friend Sarah** with her marriage. Also, another friend, Sarah Dunn, here in this area has a **son, Joshua**, who is near the end of his life due to cancer.
- **Jerry Lowe** was in the ER in Troy yesterday due to low blood pressure. He did not feel well. We haven’t had an update on Jerry.
- Continue to pray for the work in Tunkhannock.
- Continue to pray for **the people of Texas, Florida**, and especially **Puerto Rico** as well as **those out west** who are impacted by the fires. Remember those in **Mexico** who had 4 large earthquakes.
- Pray for **our effort to buy a church building** and that we are doing what God wants us to do to **reach out to the lost**.

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