

Paul's Winning Way

Arthur Barry

Paul's philosophy of winning is seen from his teaching in 1 Corinthians 9:19-27.

Paul makes the case that his philosophy of winning is much different than the prevailing worldview about winning. He actually does whatever he can to WIN, but when Paul talks about winning, he means winning souls. When he talks about "winning" he means "saving". His basic plan is stated in the following verses.

Though I am free and belong to no man,
I make myself a slave to everyone,
to win as many as possible. 1 Corinthians 9:19

To the weak I became weak, to win the weak.
I have become all things to all men so that
by all possible means I might save some. 1 Corinthians 9:22

And yet Paul is not unaware that winning also means "beating", and we all know that a winner is someone who beats the competition. In this same passage Paul does talk about beating his competition, but, again, there is a surprise for us if we are thinking the way the world thinks. Here is what Paul has to say:

Therefore, I do not run like a man running aimlessly;
I do not fight like a man beating the air.
No, I beat my body and make it my slave
so that after I have preached to others,
I myself will not be disqualified for the prize. 1 Corinthians 9:26,27

To Paul his competition is his own body, and if he is to win others, he must beat himself, he must bring his own body into submission. You do not have to live in this world for very long to find out that there is no warrior as fearsome as self. When we go up against ourselves, we face a ruthless and relentless champion who does not like to be beaten and who has countless ways of defending his or her domain. Paul teaches us not to underestimate the power of this competition. If you think you must train hard to beat others, do not think you have to train any less hard to win others.



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840

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February 7, 2021

WELCOME!

<u>Sunday</u>	Bible Class- 9:30 a.m. Worship- 10:30 a.m.
<u>Wednesday</u>	Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today's Sermon: *Moses: From Basket to Bush*

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

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

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Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 11:23-27

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Sunday Morning Bible Class:** Today Paul will continue teaching from the Psalms.
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class: February 10th at 6:30pm- we will continue studying Zechariah**
- **Sojourners: Mike and Nadine Huddleston, Larry and Kay Little, Doug and Sandy Zimmerman and Dave and Kristy Bell** hope to be here the last week in June and the first two weeks in July.



NEWS

- Join our **daily Bible reading** group! Use the internet or your Bible. Ask Arthur to be invited online or for a printed-out schedule.
- **Sam** has moved to Syracuse, NY for an internship which will last 6 or 7 months. He sends greetings to all his friends here and hopes to visit when he can.
- **First Doug and then Darlene have come down with Covid19. They were both sick with flu-like symptoms. Jerry was also sick with Covid19 and needed hospital care here at Packer. Thankfully, he has improved and went home on Friday to finish convalescing.**
- Arthur and Sandy each had two negative-for-Covid19 results following their re-entry into NY almost two weeks ago and before meeting here for worship last week.

Arthur will be preaching today.

PRAYERS

- **Arthur's older brother Chris** who lives in Yorkshire, England has been diagnosed with early onset dementia. He has been cleared to begin taking medication to slow progression of his condition.
- **Pat Gutherie** who many of us know from the church in Kittanning, has had lung cancer reoccur in his left lung. He has recently begun chemo. Please pray that he can go into remission once more.
- Pray for **Don Myers** of Elmore, AL. He is in constant pain from a back injury and reactions to the pain medication has caused him to have to give up his preaching duties.
- **José Rivera**, Molly's husband, has been laid off work until he can stabilize his blood sugar levels. He has had to go back on insulin but hopes to have a better test result soon so he can go back to work. Prayers, please.
- Pray that **Darlene and Doug Elsbree** get feeling better soon.
- Pray for **spiritual growth** (increased Bible class attendance and greater participation in Bible reading programs) and more people in the area who want to worship with us here in Sayre.
- Pray that **Dan Rowe**, who lives at Elderwood in Waverly, can receive visitors and leave the facility for visits soon so Arthur can continue studying the Bible with him and he can join us in worship. Also pray that Arthur can study the gospel with **Rick Stapleton** who lives near the church building and has actually joined in one of our Thanksgiving dinners.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at barnat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.