



**Today's Sermons**

Morning: Elijah, A Man of God  
 Evening: Song Service

Visit Us At:  
[www.wjchurchofchrist.org](http://www.wjchurchofchrist.org)  
 For Audio Lessons,  
 Past Bulletins, Bible Studies  
 & More  
 Wireless Internet Password:  
 94615548

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	46
Sunday AM Worship	58
Sunday PM Worship	39
Wed. Bible Study	31
Offering	\$1970

## Prayer



- **CHRISTIANS DO NOT PRAY TO JESUS . . . BUT TO THE FATHER.**  
 - Matthew 6:9: 6:8
- **PRAYERS ARE OFFERED TO GOD, THROUGH AND IN THE NAME OF, JESUS CHRIST.**  
 - John 16:23

Why	How	Benefits
To Commune with God <i>Philippians 4:16</i>	In Christ's Name <i>John 14:13</i>	God Hears His Own <i>John 9:31</i>
To Receive Strength <i>Matthew 6:13</i>	In Faith <i>Matthew 21:22; James 1:6-7</i>	Blesses Them <i>1 Timothy 1:1-2</i>
To Obtain Grace <i>Hebrews 4:16</i>	By the Will of God <i>2 Thessalonians 5:17-18</i>	Forgives Them <i>Matthew 6:12, 14-15</i>
To Praise His Name <i>Matthew 6:9</i>	Doing God's Will <i>1 John 5:14; Matthew 6:10</i>	Receives Strength <i>Matthew 6:13</i>
To Seek Forgiveness <i>Matt. 6:12, 14-15; James 5:16</i>	With a Pure heart <i>James 4:3</i>	Encouragement <i>Luke 18:1</i>
Pray For Others <i>James 5:16; Matthew 6:12</i>	With Perseverance <i>Rom. 12:12; 1 Cor. 7:5; Eph. 6:18</i>	Gives Hope <i>James 5:16</i>
Spiritual Needs <i>Matt. 6:12; Acts 8:22; James 5:16</i>	With Forgiveness <i>Matthew 6:14-15</i>	Be Remembered <i>Luke 18:1</i>

Bible Study Club



A Weekly Publication of the  
**West Jefferson Church of Christ**  
 130 Robert Street  
 West Jefferson NC 28694  
 Phone: (336) 846-5615 | Email: [info@wjchurchofchrist.org](mailto:info@wjchurchofchrist.org)  
 Volume XII      March 31, 2019      Number 13

Minister:  
**Tim Canup**  
[tim@wjchurchofchrist.org](mailto:tim@wjchurchofchrist.org)

**Times of Services:**  
Sunday  
 Bible Study:.... 10:00am  
 AM Worship:..11:00am  
 PM Worship:....6:00pm  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:.....1:30pm

Wednesday  
 Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program  
 Sunday:.....7:30am  
 "Back to the Bible"  
 AM 580 WSKS  
 93.5 FM

**We Extend A  
 Warm & Cordial  
 Welcome  
 To All Our  
 Visitors!**

**IS YOUR TOP PRIORITY TO LOVE GOD  
 WITH ALL YOUR BEING?**  
 Marvin L. Weir

A large vocal number desire to remove God and His Word from society. They do not desire to submit to and respect the Word of God and neither do they want anyone else to do so. They demand that everyone accept, honor, and bow down to their ungodly way of life. This is clearly seen in the current sodomite movement.

Much is said about priorities. At the beginning of a New Year, resolutions are made that must fall somewhere into one's priority list. Does it really matter how one chooses to prioritize, and if so, how does one know that he has made the correct choice? The wisdom of men may not place God and one's fellowman at the top of a priority list, but the Holy Scriptures surely do. Let us learn from God's Word about priorities, and the need to prioritize correctly in order to save our souls.

The Purpose of Man! God did not create humans in order for them to do as they please. In Isaiah 43:7, the Bible states that God made man to call upon his name and created him for his glory. Even though speaking of Israel, God's people of promise, the principle thought contained in this verse is applicable to all. God does not need man's wisdom, reasoning, intellect, strength, or resolve to rule capably and completely in this world. But man needs God, and man's chief purpose on earth should be to glorify God in all things!

*Continued Inside*

The Top Two Priorities For All Mankind Are Easily Identified! We live in a world where a large vocal number desire to remove God and His Word from society. They have no use for godly moral principles —“the wisdom that is from above” (James 3:17). They do not desire to submit to or respect the Word of God and neither do they want anyone else to do so. This is clearly seen in the current sodomite movement. They are not content to engage in their sinful behavior quietly and among others of like kind. They demand that everyone else accept, honor, and bow down to their ungodly way of life. The faithful to God will never do so just as darkness will always continue to hate the light (cf. John 3:18-20).

A Pharisee who was a lawyer sought to ensnare Jesus with this question: “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law” (Matt. 22:36). The Master answered, “...Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets” (Matt. 22:37-40). The Pharisees undoubtedly thought Jesus would be forced to answer by picking a single command from the Decalogue. They could then accuse Him of exalting one command above another or reason that some commands are inferior or not as important as other commands. The Lord did not answer as His enemies expected, and for good reason! There are no commands less important or optional with God. To love God with all of one’s being is what must come first in order to faithfully comply with obeying all of His laws! If one without hypocrisy loves God supremely, he will then humbly submit to all of His teachings. One who does such will then treat his neighbor or fellowman like he would desire to be treated (cf. Matt. 7:12).

A person might have what he refers to as a good relationship with his friends and neighbors without having fellowship with God. But one cannot have fellowship with God without striving to have the proper relationship with other people. In other words, one cannot be acceptable to God while hating and mistreating his fellowman. Think of the multitude of problems that would be instantly solved if all people truly loved God with all their being and loved their neighbors as themselves!

Arranging Our Priorities In Proper Order! It is not wrong to have a list of priorities, but one must make certain that his top priority is correct. God will not play “second fiddle” to anyone or anything. Moses instructed God’s chosen people, saying, “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God [is] one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might” (Deut. 6:4-5). Jesus taught the same principle in saying, “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness...” (Matt. 6:33).

To make loving God with all our being our top priority, provides the answer to other

so-called problems. It is the answer for:

1. Forsaking the assembling of ourselves together (Heb. 10:25).
2. Failure to give cheerfully and as prospered (1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:6-7).
3. Failure to study and grow in knowledge of the Word of God (2 Peter 3:18).
4. Failure to be the salt of the earth and light of the world (Matt. 5:13-16).
5. Failure to flee fornication and all other immorality (1 Cor. 6:18).
6. Failure to flee from idolatry (1 Cor. 10:14).
7. Failure to worship “in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24).
8. Failure to obey the Gospel (Rom. 1:16; 2 Thess. 1:7-9).
9. Failure to “fight the good fight of faith” (1 Tim. 6:12).
10. Failure to defend the Gospel (Phil. 1:16).
11. Failure to “be faithful unto death” (Rev. 1:10).

#### OLD TESTAMENT WORTHIES WHO HAD A PROPER TOP PRIORITY!

Abraham—who by faith “...when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went” (Heb. 11:8). He left his family, friends, land, and home behind in order to put God first and honor Him (Gen. 12:1).

Noah—who resisted the majority and was a “preacher of righteousness” (2 Peter 2:5). He built the ark according to God’s instructions (Gen. 6:14ff). It is said of him, “Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he” (Gen. 6:22)

Joshua and Caleb—who found themselves a minority voice but nonetheless stood firm in following God (Num. 14:6-10). As a result of following God, Joshua and Caleb were the only two above 20 years of age that were permitted to enter the promised land.

One who does not love God with all his heart, soul, mind and strength (Mark 12:30), will not put God first in his life and will lose his soul. A Christian must not forget Paul’s plea to the church at Colosse, “Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God” (Col. 3:2-3). One’s top priority will determine the eternal state of his soul!

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- March 31 – Song Service
- April 7 – Men’s Business Meeting & Ladies’ Bible Class
- April 14 – Preach-N-Eat & 1:30 Worship
- May 5 – Gospel Meeting with Jeff Cannon; Preach-N-Eat & 1:30 Worship
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell