



The Sword

*“And take... the sword of the Spirit,
which is the word of God.”* Ephesians 6:17

“The Sword” is published weekly by the OAK GROVE CHURCH OF CHRIST, as a teaching and information tool for the congregation. Articles are intended to encourage the study of God’s Word every day! —Jack W. McNiel, editor

Volume 17 – February 14, 2010 – Number 7

“Our Spiritual Hard Drive” *by Jack w. McNiel*

This past week I learned a very important lesson about internet and computer security. I had not backed up all of my important files, except for some sermons which I backed up about May of last year. None of the church bulletins or other church related documents had been backed up since I have been working with the Oak Grove congregation. Also, the antivirus software on the church office computer was not up-to-date nor had a virus sweep been run recently. Unfortunately, somewhere along the way the computer was infected with a “worm” virus that destroyed the contents of the hard drive. I lost virtually everything I had done on that computer in the last year. It’s GONE! Some of it might be recovered, but the computer tech told me not to get my hopes up. Today I purchased an

external hard drive so that I can store and protect my important “data treasures” and prevent another catastrophic loss. If only I had done so the previous week, I would not have had my valuable documents destroyed! But once the worm eats your data –it’s too late, there’s little chance of recovery!

This reminds me of what Jesus said in Matthew 6:19-20, *“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal...”* Like me with my “date treasures,” many trust their infinitely more important spiritual treasures to their “internal physical hard drive” (i.e.

“laying up treasures upon the earth”) instead of in the “external spiritual hard drive” (i.e. “laying up treasures in heaven”). If our spiritual treasures are stored only on the earth, what will happen to them when our system crashes (and crash it will) –and we die? Our spiritual treasures will be GONE FOREVER! There is no “technician” that can restore or recover our spiritual treasures once the

system crashes –it’s too late to retrieve what will be lost! We need to place our valuable spiritual treasures somewhere that nothing can harm them! We need to store up for ourselves treasures in heaven, where our God will keep them safe and protected and hold them preserved for us until the time when our “physical system” crashes and our “internal hard drive” is gone forever.

“The Kind of Love I Want” by Unknown

It was approximately 8:30 a.m. on a busy morning at the doctor's office when an elderly gentleman in his 80s arrived to have stitches removed from his thumb. He stated that he was in a hurry to make an appointment at 9:00 a.m.

I took his vital signs and had him take a seat, knowing it might be an hour before he would be seen. Seeing him look at his watch, I decided since I was not busy with another patient I would evaluate his wound. On exam, I saw it was well healed, so I talked to the doctor and got the supplies to remove his sutures.

While redressing his wound, we engaged in conversation. I asked him if he was in a hurry to meet another doctor's appointment. He said no, that he needed to go to the nursing home to eat breakfast with his wife. I inquired as to her health. He said that she was a long-time victim of Alz-

heimer's Disease.

I asked if she would be worried if he was a bit late. He replied that she no longer knew who he was; in fact, she had not recognized him in five years. I was surprised and asked, 'And you still go every morning, even though she doesn't know who you are?' He smiled, patted my hand, and said, 'She doesn't know who I am, but I still know who she is.'

I had to hold back tears as he left. Goose bumps covered my arm as I thought, 'That is the kind of love I want in my life!'

True love is neither physical nor romantic. True love is an acceptance of all that is, has been, will be, and will not be.

“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church ...”
-Ephesians 5:25

(House To House Heart To Heart Vol. 10 #5)

NEWS AND NOTES:

OUR PRAYER LIST:

Congregation:

- Lorene Cooper is home and recovering from triple heart bypass surgery.
- Jim O'Connor has pneumonia. He is in Center Point Hospital room 622.
- Opal Reed had a pacemaker put in Tuesday afternoon. She was scheduled to be released on Wednesday. She will be staying with her daughter for a few days as she recovers.
- Please remember in your prayers all who have been sick, bereaved or in the hospital recently: Marjorie Alley, Freda Bentley, Lloyd Cooper, Irene Jennings, Jim O'Connor, Wendell Osborne, Alberta Petering, Opal Reed.
- Marjorie Banks has placed membership with the Oak Grove church of Christ.

Friends & Family:

- Melinda Stephenson's brother had surgery to remove a blood clot last week.

ITEMS OF INTEREST:

Oak Grove:

- April 11-14—Gospel Meeting with Marvin Rickett
- Ladies' Class 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at 10 AM.
- Personal Evangelism II each Sunday 4:45—5:30 PM. Beginning Feb. 21.

Local Area:

- March 5 —Youth Event at Higginsville
- March 20 —Saturday Bible Study Seminar at 39th Street

SERVING ONE ANOTHER:

LEADING IN WORSHIP: *February 14*

Announcements: Walter Hutcherson

Usher: Lowell Smith

Lord's Table: Vint Hall

West: Justin Liljegren —Melvin Lunn

East: Sean McLaughlin —Brayden Shelley

Sunday AM

Song Leader: Darrell Andrews

Opening Prayer: Hershel Hunt

Second Prayer: Walter Hutcherson

Scripture Reader: Roy Smith

Sermon: *Romans 5:6-8*

"The Love of God"

Closing Prayer: Peyton Jenkins

Sunday PM

Song Leader: Roy Smith

Opening Prayer: Tyler Jenkins

Sermon: *1 Corinthians 15:33*

"Lay Down w/Dogs, Rise Up w/ Fleas"

Closing Prayer: Dixon Liljegren

Wednesday Night:

Song Leader: Walter Hutcherson

February 10

Devotional: Leland Reed

Closing Prayer: Dustin Hall

February 17

Devotional: Tim Smith

Closing Prayer: Vernon Logan

OUR CURRENT RECORDS:

Wednesday: *February 3*

Bible Class 69

Sunday: *February 7*

Bible Class 85

AM Worship 93

PM Worship 60

Contribution **\$1,896**

Budget **\$2,020**

*The King James Version is requested for
pulpit, classrooms, & scripture reading.*

Work Program 2008-2009

Team	Leader/s	Next Assignment
1	Jack McNiel	Mar. 28
2	<i>Roger Stephenson</i>	<i>Feb. 14</i>
3	Walter Hutcherson	Feb. 21
4	Vernon Logan	Feb. 28
5	Dustin Hall	Mar. 7
6	Roy Smith Tim Smith	Mar. 14
7	Justin Liljegren Dixon Liljegren	Mar. 21

WHO WE ARE:

The Oak Grove Church of Christ is independent of any denominational organization. We are not associated with any national or world headquarters. Yet, we cooperate voluntarily with our sister congregations in the Lord's work and fellowship.

The church of Christ is noted for its emphasis upon returning to New Testament Christianity and for its desire to *"be perfectly joined together in the same mind and ... judgment..."* (1 Cor. 1:10). We try to follow the basic, innocent faith that was proclaimed on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2).

If you are earnest about learning more by means of studying the Holy Bible and obeying what it says, you will truly find a home here at Oak Grove Church of Christ.

Oak Grove Church of Christ

104 SW 6th Street,
Oak Grove, MO 64075 (816) 690-4599
www.ogchurchofchrist.org

Head of the Church:

Christ (Eph 1:22; 5:23; Col 1:18)

Elders: (1 Tim 3:1-7)

Claude Andrews
Walter Hutcherson
Richard Petering
Lowell Smith

Deacons: (1 Tim 3:8-13)

Darrell Andrews
Dean Evatt
Vint Hall
Hershel Hunt
Leland Reed
Tim Smith
David Wiesemann

Preacher: (2 Tim 4:1-5)

Jack W. McNiel
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– Schedule of Services –

Sunday:

Bible Study – 9:30 a.m.
Worship – A.M. 10:20; P.M. 6:00

Wednesday: Bible Study – 7:00

Bi-Monthly: *"House to House / Heart to Heart"*

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