

Shenandoah

church of Christ

TRIUMPH

“Do you know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it” (1 Cor. 9:24)

Hannah’s Blessed Request

Gabriel Rodriguez

Inside This Issue:

True Worship (4)

*Shepherd’s
Corner:*

**Why Was Our
Lord Crucified?**

As we honor our mothers today, the Bible gives examples of wonderful mothers (cf. Pr. 31:10-31). One in particular that comes to mind is Hannah. We read of her in 1 Samuel Chapter 1. The Bible tells us that Hannah endured mockery from her husband’s (Elkanah’s) second wife (Peninnah) because he loved her (Hannah) more than she (1:5) and was unable to have children (1:6-7). So, “*in bitterness of soul, she prayed unto the Lord and wept sore...vowing unto the Lord...O Lord of hosts, if thou will indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but will give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head*” (1:11). Although Hannah endured a difficult passage of life, she remained focused on God and His righteousness. So much so, that her request for a man child was not to gloat and arrogantly parade him in the face of Peninnah; rather, it was to give him unto the Lord’s work.

Hannah’s request was granted and she remained committed to her vow: “*But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her*

husband, I will not go up until the child be weaned, and then I will bring him, that he may appear before the Lord, and there abide for ever...I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord. And he worshiped the Lord there” (1:22,28).

We need more mothers like Hannah, who vow to give their children to the Lord’s service (Pr. 22:6). Although Hannah gave her son to the work of the temple and priesthood, mothers today can give their children to the Lord by molding and teaching them (by word and example) the ways of God. This is exactly what we see in 2 Timothy 1:5 and 3:15, where Eunice taught her son, Timothy, the wisdom of God from a babe. She taught him the ways of righteousness and holiness, and through her instruction, Timothy became a man of God, thoroughly complete unto all good works (2 Tim. 3:17). A mother’s love should always include her willingness to bring her children up in the ways of the Lord. May God be praised!

Church News and Announcements

CONGREGATION

The fellowship luncheon is today after our morning services. All visitors are invited to enjoy the meal and fellowship with us.

The Ladies' Bible Class and Men's Training Class will be at 4:00 pm on May 24. The ladies will cover lesson 4 in the book, Seasoning Your Words.

Our College (Isela) and High School (Matthew and Tiffany) Graduates will be honored after evening services on May 17 in the annex. Everyone is invited to stay and congratulate these young people.

Volunteers are needed for the month of June: host youth devo, host fellowship dinner, and prepare Lord's Supper. See Elwyn if you can serve in one of these areas.

The Sunny Glenn Children's Home will be here the week of June 9-11 to pick up Liquid Laundry Detergent. As before, you can either purchase this item and place it in the library, or give a donation to one of our elders, who will then purchase this item in bulk. Thank you.

YOUTH

Our next youth devotional is set for May 22. The Dorries' will host this event in the annex. All our youth are encouraged to attend.

YOUNG ADULT

Our next young adult devotional is scheduled for May 29th. More details to come later.

AREA NEWS

None at this time.

TRUE WORSHIP (4)

The next act of worship mentioned in Acts 2:42 is "*fellowship*," which is the Greek word *koinonia*. The word can either mean joint participation, or a gift, collection, or contribution exhibiting an embodiment and proof of fellowship. Let's analyze the first definition today.

It deals with an association - having participation with another or sharing what one has. As one studies the Scriptures there are many examples of the latter definition. One that comes to mind is found in Acts 2:44-45: "*And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all man, as every man had need.*" Although the early church was admirable in helping their fellowman, the word "*fellowship*" of Acts 2:42 doesn't lend to this meaning. Rather, it lends to the meaning of something else the early church was jointly participating in. What was it? We read in Ephesians 5:19 that Paul commanded the church to "*Speak to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.*" But for what reason? Colossians 3:16 says, "*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord*" (Col. 3:16).

The early church not only helped their brethren physically, but more importantly, they helped them other spiritually. Consider what Hebrews 10:24 says, "*And let us consider one*

another to provoke unto love and to good works." The early church was about helping their brethren remain faithful unto God (Gal. 6:1; Jas. 5:19-20), and if this was the case, then how is one way they did this? Through song.

Songs are not merely about the tune and melody, but more importantly they're about words. The message the song contains is truly important. Why? Because communication is what builds up the mind, not sound or noise (cf. 1 Cor. 14:7). All sound and noise do is boost the emotions. Therefore, the emphasis that Paul places on music is what is being said, not how it sounds. This is why the commanded was given to the entire church. The church (*people, Christians*) were commanded to sing together, not for the purpose of sounding melodious, but for the purpose of teaching and admonishing each other with God's word.

So the idea of *fellowship*, as it followed the apostles' doctrine, brings to mind singing, where Christians taught and admonished one another through song. This is one way the early church jointly participated one with another. Our song service not only praises and exalts God, it also seeks to teach our fellow Christians for the purpose of helping each other remain faithful to God. So, sing out ye Christians. Let your words be heard and allow God's word to continue to indwell our minds. May God be praised!

Bro. G. Rodriguez

WHAT SAITH THE LORD?

Nearly two thousand years ago an important question was raised before the Apostles after they had delivered the good news of Jesus's life, death, burial, and resurrection (Acts 2:21-36). The hearer's conscience were pricked of sinful conduct (2 Cor. 7: 10-11) and asked: "*Men and brethren, what shall we do* (in order to be saved)? (Acts 2:37). Without hesitation, Peter elevated his voice and proclaimed: "*Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit*" (Acts 2:38).

Upon hearing the words of Peter, the people obeyed. This demonstrated their belief in Christ (Jn. 8:24). Hence, they repented of sin and confessed allegiance to the name of Christ (Matt. 10:32-33). Afterwards, the people were baptized for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:41, cf. Mrk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21).

The people's submission to the words of salvation granted them a relationship with God the Father by accessing citizenship into the church of Christ (Acts 2:47, cf. Matt. 16:18; Mrk. 9:1; Acts. 2:1-4). As a member of Christ's body (Acts 8:4) the people were then encouraged to live faithful unto death by conquering sin in their lives (Rev. 2:10; Rom. 6: 4-12; 2 Tim. 4: 6-8). We then await for the coming day in which all men shall be judged the word of God (Jn 12:48; Acts 17:30-31; 2 Cor. 5:10). Will we be ready?

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

Why Was Our Lord Crucified?

When Peter preached the first gospel sermon on the day of Pentecost, he accused the murderers of the Lord with: "Ye men of Israel, Jesus of Nazareth...ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain" (Acts 2:22-23). Later Peter went on to say, "But ye denied the Holy One and the Just...and killed the Prince of Life...And now, brethren, I know that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers" (Acts 3:14-17). The sin of ignorance definitely figured as a principal cause of our Lord's death! Even while Jesus hung on the cross, He prayed: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" (Lk. 23:34). But theirs was willful ignorance, for they had been given ample time and opportunity to know God's will! Jesus had said: "For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (Mt. 13:15). They had rejected God's Prophet, and had refused all evidences which miracles presented.

Sadly enough, today there are numerous people who are willingly ignorant of God's will! His word is proclaimed by plain preaching of the gospel! Yet they intentionally reject it; as Paul wrote, "Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory" (1 Cor. 2:8). Such ignorance stains this generation as an evil, and deadly sin! Christ is still crucified in the eyes of a people "that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Thes. 1:8).

We encourage you to study your Bible much, much more. Learn God's will for you, and obey it in your daily walk with him.

Bro. W. Holmes

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

BISHOPS/SHEPHERDS/ELDERS

(1 Tim. 3: 1-6)

Brother Elwyn Hipp (830) 510-6311,
Brother Wayne Holmes (210) 696-8597

DEACON

(Acts 6: 1-5; 1
Tim. 3: 7-12)

Brother Raul Baltierra
(210) 843-9730

GOSPEL PREACHER

(1 Cor. 9:1-16; 1 Tim.
4:6; 2 Tim. 4: 2-5)

Brother Gabriel Rodriguez
(210)315-4453



May 10

AM WORSHIP

Announcements: *T. Mayces*
 Opening Prayer: *B. Dorries*
 Song Leader: *E. Hipp*
 Lord's Supper: *R. Trevino; R. Baltierra; S. Hernandez; J. Cardenas*

Scripture: *1 Cor. 11:23-29*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *A. Maldonado*

PM WORSHIP

Announcements: *T. Mayces*
 Opening Prayer: *M. de la Garza*
 Song Leader: *A. Maldonado*
 Lord's Supper: *E. Hipp; R. Baltierra Jr.*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *E. Lerma*

After Greeter: *P. White*
 Greeter/Usher: *G. Gribble*
 AV Duty: *J. Guillen*
 Elder in charge: *W. Holmes*

REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED

(by writing, calling, and praying)

Wayne Holmes
 Juanita Mahan
 Richard Rodriguez
 Rina White
 Argelia (Janie's mother)
 Joe Guillen
 Sarah Cannon
 Roberto Garcia (Hospice)
 Lorenza Bejarano
 Olga (Joe's mother-in-law)
 Anthony Harris Sr
 Ina Dial
 David Sudhoff
 Elijah Sudhoff
 Eloise Creek (continues to improve)
 Roy Guajardo (battling Parkinsons)
 Carolyn Harris
 Gerri Mayces (medical issues)
 Rose Scott (grandmother of Clay and Wes Bond)

BATTLING CANCER:

Barbara Oakes	Johna Dorries
Edna Wilks	Abigail Reyes
Lydia Cowan	George Jackson
Briana Nieves	Sonny Cary
Mary Purkey	Elwyn Hipp
Graciola Anderson	Zeke Watkins

SHUT-INS:

Dorothy Harper
 Mary Louese Hughes
 Dazel Ball
 Mildred Geest

TRAVELING:

A. Jacob; Courtney Cobb (Japan);

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES MAY

Organizing Monthly Luncheon:
Dorries
 Preparing Lord's Supper:
Dorries
 Auditorium Service Duties:
Hipp
 Wash baptismal garments; clean cry
 room
Harris
 Brother in charge of services:
B. Dorries

AM Theme:
 "Praising God" - A Study in the book of
 Psalms
 PM Theme:
 Setting the Church in Order - A Study in
 the books of 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus

AM Sermon:
Psalm 1

PM Sermon:
Maintaining Human Relationships

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL

May 6: *B. Dorries*
 May 13: *W. Holmes*
 May 20: *G. Rodriguez*

FOR THE RECORD

May 3

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Study	38
Sunday AM Worship	63
Sunday PM Worship	32
Wednesday Bible Study	35
Budget/Offering:	\$2,450.00/ \$1,901.00

Weekly Bible Readers:
 NA (Adult Bible class)

SHENANDOAH CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Church email Address:
shenandoah@shenandoahcofc.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Sunday: Bible Study at 9:30 am; Worship at 10:30 am;
 Worship at 5:00 pm.
 Wednesday: Bible Study at 7:00 pm