



THE MESSENGER

AUGUST 2, 2020

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting

August 9 at 5 pm

Weekly Bible Studies

All temporarily being conducted via Zoom. Check our “friends” page on Facebook for more information.

Times of Service

Sunday

Bible study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM

(Immediately followed by a short worship service)

First Friday of Month

Singing

7:30 PM

Address and Contact

University Heights Church of Christ
445 Columbia Ave., Lexington,
KY 40508
(859) 255-6257
www.uheightschurch.com

SOLITUDE

I attended a health care conference in New York City many years ago. My hotel was located right on Broadway in the middle of the theater district. Being in the heart of New York City, there was a lot that could have captured my attention and provided memories for years to come. However, I have only three major memories of this visit, none which are very complimentary of the urban scene. The one that has to do with this article is noise.

Noise! I could not get away from the noise. Noise was my constant, unwanted companion, like having an incessantly talking, obnoxious person seated next to you on an airplane who is oblivious to the fact that you are reading, taking a nap, doing some writing, or some other singular activity. During the conference, horns, sirens, people yelling across the street at one another, and other hotel guests partying in nearby rooms constantly interfered with my own desire to be alone at times.

Many people prefer a crowd and the noisier the better. The idea of being alone, no television or stereo blaring, no phone interrupting the silence with a goofy ring tone, makes them apprehensive of solitude. They see no benefit in it, only an occasion for loneliness to set in. But the word of God presents solitude as a useful, even essential, tool for the Christian. So, let's take a brief look at solitude from a biblical point of view.

Jesus sought solitude and used it to great advantage. Following his baptism, Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by Satan. Before those temptations began Jesus spent 40 days and nights alone with no food, books, or conversation; nothing but an active mind. How did he utilize his mind? He used it to prepare for the coming temptations, and his mission which would begin when he came out of the

Members Needing Our Prayers

John Thompson, Mary Weatherholt, Alexa Lake, Bennie Poynter, Jill Harrison, Joyce Bolton, Karen Spivey, Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson, Whitney Crouch

Others Needing Prayers

Glen Perkins, Ethan Shelton, Demetrius Booker, Jen Victoria Poynter, Andy Kincaid, Chassey Seabolt, Terry Daniels, Harvey Baker, Leroy Weatherholt, Robert Brundige, Valerie and Barry Boyd, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Cindi's niece, Dana, and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Mark (Carol's son), Ron Harmon

To Our Guests

Interested in a Bible study? Either let one of us know or mark it on your visitor card.

Type in our name on Facebook, YouTube, or our website if you'd like to watch or just listen to our sermons.

wilderness. ([Luke 4:1-2, 14-15](#)) So, too, let us seek out a place of solitude for the purpose of preparation for the Lord's work.

Solitude provides a more productive atmosphere for Bible study and meditation than a place packed with noisy people. The psalmist wrote that blessed is the man who delights in the law of the Lord and meditates on it night and day. (Psalm 1:1-2). He's not saying to go off by yourself and do nothing but meditate, but that when one is away from normal distractions, that time can and ought to be used to dwell upon the word of God.

Solitude allows for intimate prayers. Jesus, teaching against the hypocritical praying of the Pharisees, said in Matthew 6:6, *But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.* When Jesus prayed before his arrest and crucifixion, he went off alone. (See Matthew 26:36-46)

I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses. And the voice I hear falling on my ear the Son of God discloses. And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and he tells me I am his own. And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known. (Austin Miles) John Thompson

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
John Thompson	Adam Litmer	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	

