



THE MESSENGER

APRIL 9, 2023

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting

April 9

Our Next Gospel Meeting

Today through Friday

Weekly Bible Studies

Thursday at 1 on Zoom

Friday at 1 on Zoom

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

February 3, 7:30

Address and Contact

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Christ

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WILL WE BE LIKE PAUL?

The apostle Paul was prepared to make his defense. None stood with him. When Herod gave him permission to speak none expected what they heard. If he was ashamed, he did not show it. If he was awed by them, it was not evident. If they expected groveling, they didn't get it. What they heard was the gospel.

Paul's whole manner moved governor Festus to cry out, *Paul, you are out of your mind; your great learning is driving you out of your mind.* To Festus, Paul must have been insane. Perhaps he thought his outburst would rattle the chained apostle and cause him to remember his place. Instead, Paul calmly responded, *I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking true and rational words.* (Acts 26:25)

Then Paul turned his attention to the most powerful man in the room. *For the king knows about these things, and to him I speak boldly. For I am persuaded that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this has not been done in a corner. King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe.* Paul invited Agrippa to become a Christian. That's what this entire scene was about. Curious Agrippa just wanted to hear Paul's case. (Acts 25:21-22) Paul seized on this and several of the highest dignitaries in the land got to hear the gospel.

Agrippa himself was taken aback. *In a short time would you persuade me to be a Christian?* Whether Agrippa was

Members Needing Our Prayers

John Thompson, Mary Weatherholt, Joyce Bolton, Julie Patton, Rick Small, Benny Poynter, Richard and Janet Brundige, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

Others Needing Prayer

Eli Kempton, Sophie Brown, Fay Thomas, Glen Perkins, Edra Bernard, Valari Jones-Butler (Valari is Gina Seabolt's former co-worker. Her daughter is undergoing chemo for breast cancer. Her 21 year old nephew was killed in a shooting), Charlie Hoy, Marc Nations, Janice Parsons, Veronica Bowman, Charles Bishop, Allison Walker, Mark Nickles, Dwayne Harrod, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Ron Harmon, Patty Hill

To Our Guests

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sincere or not, Paul certainly was. *Whether short or long, I would to God that not only you but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am—except for these chains.*

What was Paul? He was washed and cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:7). He knew Jesus Christ, (Philippians 3:8) gazed upon all the pomp and pageantry in the room along with its fancy titles and honorifics, and knew they were rubbish (Philippians 3:8). Paul knew that all need Christ.

In the years to come I believe Christians will be called to answer for their faith more than has previously occurred in this country. As our nation moves further down the ugly path it is on, Christians will be put on “trial” before officials, friends, family, classmates, and coworkers to explain their actions and beliefs. Let us use those times as Paul used them, opportunities to turn attention to Jesus Christ by explaining the reason for the hope that is in us. (1 Peter 3:14-15) Adam Litmer

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

