

**University Heights Church  
of Christ**

445 Columbia Ave.,  
Lexington, KY 40508  
(859) 255-6257

[www.uheightschurch.com](http://www.uheightschurch.com)

**WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Sunday**

Bible Study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM

**Wednesday**

Bible Study: 7:30 PM (This is  
immediately followed by a  
short worship period)

**First Friday of Each Month**

Singing: 7:30 PM

**LEADERSHIP**

**Elders**

Garry Banks, David Collins,  
John Thompson

**Evangelist**

Adam Litmer

**Deacons**

Troy Antle, Richard Brundige,  
Matt Thompson, Adam  
Litmer, Bill Morelan, Jim  
Parsons, Pat Seabolt, Adam  
Daniels, Jamie Powell

**Office Hours**

I am here at the  
building from 8:45-  
3:30 Tuesday through  
Friday. Feel free to stop  
by if you need to talk.

Also, my phone is  
always on. If you have  
a need, do not hesitate  
to call anytime.

**A “Prayer Rut”**

A Christian once complained that he felt like he was praying about the same things in every prayer. He said he felt as though he was in a “prayer rut.” Usually the topics of our prayers remain quite similar simply because our needs generally remain the same. There is nothing wrong with that provided our prayers remain heart felt and proceed from faith and trust in God. Yet it may be some are reading this who feel similar to the brother mentioned above. If you feel as though you are in a “prayer rut” you may find the following thoughts, drawn from the psalms, helpful:

-Try spending at least the same amount of time praising God in your prayers as making requests of Him (Psalm 18:1-2)

-Talk to God about your ultimate hope (Psalm 17:15)

-Reflect upon God’s care for you in the past and make specific mention of it (Psalm 13:5-6)

-Tell God about what you intend to do as a result of His love and care (Psalm 22:22)

-Reflect upon the wonder of creation and God’s power (Psalm 19:1-6).

-Read the psalms ever day!

It is good to pray about our needs, about our leaders, and for the sick. It is also good to pray for the things mentioned above. These, and many more, can help prevent a “prayer rut.”

**IN NEED OF PRAYERS**

Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd, Paul Atkisson, Barbara Matheny, David Morrow, Debbie Parker, Vina Krissow, John Bennett, Robert Brundige, Donald Dawson, Gail Stein, Sandy Childress, Susie Burton, Jacob Profit, Valerie and Barry Boyd, Wilma Lawson, Jannett’s mother and stepfather, Sandy Driver, Erlene Young, Doris Baker, Lyn Kincaid, Bernard Larch, Burnice Richardson, Ann Chrusiel, Janett Brundige’s mother

# University Heights Messenger

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**Who At My Door Is Standing?**

Adam Litmer

The title of this post is also the title of a beloved song written by Mary Slade and Asa Everett all the way back in 1876. Many hymnals place Revelation 3:20 just below the title and just above the lyrics. That passage comes at the end of our Lord’s message to our lukewarm brethren in Laodicea. He tells them, *Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.* That this message was to Christians reminds us of the need for continual faithfulness. Where Jesus is concerned, our hearts need to be operating on a constant “open door” policy.

However, there is something else lurking just outside the door of our hearts. More often than not it is unwilling to stand out in the open and knock, preferring rather to conceal itself until the opportune moment and then pounce, very much like a lion hiding in ambush. God warned Cain of this lurker in Genesis 4:7. *If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it.*

Sin is crouching at the door of our hearts constantly. It’s hiding in the bushes, peering through the windows, pressing an eye to the keyhole, and doing everything it can to find a way in. It’s waiting for those unguarded moments to strike. When that rude driver cuts us off, perhaps even treating us to a certain hand signal in the process, sin is ready to pounce with a curse word or a retaliatory gesture. When we learn that a classmate or coworker has been gossiping about us, sin is ready to strike with some slanderous gossip of its own. When a brother or sister in Christ walks past without offering any greeting at all, sin is ready to swoop in and think the absolute worst about them without giving any thought to a possible trial or hardship weighing heavily on their minds. When kingdom work needs to be done or time needs to be given to spiritual improvement, sin is quick to cast his incredibly wide net “omission” over our souls to keep us content with status quo and our effort for the Lord to less than maximum.

I put a challenge to us all. Let’s take just a single day and count the number of times and ways sin makes an effort to ambush us. I believe that if we’re really paying attention we’ll come away not just surprised, but with much great awareness of our adversary and his methods (2 Corinthians 2:11). Let us never forget that Jesus is not the

only one seeking entrance into our hearts. Where *he* knocks, sin crouches in ambush. *Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.* (Proverbs 4:23)

### “O How Love I Thy Law”

John Thompson

On the one hand, the Bible continues, year after year, to be the world’s best selling book, while, on the other hand, there remains a significant number of people who would very much like to replace it with literature upon which their own religious beliefs are based, or do away with the Bible entirely. How sad it is that many Bible naysayers grew up in households that contained no Bibles at all. Never have they participated in Bible study, or even, out of curiosity, picked one up and began reading. How sad it is that so many others have grown up receiving a constant barrage of anti-bible rhetoric ranging from it being historically inaccurate and full of contradictions to it actually being evil and destructive, touting a deity who perpetrates rape, mass murder, and a multitude of other anti-social activities.

Saddest of all, I believe, are those who did grow up in households which placed the highest value on God’s word, but who now have come to reject it as meaningless in their lives. What did they do with the Bible they had as a child? Left it at home when they moved away for good? Gave it to Goodwill, buried within a box of items no longer wanted or needed? Is it locked away in some storage unit or at the bottom of a closet packed floor to ceiling, front to back with discarded and no longer useful things? If it is out on a shelf, has it been opened within recent memory? Surely it has not found its way into some landfill, has it?

When I was a boy, a popular song of the day was “Dust On The Bible.” The words seem appropriate here:

*I went to a home one day to see some friends of mine  
Of all their books and magazines not a Bible could I find  
I asked them for the Bible when they brought it what a shame  
For the dust was covered o'er it not a finger print was plain*

*Dust on the Bible, dust on the Holy Word*

*The words of all our prophets and the sayings of our Lord  
Of all the other books you'll find there's none salvation holds  
Get that dust off the Bible and redeem your poor soul*

*You can read your magazine,s read of love and tragic things  
But not one word of Bible vers,e not a scripture do you know*

*When it is the very truth and its contents good for you  
But if dust is covered o'er it is sure to doom your soul*

*If you have a friend you'd like to help along life's way  
Just tell him that the Good Book shows a mortal how to pray  
The best advice to give him that will make his burden light  
Is to dust off the family Bible, trade the wrong way for the right*

Are you out to destroy the Bible? Your efforts are doomed to failure because Jesus said, long ago, *Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.* (Matthew 24:35) More ruthless people than you have tried in the past, but the Bible remains the best-selling book ever. Is it your goal to prove the Bible to be irrelevant? The Apostle Peter, answering Jesus’ question as to whether or not His disciples would leave Him like so many others, asked, *Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.* (John 6:68-69) I challenge you to get a Bible, open it, read it, meditate upon it and you will find it vastly more relevant than anything else you can read.

Do you believe you have eliminated the Bible from your own personal life? Think again. No doubt you have said, indicating how small one thing is in comparison to a larger thing, “that doesn’t amount to a drop in the bucket.” Check out Isaiah 40:15. Like most people, you are probably being pulled in so many different directions due to all of the competing demands upon your time and energy and have felt at your wit’s end. Look up Psalm 107:27. No matter how hard you try, you will never stop being confronted by something biblical, So, why not embrace it, rather than continuing to fight against it?

*Unspotted is the fear of God, And ever doth endure  
The judgments of the Lord are truth, And righteousness most pure*

*They more than gold, Yea much fine gold, To be desired are,  
Then honey from the honeycomb, That dropeth sweeter far.*

*Moreover, they Thy servant warn how he his life should frame  
A great reward provided is For them that keep the same*

*Chorus: O how love I Thy law, O how love I Thy law; It is my meditation all the day;  
O how love I Thy law, O how love I Thy law; It is my meditation all the day.*