

# MARCH 2024

## MONTHLY BULLETIN

### *Church of Christ*

106 SW Murray Road Lee's Summit  
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## **"NO GREATER ENEMY"**

**2 Timothy 1:7 <sup>7</sup> "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."**

The Klingon Warf of Star Trek—"There is no greater enemy then one's own fears."

I have chosen to begin this article with 2 quotes, one is inspired by the Holy Spirit, and one, of course, is not. That is obvious. However, they both speak truth. However, it could be argued that our own flesh may be our greatest enemy, but that may be another topic.

Let me begin by saying, I can appreciate Warf's perspective. I have a phobia. It may seem trivial to you, but for me it is real. I have a deep-seated fear of needles. I admit I have an irrational fear of needles! I know it is irrational, but that doesn't mean it is not real. It certainly is for me! I cannot sit beside my dear wife as she sews on our couch. It is for this reason I have agreed to only one blood draw per year even though my doctor asks for 2. I tell people I get my bi-annual blood draw once a year! One time the clinic messed up my one yearly draw, and I refused to get a re-do. Not happening! This confession should shed light on how much I love serving my brothers and sisters in His church. If it is expected of me to get this Covid vaccine by this government, I will refuse. However, if my brothers and sisters ask and expect me to in order for them to feel safe in my presence, I will.... (gulp) do it! (Maybe I can get some valium to help. We shall see.)

My point is that fear is not a good thing. It can keep us from doing what is right. To be sure, fearing our Creator is good and it is just. Jesus confirmed this in Matt 10:28 <sup>28</sup> "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." However, we are warned many times that we should not fear anything of this world. Why? Because it can cause us to do wrong.

I know the apostle Peter was one of the Lord's closest disciples. However, Peter feared in at least 3 instances, and his fear led to wrongdoing on his part. He started to sink into the water because he grew afraid of the wind and the waves. He also denied Jesus 3 times at Jesus' trial. To highlight his failure after denying Jesus 3 times, he ran away and wept! However, his fear was so great and it had such a hold on him that he did not repent until after Jesus resurrected. Peter also played the part of a hypocrite when he separated himself from christian gentiles for the sake of his fellow Jewish christians. In all these instances I believe their root that led to failure was fear. Perhaps it was even Paul who had fear when he asked the Lord to take away his "thorn of the flesh." I cannot be sure, but I would not be surprised.

When we become afraid of this world and its people, we sin. We show our lack of dependence on the Lord. Perhaps my fear of needles applies as well. I am not sure, but it is something I am working on. It is my conviction that anger and resentment are a result of fear, for often anger is simply a mask for fear. This may explain some or much of the violence and turmoil our society is experiencing in this 21<sup>st</sup> century. People are afraid for various reasons, and fears may be driving their anger.

Let us all work to drive away our fears. Let us learn how dangerous they can be to our spirits. The best way to drive away our fears is to draw closer to the Lord and what He wants from us. To love him and His people will help drive away our fears.

**1 John 4:17-19 <sup>17</sup> "Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. <sup>19</sup> We love Him because He first loved us."**

Jay Graham

# PROGRAM FOR MARCH 2024

Elder: Gordon C

| SUNDAY 9:30 AM           | 3        | 10       | 17                   | 24       | **31**        |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|----------|---------------|
| <i>Song Director</i>     | Joseph J | Jeremy M | Joe B                | Tyler S  | Glen W        |
| <i>Opening Prayer</i>    | Tim M    | Fred M   | Jim B                | Gerry A  | Travis S      |
| <i>Scripture Reading</i> | Marty E  | Jess B   | Philip C             | Tom A    | Thomas A      |
| <i>Prayer</i>            | Jim B    | Bill F   | Marty E              | Jared G  | Bill F        |
| <i>Lord's Table</i>      | Steve P  | Tyler S  | Joseph J             | Boom B   | Jared G       |
| <i>Attendants</i>        | Thomas A | Boom B   | Mark M               | Thomas A | Marty E       |
|                          | Tom A    | Jerry B  | Glen W               | Travis S | Fred M        |
|                          | Gordon C | Marty E  | Tyler S              | Jeremy M | Jess B        |
|                          | Philip C | Thomas A | Boom B               | Joseph J | Joe B         |
| <i>Sermon</i>            | Mark M   | Glen W   | Steve P -<br>Reading | Philip C | Open Mut. Ed. |

\*\*Sunday afternoon service 1:15 p.m.

| SUNDAY 6:00 PM       | 3                        | 10                                    | 17                      | 24          | **31**                                       |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--|
| <i>Song Director</i> | Joseph J                 | Jeremy M                              | Joe B                   | Tyler S     | Glen W                                       |
| <i>Bible Drill</i>   | Mt 17:14-27;<br>18:10-14 | Mt 18:1-5<br>Mk 9:33-41<br>Lk 9:46-50 | Mt 18:6-9<br>Mk 9:42-48 | Mt 18:21-35 | Mt 18:21-35<br>Gen 50:17<br>Mt 6:12-15;9:2-6 |
| <i>Leader</i>        | Jeremy M                 | Travis S                              | Open Mut. Ed.           | Mark M      | Singing                                      |

| WEDS 7:00 PM             | 6       | 13       | 20      | 27       |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| <i>Song Director</i>     | Steve P | Dylan R  | Brad R  | Gordon C |
| <i>Scripture Reading</i> | Jerry B | Jordan R | Peter M | Fred M   |
| <i>Prayer</i>            | Boom B  | Tom A    | Jess B  | Joe B    |

Announcements: Joe B  
Business Meeting: Travis S

Upstairs: Jess & Callie B, Lisa S  
Downstairs: Jeremy & Michele M

| CLASSES              | SUNDAY<br>TEACHER | WEDNESDAY<br>TEACHER |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Pre-school           | Cerine            | Up Stairs            |
| K-6                  | Becky B           | Up Stairs            |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> & Up | Lisa S            | Up Stairs            |
| Adult                | Jerry B           | Rick Sparks          |
| Bible Drill          | Philip C          |                      |

| SPECIAL DAYS |                         |          |
|--------------|-------------------------|----------|
| Mar 3        | Glen & Becky Woody      | Anniv.   |
| Mar 6        | Jim & Marlene Bennett   | Anniv.   |
| Mar 6        | Marlene Bennett         | Birthday |
| Mar 7        | Rita Meiners            | Baptized |
| Mar 10       | Peter Morris            | Birthday |
| Mar 13       | Jane Hill               | Birthday |
| Mar 14       | Becky Bennett           | Birthday |
| Mar 17       | Tim Morris              | Baptized |
| Mar 22       | Philip Clevenger        | Baptized |
| Mar 26       | Marty Ellis             | Baptized |
| Mar 30       | Sue Schreck             | Birthday |
| Mar 31       | Jerry and Becky Bennett | Anniv.   |