

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Web Site Information:

www.webbervillechurchofchrist.org

<http://sermons.webbervillechurchofchrist.org>

To see our services live:

<http://live.webbervillechurchofchrist.org>

Sundays: 11 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 6 p.m.

Services:

Sunday

Bible Classes: 10 a.m.

Worship Assembly: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes: 7 p.m.

September 1, 2013

To our visitors, we want you to know that we are honored by your being with us today. We welcome any questions you may have. All materials that you see are free of charge and if there is any other information you would like, we will be happy to provide it.

WORKS WE SUPPORT

John Shafer, Foreign Evangelism

Peter and Pooi Fun Chin, Four Seas College of Bible & Missions, Singapore

"Seek The Old Paths"

Chuck Northrop, Bible Institute of Missouri (Instructor)

Billy Daugherty III, Memphis School of Preaching (Student)

Dustin McCrickard, Bible Institute of Missouri (Student)

Phillip Vanwinkle, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Kent Eakins, Hermitage, MO

Scott Klaff, Mt. Pleasant, MI

Harrison Morgan, Memphis School of Preaching (Student)

"Whom Do You Serve?" Television Program

"Bible Questions with Bible Answers" Television Program

THE PEOPLE HAD A MIND TO WORK

Charles Coats

The children of Israel rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem in 52 days (Neh. 6:15). This was a remarkable task as they were under constant threat of attack by their outside enemies, not to mention just the fact of the size of the walls of the city of Jerusalem!

If it were more modern times, we might cite the modern equipment that we have in construction that has certainly shortened the construction time of larger projects. But their work was not aided by the modern equipment we have available. We might point to the idea that Israel had a lot of workers and therefore it did not take them very long. But, the Bible gives us a different reason as to why the walls were completed so quickly – “for the people had a mind to work” (Neh. 4:6). What we see when reading Nehemiah is that the people had a goal and were willing to do what was necessary to accomplish that goal. And they all worked to make it happen!

When I think about this statement, I cannot help but think that this is what we need in the Lord’s church today? Think about how much good we could do for the spread of the gospel if we had a mind to work and all of us were involved in accomplishing this task.

It was once noted that many congregations are willing congregations – 10% are willing to do the work and 90% are willing to let them. Sad, but true, in far too many cases. If we were to categorize ourselves, which group would we be in?

Think about how many congregations “hire” a preacher to do their work for them. Or, the number of times we point to the elders to do the work for us. After all, isn’t that why we have elders?! Why do people not help in the work of the church?

1. It inconveniences them. They are not willing to give up “their” time.
2. It is too far from where they live. People will not drive far at all to do the work of the church, but will drive hours to an amusement park or to go on vacation.
3. They are too busy. Their schedules are too full with their own wants and desires. Everything is about them and not about God.
4. They are waiting for someone else to set it up or to create the program. Is it not interesting that in the Bible, the church did not have “programs”? What they did have were people with a mind to work (Read Acts 2:42ff). Formula for church growth – every Christian with a mind to work.