

Ministers:
the congregation

Kenny Chumbley
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Sunday:
8:00 AM: WGCY
9:00 AM: Worship

Wednesday:
7:00 PM: Bible Study

[gibsoncitychurchof
Christ.com](http://gibsoncitychurchofchrist.com)

This Past Week:
Worship—32
Wednesday—14
Contribution—\$2010

For meditation:
Proverbs 27.23–27
Here is a para-
graphy that draws
on everyday, ru-
ral life, but
comes with an
important princi-
ple. What must
be done at the
front end of any
pursuit, to make
sure there is a
good outcome at
the back end?

Radio program:
WGCY FM, 106.3
Sundays at 8 AM

Masada, 1 continued

Those accepted received the following letter.

You will have to make your own way to Beersheba, from there you will be collected and driven . . . to the foot of Masada, whence you will climb to the camp, some 60–70 minutes of steep climbing. . . .

The expedition is quartered in tents, 8–10 people per tent, which is rather cramped. Personal belongings are kept under the beds, so please leaven “unnecessaries” at home. Military beds and mattresses are provided and *one* army blanket, so do bring sheets and a sleeping bag or additional blankets. The nights can be very cold and the days very hot; thus you should be equipped with both warm and light clothing and, naturally, working clothes and sturdy boots.

Our working day is roughly from sunrise to sunset. We climb from the camp to the excavation area (10–15 minutes) after sunrise and descend before sunset. Breakfast and a warm dinner are served in camp and two midday sandwich meals, during short breaks on the dig. Food is wholesome and adequate, but not fancy. . . .

Our working day is from sunrise to sunset. . . . We do not work on Saturdays . . . Our evenings are going to be long . . . Equip yourself with reading material, musical instruments, and, above all, patience and good humor. Yigael Yadin, Director

Thousands made their way to the wilderness of Judea to join the dig.

kenny

Gibson City church of Christ

Highway 47 South, Gibson City, IL



Sermon: 1 Peter 3.18–20

The Character of Christ's Suffering

5 November 2023

Divorce

In Mark 9, Christ is in Galilee (9.33); in Mark 10, He is Perea (transJordan, 10.1) on His final trip to Jerusalem. Once again, He is questioned by men who hate him and wish to destroy Him (v 2), and this time they make the attempt by raising one of the most controversial of moral issues—one so controversial that Christ’s forerunner was beheaded because of the view he held on it—namely, “Is it lawful for man to divorce his wife?”

THERE’S NO QUESTION ABOUT WHAT GOD WANTS

Christ answered His inquisitors with an assertion (“a man . . . shall be joined to his wife”); (2) some addition (1 man + 1 woman = 1 flesh); (3) and an admonition (“what God has joined together, let not man separate”). Marriage is grounded in God’s act of creation. At the beginning, God laid the foundation for all human relationships in marriage: one man, one woman, for life. This plain point is the main point.

THERE’S NO QUESTION ABOUT WHAT MAN WANTS

Christ asked, “What did Moses *command*?” The Pharisees answered, “Moses *permitted*” (see Deut. 24.1). Men know what God wants but they want exceptions to what God wants. Christ talks about the center; men talk about the periphery—how much can we get away with and still be lawful?

THERE’S NO QUESTION ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS

WHEN MAN GETS WHAT HE WANTS

Let’s acknowledge the elephant in the room: at the root of nearly every societal problem tearing at our national fabric is the demise of the family. At the bottom of our educational chaos are broken homes; children raised without a father; the kids in the family having a different last name; children forced to raise themselves because their parent(s) is/are working three jobs, is/are a drug addict, etc. At the bottom of the societal chaos, riots, and anarchy is the anger provoked by the disappearance and/or depravity of fathers and mothers.

The union achieved in marriage is so profound that two distinct individualities are merged together into one unit of being. And this oneness, instituted by God, is not to be at the mercy of man’s whims and caprices. What God has joined together, let not man separate.

Amen, and amen.

kenny

Masada, 1

[A highlight of my Israel trip was Masada. There’s no place like it anywhere. Many have heard of it but few know much about it. I’ll take a few articles to tell the story of Masada.]

Sixty years ago, on August 11, 1963, the following announcement appeared in *The Observer*, a London newspaper.

The first phase of preparations has been completed in Israel for the most spectacular archaeological expedition ever made in the Middle East. Excavation will begin in October at Masada, the rock fort near the Dead Sea where Jews made a last stand against the Romans from a.d. 70. . . . Anyone wishing to join between October and next March for a minimum two-week period and at his own expense (except for food and lodging which the expedition will provide) may apply, writing to Post Office Box 7041, Jerusalem, Israel.”

(The original notice can be viewed at: <https://www.theguardian.com/theguardian/from-the-archive-blog/2014/feb/11/masada-observer-exhibition-archaeology>.)

A deluge of applications poured in. Most of the volunteers were ordinary people with a minimal knowledge of archaeology. “I’m afraid I have no special qualifications,” wrote one girl, “but I want to come very much and I do have a good sense of humor.” She was accepted and became a valued member of the expedition. The volunteers all had enthusiasm, but little else in common. Among them were students, teachers, businessmen, farmers, sailors, doctors, dentists, soldiers, writers, editors, architects, printers, pharmacists, librarians, artists, actors, butlers, gardeners, maids, taxi drivers, sculptors, shepherds, geologists, psychologists, miners, priests, fashion models, photographers, social workers, vagabonds, lawyers, waiters, factory workers, bankers, nurses, film directors, clerks, airline pilots, housewives, radio operators, travel agents, pottery makers, flight attendants, accountants, tourist guides, physicists, draftsmen, a violin maker, and an elephant tamer.

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News about us

- Mike had a tough week, but all is looking good. His eye surgery went well, and he got a good report on his Barrett’s syndrome.
- Verna is as healthy as a horse! She got a good report also.