

ARLINGTON CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.*
 Sunday Worship 5:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Class 7:00 p.m.

*Sermon posted on our website

ELDERS

John Bauer 235-4641
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*Preacher

DEACONS

Ron Hartman — 522-3465
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BITTERNESS

Simon the sorcerer committed a terrible sin when he tried to buy the gift of God with money. He was in a large group of Samaritans who obeyed the gospel of Jesus through the preaching of Philip in Acts 8:4-13. When the apostles came from Jerusalem to Samaria, Simon offered them money so that he might have the same spiritual gifts that they had. He was rebuked by Peter as one whose heart was not right with God and who was poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity. (Acts 8: 20-23)

Why would Simon have been 'bitter'? History tells us that Simon was regarded by the Samaritans as someone with 'great powers' and had been called a god and 'the Great Power'. His fame had even spread to Rome where he was honored as 'the power of the gods'. But the scriptures tell us that he had been using magic to deceive the people and when he saw the true power of the Lord manifested in Philip and the apostles, that he wanted to buy it. His bitterness sprung from the fact that he didn't have the real power that they did, and he wanted the praise of men that he had grown accustomed to hearing.

Bitterness is a sin that will keep us out of heaven. We are told to remove all bitterness from our lives in Eph 4:31. And the Hebrew writer tells us to "See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many." (Heb 12:15) Bitterness has been defined as a "hostile disposition, a sour and harsh spirit that inclines one to uncharitable opinions of men and things, a frame of mind that causes brooding, and repulsive behavior." The basic cause is guilt and sin. An individual with a guilty conscience will often become bitter. Sin leads to a deepening of the bitterness leading to greater guilt and depression. Consider the story of Cain- when his incorrect offering was rejected, he complicated the matter by getting angry and depressed. This was noted by God who warned him about the consequences of letting bitterness grow in his heart. God said "If you do well, will you not be accepted?" and God warned Cain to repent and offer the proper sacrifice. God said that "sin was crouching at his door" and wanting to devour him. God offered Cain hope if he would repent and do what was right. Cain heard the words but did not follow them and fell deeper into sin and bitterness leading to the murder of his brother Abel.

Sin leads to guilt and bitterness, and failure to deal with the sin brings greater guilt and deeper bitterness. Proverbs says: Prov 26:23-26 " Like a coating of glaze over earthenware are fervent lips with an evil heart. A malicious man disguises himself with his lips, but in his heart he harbors deceit. Though his speech is charming, do not believe him, for seven abominations fill his heart. His malice may be concealed by deception, but his wickedness will be exposed in the assembly."

While hatred and bitterness may be concealed for a time, they will eventually come out.

May we make the determination to admit our sins to God and seek His forgiveness so that the bitterness can be removed and we may stand clean and justified in the sight of our God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Sept. 6	Prov. 9, 10	1Cor. 15:1-32
Sept. 7	Prov. 11, 12	1Cor. 15:33-58
Sept. 8	Prov. 13, 14	1Cor. 16
Sept. 9	Prov. 15, 16	2Cor. 1
Sept. 10	Prov. 17, 18	2Cor. 2
Sept. 11	Prov. 19, 20	2Cor. 3
Sept. 12	Prov. 21, 22	2Cor. 4

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see the prayer and caring card lists on our website: www.arlingtoncoc.com "Members" password is on bulletin board in the foyer.

This Members page contains a link to the Directory. Please double check your information and let us know if a correction or addition is needed.

BIRTHDAYS

9/10	Cathy Gordon
9/18	AB Campbell
9/19	Jeff Nauman
9/5	Heather Weaver
9/30	Kyra Manske
10/3	Ila Slater
10/20	Toni Maddox
10/25	Tyler Williams
11/4	Janette Wendt

UPCOMING EVENTS

9/11	Ladies' Class noon at the building
9/25	MWCH Golf Tournament 9:00 am start at Majestic Springs
9/27	Friend Day/Fellowship Meal following morning service

ANNIVERSARIES

9/2	Walker & Renee Slater
9/3	John & Terri Bauer

MEN TO SERVE**9/6****9/13**

	AM	PM (Zoom Only)	AM	PM (Zoom Only)
Announcements	John Bauer		Jeff McCollum	
Song Leader	John Bauer		Jeff McCollum	
Lesson	Joe McCollum	Joe McCollum	Joe McCollum	Joe McCollum
Opening Prayer	Jeff Nauman		Walker Slater	
Lord's Table	Walker Slater		John Bauer	
Lord's Table Assistant	Del Pickett		Brad Rice	
Closing Prayer	Ron Hartman	Joe McCollum	Jeff McCollum	Joe McCollum
Greeters	Joe & Doris McCollum		John & Terri Bauer	
Wed. Announcements	(9/9) John Bauer	ZOOM	(9/16) Jeff McCollum	ZOOM
Wed. Devotional	(9/9) Jeff McCollum	ONLY	(9/16) John Bauer	ONLY

OUTREACH

Church of Christ Disaster Relief Effort
Providing necessities for recovery from
natural disasters.
All gifts are tax deductible.

PO Box 111180, Nashville, TN 37222
Website: disasterreliefeffort.org
Email: info@disasterreliefeffort.org

**PANTRY NEEDS**

Over the counter medicines/aspirin
Canned meats and canned veggies
Boxed Potatoes
Peanut butter and Jelly
Breakfast Cereal
Fruit Juice— apple, grape, pineapple, etc.
Small- Flour and Sugar
Laundry detergent, soap, & shampoo
Toilet Tissue & Paper Towels