

COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 11:00 AM
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



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The Correspondent

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Shoot the Messenger

-Dale J. Babinsky

How do we react when we are given bad news? Do we want to take it out on the one who is bringing us the report? Many times, those who bring bad news are ostracized because of the message they carry. Many times in the Old Testament, we see that this was the case with Israel and the prophets.

One such case occurs in 1 Kings 18 when Elijah comes looking for Ahab, the king of Israel, after having hid from him for three years at God's direction. Ahab had been looking high and low for Elijah because of the drought in the land (Elijah had told Ahab that it would not rain again for several years 1 Kings 17:1). When Ahab's servant Obadiah comes into contact with Elijah, he is afraid to go back and tell Ahab that Elijah is here, for fear that Elijah will be called away and Ahab will kill him (1 Kings 18:9, 12, 14). Obadiah fears that Ahab will shoot the messenger.

Once Ahab finally sees Elijah, he greets him by saying "Is that you, O troubler of Israel?" (1 Kings 18:17 NKJV). Ahab is not happy to see Elijah. Later Ahab will complain to Jehoshaphat with regards to Macaiah saying, "I hate him, because he never prophesies good concerning me, but always evil" (2 Chronicles 18:7). Ahab was not thrilled with any of the prophets, because they did not hesitate to tell him that what he was doing was wrong. Ahab had a tendency to shoot the messenger when it came to these men of God bringing him the word of the Lord.

How is it today? Are people willing to hear the word of God with an open heart, or are they only concerned with shooting the messenger because they don't like the message? We as Christians have a duty to spread the Good News about the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ and the hope of eternal life that comes from that blessed event (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16). There is a need for us to tell the truth of God's word just as there was in the time of Ahab. We should be like Elijah and Macaiah and speak for God, even if others wish to shoot the messenger.

- Dale J. Babinsky preaches for the Great Smoky Mountains Church of Christ in Pigeon Forge, TN.

- Article obtained from www.bulletingold.com.

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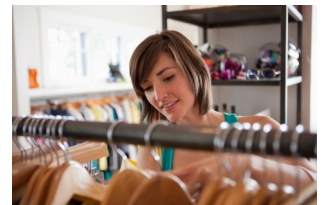
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**July 8, 1-3 PM
Clothing Closet**



**July 12, 8:00 AM
Men's breakfast at
Red Apple**



For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth. 1 Thessalonians 1:8

We Thank God For You

Intro:

1. Paul gave thanks to God for the churches to whom he wrote.
2. We elders thank God for you and for the opportunity to serve you as shepherds and bishops.

Body:

- I. We give thanks for your...
 - A. ...benevolent spirit, such as the churches who sent aid to Jerusalem — Rom. 15:26-28.
 - B. ...financial support of mission efforts, such as the church at Philippi — Phil. 4:14-17.
 - C. ...evangelistic involvement, such as Jesus encouraged — Jn. 4:35-36.
 - D. ...commitment to worshipping God attending Bible Classes — Heb. 13:15.
 - E. ...good works — Tt. 3:14.
 - F. ...Christian attributes — Gal. 5:22-23; Phil. 1:11.
 - G. Steadfastness in doctrine — Col. 1:21-23.
- II. Why do we thank God for you and the fruit you bear?
 - A. That we may rejoice — Heb. 13:17.
 - B. Because God is glorified — Jn. 15:8.

Invitation: John 15:1-8

After Bible class, the elders will be available in the fellowship hall for your feedback and to discuss any concerns you may have.

NOTES:

Why Worship?

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. John 4:23

Worship Service

Announcements

Song: 532 Praise Him! Praise Him!
(Vs. 1, 3)

Prayer

Song: 12 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed? (Vs. 1, 2, 3 Refrain at end)

Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 663 There Is Sunshine in My Soul (Vs. 1, 2, 4)

Song: 562 Savior, Lead Me (Vs. 1, 3)

Scripture Reading: John 15:1-8

Sermon

Song: 520 Only a Step

Song: 473 O How I Love Jesus (Vs. 1, 3)

Prayer

John 15:1-8 (NKJV)

- ¹ "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.
- ² Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.
- ³ You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.
- ⁴ Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.
- ⁵ "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.
- ⁶ If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned.
- ⁷ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.
- ⁸ By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.