

## In Our Prayers...

*\*Requester's name is in parentheses*

**Pat Korodaj**- Medical testing

**Jeremy Korodaj**- Fell off his bike, back problems

**Donna Castleman**- Heart attack, dementia

**Bob Stroud family** (Mooring)- Bob passed away

**Brandy Womack** (Sutherlin)- Health issues

**Teen suicides**

**Connie Holley**- In Pagosa

**Abby Rose** (Larry McKesson)- Fibrous Dysplasia

**Paula Dahlke**- Glaucoma

**Sailor Raymond** (Renee Long)- 3 mos old, Heart surgery, Complications from surgery

**Tara Van Ausdall** (Jeanie Mooring)- Complications from Rheumatoid Arthritis

**John Dicks** (Virginia Roberts)- Cancer, Not faithful

**Ukraine**- family of Oksana (Debbie Sutherlin)

**New Christians**- growth

**Health concerns**- Jimmy Mooring, Rosa Lee Cundiff, Ruth Sutherlin, Koben Puckett

**Workers for the "Harvest"** (Elders, Teachers, Preachers)

**Door for the Word**

Additions: \_\_\_\_\_

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August 13, 2023

Vol. 6, Issue 33

## Five Things the Gospel Cannot Do

The gospel is the power of God unto salvation. Man's true hope of going to heaven through Jesus is revealed in the gospel. Yet there are some things the gospel cannot do.

**The gospel cannot save a person who is determined to live in rebellion against God.** The gospel has the power to make believers and save obedient believers (Romans 1:16–17), but it cannot save those who will not repent of their past sins and submit to God's word.

**The gospel cannot help a troubled marriage as long as both spouses refuse to hear and heed what the gospel says.** The New Testament has specific, helpful instructions for every wife and every husband (Ephesians 5:22–33). When such teaching is carried out properly, marriages will not only survive, they will also bloom. But as long as neither spouse is willing to do things God's way, the gospel cannot help their situation.

**The gospel cannot do the work of the church.** The gospel does not preach itself (Mark 16:15). The gospel itself cannot feed the needy. God's gospel can motivate Christians to be compassionate, but His children must step up and share their *(Continued inside)*

The church of Christ in Durango meets at:

**2100 West 3<sup>rd</sup>  
P.O. Box 633  
Durango, CO 81302**

(970) 247-0865

## Worship & Studies Sunday

Bible Study- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:20 a.m.

Afternoon Worship- 1:30 p.m.

## Wednesday

Bible Study- 7 p.m.



Scripture Reading: Luke 8

News and Announcements

- **Seniors “Safe Driver” Course**  
September 12. Limited space available. See information posted in foyer.
- **Mountain States Children’s Home**  
Change Cans are on the foyer table. Let your spare change Change-A-Life.

**Romans 1:16-19**

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH." 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.*

**Weekly Bible Reading Schedule**

|        |       |                 |                |
|--------|-------|-----------------|----------------|
| Aug 14 | Mon   | Romans 14       | Psalms 89-90   |
| Aug 15 | Tues  | Romans 15:1-13  | Psalms 91-93   |
| Aug 16 | Wed   | Romans 15:14-33 | Psalms 94-96   |
| Aug 17 | Thurs | Romans 16       | Psalms 97-99   |
| Aug 18 | Fri   | 1 Cor. 1        | Psalms 100-102 |
| Aug 19 | Sat   | 1 Cor. 2        | Psalms 103-104 |
| Aug 20 | Sun   | 1 Cor. 3        | Psalms 105-106 |

**Five Things the Gospel Cannot Do**

*(Continued from front)*

bounty. The gospel contains complete instructions that can strengthen and equip the church, but the gospel itself cannot take what Christians have learned and teach it to others so that they too can teach (2 Timothy 2:2).

**The gospel cannot serve as a substitute for prayer.** The same Savior that tells us to preach the gospel also tells us to pray (Luke 18:1). The Holy Spirit inspired Paul to write that the gospel is God’s power unto salvation (Romans 1:16), but He also led that same apostle to pray for opportunities to preach the gospel (Colossians 4:2–3). We live the gospel, teach the gospel, and defend the gospel, but we still bring our petitions and thanksgiving before our heavenly Father in prayer (Philippians 4:6–7). The gospel is great, but it cannot take away the need to pray.

**The gospel cannot take the place of faith.** “We have the gospel. What else could we need?” It is true that faith comes by hearing God’s word (Romans 10:17). It is equally true that the word of God can build us up and give us an inheritance among the sanctified (Acts 20:32). However, we must not be deceived into thinking, “Hey, we have the gospel, so why do we need to have faith?”

Faith is man’s proper response to the gospel message. The faith that pleases God is the faith that acts by love (Galatians 5:6). There is no benefit or consolation in having several copies of the Bible in our house if we are not going to put its teaching to use in our lives. It is still true that “without faith it is impossible to please” God (Hebrews 11:6) and “the just shall live by faith” (Hebrews 10:38).

**-Roger Campbell**  
Bulletin Digest