

Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2026.03.29

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Sermon recordings

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Speaker-AM: Brad Bunyard

Title: Glorified In Christ

Recording:

tinyurl.com/BradGlorified



JESUS LOOKED UP TO
HEAVEN AND SAID,
"FATHER, THE TIME IS HERE.
GIVE YOUR SON GLORY
SO THAT YOUR SON
CAN GIVE YOU GLORY."

News and Prayer Requests

- Our Gospel Meeting will be June 21-26 with Steven Russel, save the date!
- Gospel Meeting in Ellisville April 17-19 with Mark Roberts.
- Congregational Singing at the St. James Church of Christ, April 17 at 7:00 PM.

Articles

Holding Grudges 3/26/2026 by Terry Wane Benton

Have you ever noticed how miserable some people are? Sometimes it is caused by being long on memory and imagination and short on love and forgiveness. In fact, most of the time that is the case. If a person chooses to remember every unkind or thoughtless word or deed, whether real or imagined, that person will be miserable. Either confront the issue head-on (Matthew 18:15f) or forget it. If it is not worth confronting in the manner Jesus instructed, then it is not worth holding to one's own misery. Forgiveness is also one of the great medicines, and it does us a big favor. The other person is likely oblivious to the issue.

To harbor grudges, to cultivate malice toward others, to refuse to forgive, is going to hurt us far more than the one toward whom our ill feelings have been directed. Here are a few helpful ways to deal with ill feelings:

Spend time daily confronting your own weaknesses before the Lord and listen to Him through the Bible in daily reading and meditation. You will see your own weaknesses more clearly. This will often soften the way you look at others.

Pray to God for your forgiveness when you look at what your sins did to Jesus in nailing Him to the cross. Yes, you were there in attitude and in sinfulness.

Realize what it cost God to forgive you (Matthew 18:21-35).

Realize how costly it is to have an unforgiving spirit when you are forgiven so much.

Leave vengeance in God's hands. He will repay what needs repaying. You don't get to handle that.

Talk to God about this burden you are carrying. But listen to what His word is telling you to do about it. A grudge is bitterness, and it will destroy you and your potential for good now and forever. That is a high price to pay for something you can control through Christ, who strengthens (Philippians 4:13).

The Man Who Would Not Listen 3/26/2026 by David Gibson

King Zedekiah had at least two positive influences in his life that should have prompted him to make wiser choices. His father Josiah was one of the most godly kings Judah ever had. And Jeremiah, God's prophet, tried repeatedly to persuade Zedekiah to obey God. In spite of his father's example and Jeremiah's warnings, Zedekiah was determined to go his own way. Paying dearly for his foolish choices, he lost his home, his throne, and his freedom.

At age 32, the last thing Zedekiah saw before being blinded was the slaying of his sons before his eyes. He died a prisoner in a foreign land (Jeremiah 52:7-11).

And all this tragedy could have been averted if only he had been willing to obey. His life is summed up in these sad words: "He did what was evil in the sight of the Lord his God. He did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet, who spoke from the mouth of the Lord He stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the Lord, the God of Israel" (II Chronicles 36:12-13).

"But neither he nor his servants nor the people of the land listened to the words of the Lord that he spoke through Jeremiah the prophet. King Zedekiah sent . . . to Jeremiah the prophet, saying, 'Please pray for us to the Lord our God'" (Jeremiah 37:2-3).

Zedekiah wanted God's protection but not His direction. We can't have it both ways.