

**Crossville Church
of Christ**
P.O. Box 211
Crossville, TN 38557
Phone:
484-5297 or 484-2960
Live audio streaming
866-883-9291

Elders:

Frank Bohannon
Jonathan Loveday
Larry McDuffee
Brian McLaughlin
Jon Tatum

Deacons:

Jim Bell
Kyle Fairman
Dylan Griffin
Jeff Hunt
Mike Isaacson
Gary Lau
Doug Loveday
Don Napier
Tom Parham
Mark Roberts
Brandon Savage
Jake Sears
Chase Wood
Jerry Wood
Jason Wyatt

Ministers:

Alan Judd
Ken Mears

Missionaries: (India)

Don Iverson
Jim Waldron

Service Times:

Sunday Bible Study	9 AM
Sunday Worship	10 AM
	6 PM
Wednesday	6 PM

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Ladies Bible Class
Tuesdays 11 AM

Prayer Meeting
Tuesdays 10 AM

**Joyful Generation
(Youth Devotional & fellowship)**
1st Sunday 7 PM

**POLISHING THE PULPIT
(PTP) 365 Audio/Visual Library
available at:**
<https://365.polishingthepulpit.com>
Username:
Crossville church of Christ
Password:
crossvilleptp2018

COMPASS

**Using God's Word to Chart The Course
Of A Congregation**

For live video streaming see Website
www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org
Email: Office@crossvillechurchofchrist.org
Elders@crossvillechurchofchrist.org



April 7, 2019

**You Are Invited To Attend Our Annual
SPRING GOSPEL MEETING**
Theme: "... we would see Jesus" John 12:20-26

MEETING DATES

Sunday, May 5 – Wednesday, May 8

SCHEDULED SERVICE TIMES:

Sunday, 9a.m., 10a.m., and 6p.m.
(Potluck/fellowship immediately following
morning worship service).

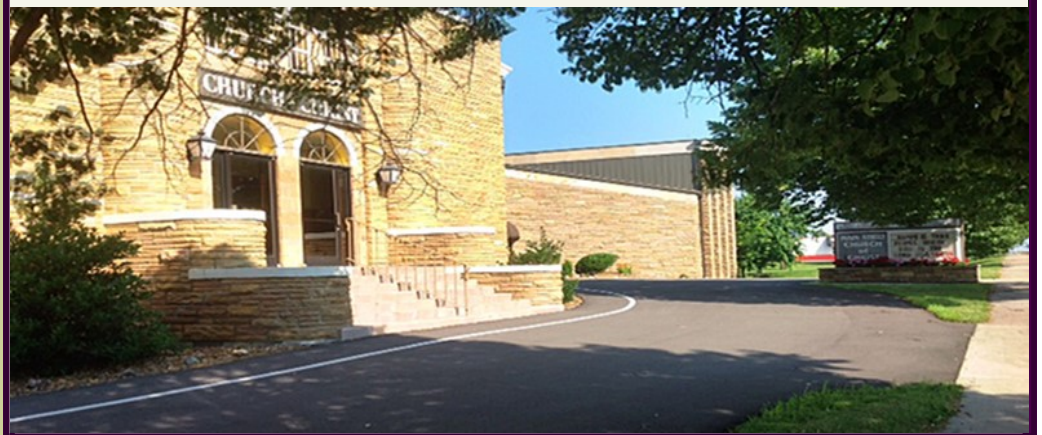
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday @ 6p.m.

Guest Speaker: Jeff Archey



Topics:

Sunday 9am Bible Study: We Would See Jesus in the Bible.
Sunday 10am Worship: We Would See Jesus in the Church.
Sunday 6pm: We Would See Jesus in Our Lives.
Monday 6pm: We Would See Jesus in Our Homes.
Tuesday 6pm: We Would See Jesus in Our Salvation.
Wednesday 6pm: We Would See Jesus in Eternity.



THE DOWNWARD SPIRAL OF BIBLE CLASS ATTENDANCE

J. J. Turner ©

Back on the 22nd of March, 2015. USA TODAY ran an article titled, “*Has The Sun Set On Sunday School?*” Basically, the answer was yes but there were also some bright spots in some churches. I typed in this search question on Google: “Why Sunday School Is Failing?” and 148,000,000 responses came up. Evidently, there is a lot of interest in the state of Sunday School.

Some call it Sunday School, some refer to it as Bible classes or Bible study. Regardless of what name, if any at all, the reference is usually to the one-hour in which members assemble in a classroom setting to study the Bible before the worship hour. It is a period where an organized effort is made to instruct, learn, fellowship, and apply the Bible.

Years ago the number in Bible class attendance varied little from the number in the worship assembly. That has changed in most congregations, regardless of size or location. For years the attendance spiral has been on a declining trend. Recent research has revealed that the difference between Bible class attendance and worship is from 35 to 45 percent. Some congregations with once thriving attendance in youth Bible classes are now without or with only a few in attendance. Vacation Bible School used to be a major event in summer months is now only a memory in the minds of those of us who attended. What is causing this downward spiral?

How about the congregation where you worship and serve the Lord? What, if any, is the difference in Bible class attendance and Sunday morning worship? If there is a percentage difference do you know why? Most congregations keep and post worship attendance numbers but not Bible classes. Why?

How about you? What is your attendance record for Bible class in comparison to Sunday morning worship?

30 Reasons Why Some Christians Don't Attend Bible Classes

I am presently researching and writing another book for my *Wake Up* series titled, “*Teachers, Wake Up!*” I have collected an almost unbelievable list of reasons and excuses some Christians give for not attending Sunday morning Bible classes. Here are some of those reasons and excuses. They aren't given in a priority because each one may constitute the priority in a Christian's list of reasons; for others way down the list or not on their list.

1. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they choose to study their Bible at a time and place when it is convenient for them: work, home, in the car waiting, small group.
2. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they have something planned for Sunday morning.
3. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they tend to stay up too late Saturday night and sleep in Sunday morning.
4. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they aren't interested in the subject being taught.
5. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because to them they are too boring or not interesting.
6. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because of health issues.
7. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they have negative memories of being “made to attend” as children.
8. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they don't like the teacher or a teacher's teaching style.
9. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because from the time of their conversion they haven't developed the habit; it wasn't stressed, only suggested.

10. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they really don't think they need it; it is okay for others.
11. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they don't want to be embarrassed by being asked questions or to participate.
12. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they watch their favorite TV preacher and claim they get their study that way.
13. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they aren't "specifically commanded"—"Thou Shall Attend Bible Classes."
14. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they once use to but have gotten out of the habit.
15. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because of all the online options to enhance their study at any time or place they desire.
16. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because of poor classrooms or located in difficult places to get to.
17. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they don't want to be reminded of some issue, problem, or sin in their lives.
18. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they have an issue with a person in the class; may not like some attendees.
19. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they are "poor readers" and don't want to be called on to read.
20. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because there are too many activities which involve children requiring preparation and time on the road.
21. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because church leadership has not placed a major biblical emphasis on the importance of attending.
22. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because there aren't sufficient groupings according to needs, age, relevancy, etc.
23. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they have been taught that Bible classes are "unscriptural."
24. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they are "stubborn and self-willed"—nobody tells them what to do or where to be.
25. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because there are never any carryover class projects, fellowship gatherings, etc. Just show up, sit and listen, and go to the assembly.
26. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because there isn't any personal follow up, contact, or outside of class involvement with teachers or attendees.
27. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they think they already know the basic or fundamentals: 5 acts of worship, 5 steps to salvation.
28. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because it is "too big of a hassle" to get the kids and self prepared to be on time for classes.
29. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they never "fill in all the blanks" in their workbooks for the classes; it's embarrassing.
30. Some Christians don't attend Bible classes because they have not made it a spiritual priority in their lives.

Again, how about YOU? What is the ratio between your attendance in Bible class and worship services? The Sunday morning Bible class can still be a vital tool for educating the body of Christ as part of the mission of the church. The challenge is to **review** it, **revive** it, and **rededicate** it to God's Glory. Leaders need to step forward and **reignite** and **relaunch** Bible classes, reversing the spiral.