

**The Ridge Church**  
**7350 Old Hwy 13**  
**Carbondale, IL 62901**

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Web: [www.OnTheRidge.org](http://www.OnTheRidge.org)

**Join Us Sunday**

Small Groups/SS	9:00 AM
Morning Worship	10:15 AM
Miners Baseball	5:05 PM

**Wednesday Night is Family Night**

Supper (by Reservation)	5:30 PM
Bible Study and Prayer	6:30 PM
Mission Friends	
Children in Action	
Youth Bible Study	

**Follow us on Facebook:**

[facebook.com/OnTheRidgeChurch](https://www.facebook.com/OnTheRidgeChurch)

**Follow us on Twitter:**

[twitter.com/TheRidgeChurch1](https://twitter.com/TheRidgeChurch1)

**Our Mission:**

*The Mission of The Ridge Church is to lead non-believers into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ*

**Broken Vessels: How God uses imperfect people**

**A Fresh Start**

**The Point:** We fail; Jesus restores.

Join us Sunday at 9 AM as we study **John 18 & 21** and discuss these **5 questions**

1. When have you really enjoyed making a mess?
2. What emotions would you have experienced in Peter's situation?
3. What factors may cause us to shrink back from identifying as Christ-followers?
4. When have you seen God bring restoration to a seemingly hopeless situation?
5. What do these verses teach us about our relationship with Christ?

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**Window Decals**  
**Are still available.**  
**See Lisa Hottensen**



# The Witness



Wes Henson, Pastor

July 23, 2017

Vol. 41, No. 28

**#CarbondaleEclipse2017**



Rambling on ...

If you have been under a rock and have not heard, allow me to inform you that on August 21<sup>st</sup> Carbondale is in the path of totality for a **Total Solar Eclipse**. Observers will see (appx.) 2m 37s of total darkness!

Please note you must use eclipse glasses to safely view the parial phases leading up to the eclipse. We will give away 100 pair on Sunday August 6<sup>th</sup>.

I viewed the Carbondale eclipse website ([www.CarbondaleEclipse.com](http://www.CarbondaleEclipse.com)) and invite you to do the same.

**Some of the info I gleaned:**

- The August 21, 2017 eclipse will travel 2,500 miles across the United States of America in an estimated 70 mile wide path, beginning its journey in Oregon, crossing 12 states, and ending at the Atlantic Ocean off the shore of South Carolina.
- NASA will be streaming the eclipse live from **Carbondale**, one of the designated sweet spots within the path of totality.
- The last coast-to-coast eclipse occurred 99 years ago in 1918.
- We will host a picnic on **The Ridge** for any who would like to view the eclipse from this vantage point. (Bring your own picnic)

We Labor Together With God, *Wes*

**Deacon of the Week:**

Louis Hertter

**Trustee of the Month**

Chris Robison

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**In Bible Study and Worship**

Small Groups/ SS: 138

Worship: 110

**God's Tithe and Our Offerings**

General Fund \$4,290.25

Debt Retirement 1,017.59

Wednesday Supper 66.00

**This Summer** - Bring a picture of your summer activity pin it to the bulletin board

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**YOU CAN'T HAVE  
CHANGE AND COMFORT  
SIMULTANEOUSLY.**



**Home Connection**

Phyllis Prowell  
1 New Ballas Place  
Room #122  
Creve Couer, MO  
63146

Home  
Connections!  
Make one  
This Week

Please remember  
Phyllis with a card  
or a phone call.

**SummerTime  
on The Ridge**

**July 23** Homemade Ice Cream

**July 30** Bacon Sammich Nite

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**August 6** Birthday Potluck

**August 13** Show 'n' Tell 'n'  
Watermelon Feast

**August 20** Sunday Night Movie

**August 21** Solar Eclipse Picnic

**August 27** Step Up Sunday

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**Hospitality July 23**

Casserole: Myrtle/Debbie

Bakery: Angie

Fruit: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you would volunteer to  
bring food, please sign up in  
the hospitality area.**

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**On Mission Cairo, IL  
July 28-29**

Mission projects of all kind  
and ability in and around  
the Cairo, IL area.

**See Dennis & Karissa for details**

**Small Groups 9:00 A.M.**

**We have a group for  
everyone Arrive a little early  
for some "Coffee ... And"**

**July 23- August 27**

**Broken Vessels**

*"How God Uses I,mperfect People"*

*Now we have this treasure in clay  
jars so that this extraordinary power  
may be from God and not from us.  
(2 Corinthians 4:7)*

**July 23** - A Fresh Start

**July 30** - Objections Overruled

**August 6** - The Gift of Grace

**August 13** - A Channel Of Comfort

**August 20** - A Passion for the Gospel

**August 27** - Right Here, Right Now.

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**Show N Tell N Watermelon**

If you are participating  
in the **Show N Tell** on  
August 13<sup>th</sup> please call the  
church office to reserve a  
table for your presentation.

**Info to Remember**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Debt  
Retirement Offering  
July 31<sup>st</sup>**  
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**For Your Convenience:**

In addition to the traditional  
Sunday morning giving of your  
tithe and offering, we now  
offer **THREE** other methods.

1. Set up giving through  
your bank.

2. Scan this qr code



3. Download Free App  
"Tithe.ly" from Google or  
iTunes

Method 2-3 involve  
convenience fees from  
the digital service.

## This Week on The Ridge

### Sunday, July 23

8:30 AM- Coffee and...

9:00 AM - Sunday School

10:15 AM -Worship service

6:00 PM-Homemade Ice Cream

### Tuesday, July 25

6:00 PM - WMU Mission in Action

### Wednesday, July 26

7:00 AM - Men's Bible Study

5:45 PM - Dinner

By reservation

**Menu:** scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits and gravy, and dessert

6:30 PM - Adult Bible study

and prayer time, youth

Bible study, and children's

mission activities, Quarterly

Business Meeting

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## **Children 1 & 2 Swim Party**

### **Sunday, July 30**

following morning worship at Mrs. G's house. The children will be returned

to the church at 3:30 pm for parental pickup. Bring your swimming suit & a towel (and a floatie if you don't swim!) If you have questions, call Linda Garlinghouse 687-1652

## 6 Week Summer

### Bible Study Series

**Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 PM**

Featuring Andy Stanley

**"Five Things God Uses**

**To Grow Your Faith"**

### August 9 - Session 5:

**"Personal Ministries"**

Video and discussion guide will be uploaded to Facebook

and web page

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Free Solar Eclipse Glasses  
Given out on August 6, 2017



August 21, 2017

## Three Truths About Happiness

Eric Geiger ([www.tinyurl.com/trc-Happiness](http://www.tinyurl.com/trc-Happiness))

So often, those who sit in our pews or serve under our leadership view God as a furrow-browed enforcer of rules, waiting for His people to make a misstep so that He might slap them on the wrist. While we must teach that God is holy, we must also declare that God is happy.

Throughout Scripture we see the Greek words makarios and asre, frequently translated as "blessed," but just as easily translated as "happy." There are more than 2,700 passages throughout Scripture that reference terms related to happiness, including Psalm 1 and the Sermon on the Mount. Happiness is obviously important to God.

### **So what truths do we need to know about happiness?**

**1. Happiness is not the absence of sadness.** Often, well-meaning people discuss the need for joy even in difficulty, as if happiness is not possible when sadness is also involved. This simply isn't the case. The dichotomy of happiness and sadness can coexist.

**2. Happiness is a sacrament.** The general definition of sacrament is "a visible sign of inward grace." In its broadest understanding, a sacrament is a gift bestowed by God, and in that case, "happiness" is absolutely a sacrament—a visible, sometimes even audible, sign of inward grace! This grace is not dependent upon our circumstance and neither is our happiness. Rather, happiness is a result of the great grace we have received.

**3. God's happiness is not dependent upon you and your behavior.** God's happiness is completely self-reliant. God is a perfect community unto Himself in the Trinity, and this is great news, because this means that God's happiness is not dependent upon what we do or don't do. And He who is perfectly complete and happy in and of Himself has chosen to dwell within us through His Holy Spirit and be deeply involved in every aspect of our little (often rebellious against Him) lives. He is near. He is unchanging, and He is happy!

**May we live happily in Him in light of these truths.**

# Summer Time Sunday Nights #OnTheRidge2017



## July 23 Homemade Ice Cream

Bring your favorite homemade ice cream or pick some up!

## July 30 Bacon Sammich Nite

Bacon, lettuce, tomatoes, and bread provided. Bring a side dish

## August 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday Potluck

Join us as we recognize all who are celebrating birthdays in August



## August 13<sup>th</sup> Show 'n' Tell 'n' Watermelon Feast

Please call the church office to reserve a table for your presentation




# Sunday School and Small Group Study July 23, 2017

Preschool (birth-5)	Paul Taught Lydia About Jesus	Acts 16:11-15
Children (gr 1-6)	Paul Taught Lydia About Jesus	Acts 16:11-15
Students (gr 7-12)	A Fresh Start	John 18, 21
Adults	A Fresh Start	John 18,21

## ONE CONVERSATION™

Use these discussion starters to help foster a spiritual conversation with your family.

**CONNECTION POINT:** Christians should let others know about restoration found in Jesus.  
**THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE:** When we come to faith in Christ, we realize there is nothing we can do to earn a right relationship with God. We fail, but Jesus gives us hope. Now that we are Christians, we still fail, but we sometimes chastise ourselves for failing. The same grace we needed for salvation is the same grace we need to live it out. The hope we have in Christ is grounded in grace, and we need to experience that grace day by day.



**JOHN 18:15-18,25-27;  
21:15-19**  
A Fresh Start

### PRESCHOOL



#### ACTS 16:11-15

**LIVE IT OUT:** Play a game with your child to learn the Weekly Bible Verse: "Tell about Jesus. Acts 16:10." Practice saying the verse in different voices: high, low, loud, quiet, fast, slow. Remind your child that God wants people to tell about Jesus.

Paul and his friends traveled to many places, telling people about Jesus. They went to the city of Philippi to tell people about Jesus.

On the day for church, Paul and his friends left the city and walked down to the river. They found a group of women praying beside the river. Paul and his friends began talking to the women about Jesus.

One of the women was named Lydia. Lydia sold purple cloth. She loved God very much. She listened carefully as Paul told her and the other women about Jesus. Lydia believed what Paul was saying and became a follower of Jesus. She wanted everyone to know that she loved Jesus.

Lydia invited Paul and his friends to come and stay at her house. And they did.

### KIDS



#### ACTS 16:11-15

**LIVE IT OUT:** Does your child see in your life that you are a Christ follower? The Bible clearly states that God wants people to follow His Son, Jesus. If your child has not become a Christian, there are resources to help you explain how to become a Christ follower.

Paul and Timothy traveled to many different places, telling people about Jesus. They sailed in a boat to the country of Macedonia. They were going where God had told them to go.

They arrived in Philippi. Many people lived there. Paul and Timothy went to tell the people about Jesus.

On the Sabbath Day, the special day to worship God, the two men left the city and walked along the river. A group of women had gathered by the river outside the city.

Paul and Timothy sat down and began to talk to the women who had gathered together. They were happy to tell the women about Jesus. One of the women who listened to Paul was named Lydia. Lydia sold purple cloth. Lydia listened and believed what Paul was saying. She became a follower of Jesus.

Lydia invited Paul and Timothy to stay at her house. And they did.

### STUDENTS

**THE POINT:** We fail, Jesus restores.

- When have you really enjoyed making a mess?
- What emotions would you have experienced in Peter's situation?
- What factors may cause us to shrink back from identifying with Christ?
- When have you seen God bring restoration?

Discuss the following quote: "I have now concentrated all my prayers into one, and that one prayer is this, that I may die to self, and live wholly to Him." <sup>1</sup> —Charles Spurgeon

1. Charles H. Spurgeon, Sermons of Rev. C. H. Spurgeon of London: 2nd Series (New York: Robert Carter & Brothers, 1883).

**LIVE IT OUT:** Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out in the Personal Study Guide.

Here are some ways you can encourage your students to live out their faith with Christ personally, in community, and in their culture:

- **CHRIST:** Discuss sin with your student and ensure that he or she is confessing that sin to God and turning away from it.
- **COMMUNITY:** Does your student have a friend that he or she can discuss sin and accountability with? If not, help your student to identify a friend that can pray with him or her and hold your student accountable when necessary.
- **CULTURE:** We all fail Christ. Pray with your student for the strength to claim Jesus before a lost world.

We have a small group and a class for everyone.  
Join us Sunday at 9 AM