

The Ridge Church
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Carbondale, IL 62901

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Email: RidgeChurch@OnTheRidge.org

Web: www.OnTheRidge.org

Join Us Sunday

Small Groups/SS	9:00AM
Morning Worship	10:15 AM
Evening Worship	6:00 PM

Wednesday Night is Family Night

All activities dismissed this week

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

Our Mission:

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

SEVEN WEEK STUDY Jesus Changes Everything *Jesus Teaches*

The Point: Obeying Jesus' teachings leads to fruitful living.

Join us Sunday at 9 AM as we Study **Mark 4:1-9** and discuss these 5 questions

1. What's the most fun you've had learning something new?
2. What are the benefits and challenges of using stories to reveal truth?
3. How do you see each of the three soils on display in our culture?
4. What obstacles have hindered you from incorporating God's truth in your life?
5. What's our responsibility in the process described throughout this parable?

Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do little.



The Witness

Wes Henson, Pastor

December 10, 2017

Vol. 41, No. 48

Listen, Do You Hear His Call?



Growing up we lived in a neighborhood. There were the Cooks, the Bavassos, and the Hensons. All totaled about 14 of us. Then there were those who lived close by and we joined forces occasionally.

Behind our house was "the woods." The woods bordered our property and the Cooks. Mr. Cook had a bush hog that he used to clear paths in the woods. It was our own little maze of connecting pathways. Beyond the woods was a road. Burdickville road was a backroad that opened up a brand new world of curiosity and excitement complete with twist and turns, steep hills, a haunted house, and a cemetery.

Oh what fun we had.... So much so, that I can't tell you about a lot of it. But just imagine the trouble and experiences a bunch of unsupervised kids could get into exploring on a typical summer evening. How we survived those days, I do not know. However, we are the stronger for it and a bit smarter. IMHO

One reason we survived it all, was my mom. It seemed that just as we were about to do something really foolish or troublesome (but fun) my mom would call us home. It didn't matter how far we had strayed away from the homestead, we heard her. She had a unique call. We came running not so much out of obedience as embarrassment.

Jesus has a unique call as well. It is quite unlike my mom's call but just as persistent and serious. When my mom called and we responded, life was good. (If she had to come looking for us... that was another story). Likewise, when Jesus calls and we respond life is good, and all goes well! **Listen, do you hear his call?**

We Labor Together With God, *Wes*

Deacon of the Week:

Louis Hertter

Trustee of the Month

Linda Garlinghouse

In Bible Study and Worship

Sunday School/Small Groups: 129

Worship: 96

God's Tithe and Our Offerings

General Fund \$4,221.00

Debt Retirement 247.58

Wednesday Supper 54.00

Online giving to The Ridge

Church is available 24/7

Scan this QR code Or,
download the Tithe.ly app
from iTunes Or, Google Play



Home Connection

Phyllis Prowell
5400 Executive
Parkway Room 212
St. Peters, MO
63376

Home
Connections!
Make one
This Week

Please remember
Phyllis with a card
or a phone call.

**Lottie Moon Post
Office is Open!**

Sunday December 17th

10:15 AM

"The Greatest Story Ever Told"

Presented by the Ridge Choir

Experience the story of the
birth of Jesus Christ from the
viewpoints of many who
witnessed it firsthand.

Free and open to everyone

We are expecting a full house!
Get your tickets early and pick
some up for your friends

AND

Parent/Child Dedication

*Please contact the pastor
if you wish to participate*

**6:00 PM Children's
Program**

12 Symbols of Christmas

Dessert social to follow

Hospitality December 10

Casserole: _____

Bakery: Yates

Fruit: _____

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

**Save the Date
February 24/25**

February 24

SS/Small Group

Workers Banquet

Guest Speaker: Josh Hunt

Details To Be Announced

February 25

Josh will speak during the
SS/Small group hour
and Worship

More Details to follow



**Christmas
On The Ridge
December 2017**

Sunday December 17

10:15 AM Cantata:

The Greatest Story Ever Told

6:00 PM Children's Program

12 Symbols of Christmas

Dessert social to follow

Sunday December 24

5:30 PM Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service

**All events are free
Bring your friends and family**



This Week on The Ridge

Sunday, December 10

8:30 AM -Coffee and...

9:00 AM - Small Groups

10:15 AM -Morning Worship

5:00 PM - Adult Choir,

Deacons Meeting

6:00 PM -Evening Worship

Tonight we will conclude our

study of Old Testament

characters as we look at

Exodus 1:15-21

What can we learn from

Shiphrah and Puah?

Tuesday, December 12

4:30 PM - TeamKID -Gorham

Wednesday, December 13

7:00 AM - Men's Bible Study

5:45 PM - Dinner by

Reservation **Menu:** grilled pork

chops, cheesy potatoes, slaw,

salad and dessert

6:30 PM - Adult & Youth Bible

Study and prayer time, and

children's mission activities

Information You Need

Join us Wednesdays

Because of Bethlehem

6:30 PM Session 3

"God Guides The Wise "

Jesus Changes EVERYTHING

7 week small group study

Jesus came to bring us into a

relationship with God—and

that changes everything.

Join us Sundays at 9 AM

A study on the life of Jesus. He

showed us how He cares about

every aspect of our lives.

December 10 - Jesus Teaches

Mark 4:1-9

December 17 - Jesus Rules

Mark 4:35-41

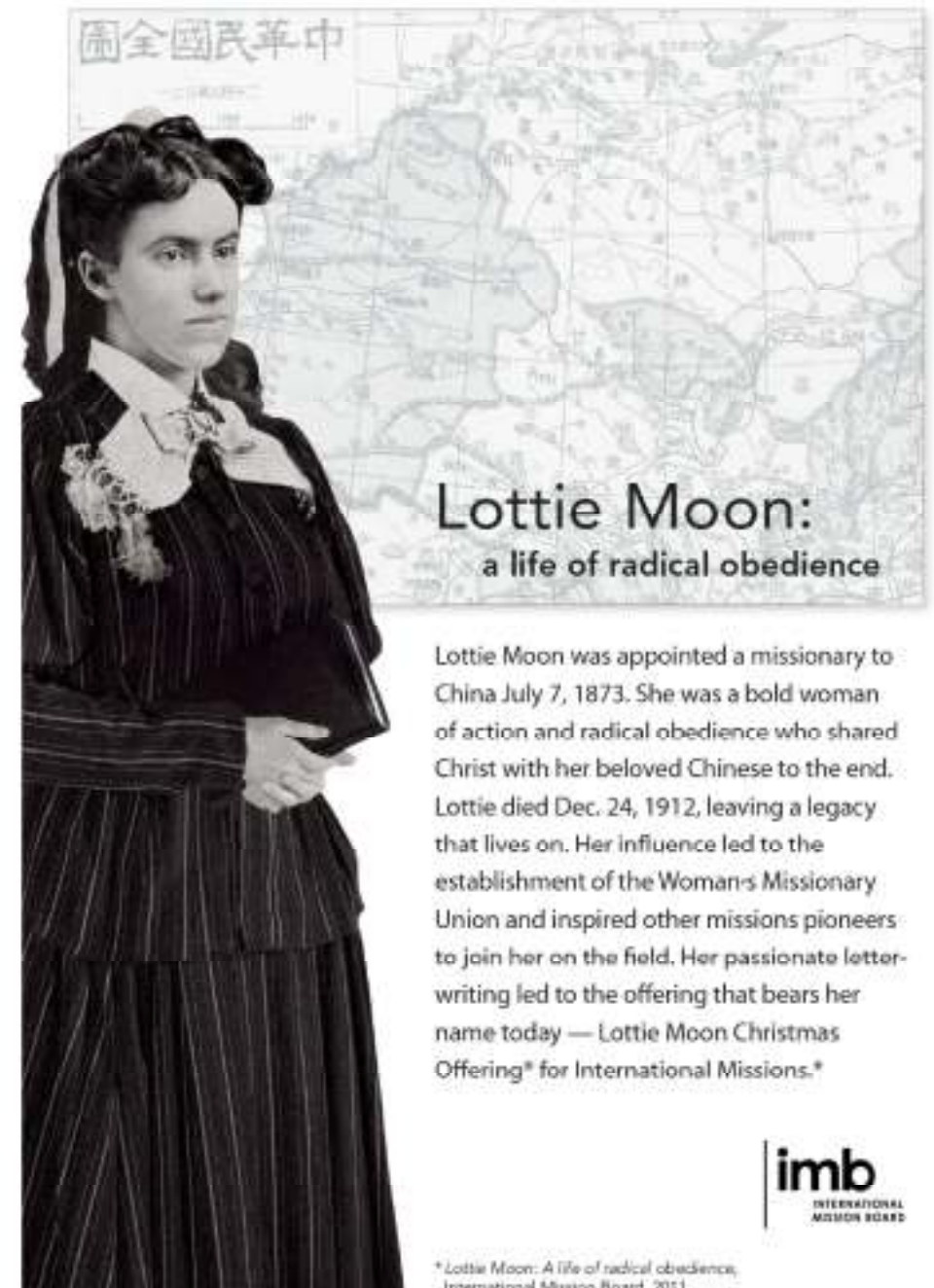
December 24 Jesus Saves

Luke 2:4-20

December 31 - Jesus Heals

Mark 5:22-24,35-43

Week of Prayer for International Missions and The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering





December Birthday

This Week
On The Ridge



Gorham 2017



Lights Fantastic



Sunday School and Small Group Study December 3, 2017

Preschool (birth-5)	Angels Spoke to Mary Joseph	Luke 1:26-38; Mat 1:18-24
Children (gr 1-6)	Angels Spoke to Mary Joseph	Luke 1:26-38; Mat 1:18-24
Students (gr 7-12)	Jesus Teaches	Mark 4:1-9
Adults	Jesus Teaches	Mark 4:1-9

ONE CONVERSATION™

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

CONNECTION POINT: Families are part of God's plan for people.

THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE: The Bible gets a lot of respect in America—at least superficial respect. Eighty percent of adults consider the Bible a holy book, but few read it. Even among Christians, only 11 percent read the Bible daily, and 34 percent rarely read it. Many of us pay lip service to the Bible but miss out on the joy and abundant life that comes from applying its truth to our lives.

**BIBLE
STUDIES
FOR LIFE**

MARK 4:1-9

Jesus Teaches

PRESCHOOL



**LUKE 1:26-38;
MATTHEW 1:18-24**

LIVE IT OUT: Remind your child that God chose Mary and Joseph to be Jesus' family. Talk about your family and how members cares for others. Help your child make a book of family members by drawing on individual sheets of paper and stapling the pages together.

Mary was a young woman who obeyed God. She was going to be married to Joseph. God sent an angel to talk to Mary. The angel said, "Do not be afraid. God has chosen you to be the mother of a special baby, God's Son." He told her that this was part of God's plan. Mary did not understand. The angel said, "God can do things that people think are impossible."

Mary said, "I will do what God wants."

One night when Joseph was sleeping, God sent an angel to him in a dream. The angel said, "Do not be afraid to marry Mary. Her baby is God's Son. You will name Him Jesus. He will love people and teach them about God."

Joseph remembered the dream when he woke up. He did as the angel said. Joseph married Mary. Joseph and Mary waited for the special baby, Jesus, to be born.

KIDS



**LUKE 1:26-38;
MATTHEW 1:18-24**

LIVE IT OUT: Help your child memorize the Bible verse, Matthew 1:21. This verse contains the angel's words to Joseph. God committed Jesus to the family of Joseph. Help your child understand that God chose a family for Jesus because that is His plan for all children.

Mary, who lived in the town of Nazareth, was visited by an angel. "Be happy," the angel said. "God is with you."

Mary wondered what kind of greeting this was. The angel said, "Don't be afraid. You will have a son and you will call Him Jesus. He will be God's Son."

Mary wondered how this could happen. The angel said, "God's Spirit will come to you. The one born to you will be the Son of God." Mary answered that she would obey God.

Joseph wondered what to do. He knew he was not the father of Mary's baby. As he slept, an angel came to him. "Joseph, don't be afraid to marry Mary. Her baby is God's own Son. You are to name Him Jesus. He will save His people from their sins."

Joseph took Mary for his wife. When the baby was born, Joseph and Mary named Him Jesus.

STUDENTS

THE POINT: Obeying Jesus' teachings leads to productive living.

- What's the best way for you to learn something new?
- What are the benefits and challenges of using stories to reveal truth?
- Where do you see each of these soils represented in our culture?
- What kinds of "fruit" should be evident in our lives when we obey Jesus' teaching?

Discuss the following quote: "Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant."¹

—Robert Louis Stephenson

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:** Take the time this week to ask your student how he or she is rooting out bad habits, while strengthening good habits to grow better in his or her relationship with Christ.
- **COMMUNITY:** Discuss ways you and your student can purposefully plant seeds of discipleship in your community this week.
- **CULTURE:** When spreading seeds of discipleship, we have to reach out to people around us and connect in ways that make sense to them. Discuss how you and your student can better relate to the culture around you and spread the gospel.

1. Robert Louis Stephenson, "Robert Louis Stephenson Quotes," Brainy Quote [online], [accessed 23 May 2017]. Available from the Internet: <https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/r/robertlou101230.html>.

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