

The Ridge Church
7350 Old Hwy 13
Carbondale, IL 62901

Phone: 618.457.0479

Email: RidgeChurch@OnTheRidge.org

Web: www.OnTheRidge.org

Join us Sunday Morning

8:30 am "Coffee And ..."

9:00 am Sunday School/Small Groups

10:15 am Morning Worship

6:00 pm Birthday Potluck

Wednesday Night is Family Night

5:30 PM Supper (by Reservation)

6:30 PM

Bible Study and Prayer

Mission Friends

Children in Action

Youth Bible Study

Follow us on Facebook:

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 Provides

The Point: Jesus cares and meets the needs in our lives

Join us Sunday at 9 AM as we study Mark 6:34-44 and discuss these 5 questions

1. What was something provided for you as a child that you didn't appreciate at the time?
2. Where do you see evidence of God's compassion in the world today?
3. What distractions may hinder us from recognizing ministry opportunities?
4. How has God proven to be sufficient for the challenges in your life?
5. Where do we have opportunities to participate in God's provision for other.

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



The Witness

Wes Henson, Pastor

January 7, 2018

Vol. 42, No. 01

The Best New Year's Resolution



In a recent blog post Thom Rainer makes a startling statement, "***I am proposing you dump everything on your church calendar. It's time to start fresh.***" He argues that most church folk are too busy to do REAL ministry in the REAL world.

He proposes we start the New Year with a blank Church calendar and fill in the calendar with only those activities we feel will really move the church forward. Keep it simple. Keep it basic.

When many things are added and never subtracted or evaluated, the calendar becomes bloated and our ministry becomes ineffective. The result is that members have little or no time to do REAL ministry outside the walls of the church.

He concludes, "*We need effective churches, not busy churches. We need simple churches, not complex churches. As you move into a new year, consider your church calendar. Be willing to consider reducing or eliminating those activities that lead to busyness but not effectiveness. It could be the best New Year's resolution you make.*"

What activities and ministries would you include? Exclude? What present activities or ministries would you be willing to give up in order to do REAL ministry that might be more effective in reaching our communities?

We Labor Together With God,

Wes

Deacon of the Week:

Alan Dover

Trustee of the Month

Chris Robison

**God's Tithe and Our Offerings
December 24**

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| General Fund | \$2,484.25 |
| Lottie Moon | 268.00 |
| Debt Retirement | 237.58 |
| Wednesday Supper | 123.00 |

**God's Tithe and Our Offerings
December 31**

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| General Fund | \$2,845.00 |
| Debt Retirement | 4,520.00 |

Home Connection



Venida
McKinnies
Parkway Manor
Rm. 207
Marion, IL
62959

Home Connections!
Make one
This Week

Please remember
Venida with a card
or a phone call.

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



Hospitality January 7

Casserole: Linda

Bakery: Wes

Fruit: Wes

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



Vacation Bible School

June 11-15; 9 am - Noon

Ages 4 yrs thru
completed 6th grade

VBS Training Clinics

March 3 -

FBC, Carterville, 8:30- Noon,

OR

March 17-

Pleasant Hill, Mt Vernon,

8:30 - Noon

Coming Up In January

Wednesday Children Activities

We are in need of a team to provide activities
for our children in grades 1-6 beginning January 3rd.
If you are available to assist or have questions,
please contact the pastor

Winter Bible Study 1 Peter

Wednesdays 6:30 January 3 Thru February 17

The message delivered by Peter has great relevance for today, as
more pressure is being exerted on believers around the world

Gorham Discussion Wednesday - January 10, 6:30 PM

Where is God leading The Ridge Church in the community?
What should the next step be in reaching the community?
What are you willing to do in reaching the community?

If you have thoughts prior to the discussion,
please contact the pastor

Sunday School/Small Group Workers meeting

January 21, 5:00 PM

This is our first meeting of the New Year.
The agenda will include Josh Hunt Weekend

Moving classrooms to the new building

VBS training in March

If you are unable to attend, please contact the pastor

This Week on The Ridge

Sunday, January 7

8:30 AM - Coffee and....

9:00 AM - Sunday School
and Small Groups

10:15 AM - Morning Worship

6:00 PM - Birthday Potluck

Tuesday, January 9

12:00 PM - Adult 5 Brown Bag
Luncheon

6:30 PM - Church Council
Meeting

Wednesday, January 10

7:00 AM - Men's Prayer Time

5:45 PM - Dinner by
reservation **menu**: ham,
scalloped potatoes, corn, salad
and dessert

6:30 PM - Gorham Discussion

January 15

Church office closed in
observance of
Martin Luther King Jr. day

Information You Need

Jesus Changes EVERYTHING

7-week small group study

January 7 - Jesus Provides

January 14 - Jesus Corrects

Made For Something MORE!

6-week small group study

January 21

I Am Wonderfully Made

January 28

I Am a Child of the King

February 4

I Am a Minister

February 11

I Am a Priest

February 18

I Am Just Passing through

February 25

I Am a Light

Start the New Year in a
Small Group - **Sundays @ 9 AM**

Save the Date

Saturday February 24

Sunday School/Small Group Workers Banquet

Guest Speaker: Josh Hunt

We will meet at Pagliai's Pizza for dinner at 5 PM

Josh Hunt 6 PM

10 Marks of I.N.C.R.E.D.I.B.L.E. Small Group Leaders

"Incredible teacher inspire hearts; they don't just fill heads."
That is point #1. The topic explores how to use technology
to find material that moves hearts. One point of the ten
deals with the dream of doubling groups.

Sunday February 25 9:00 AM - All Adults

Arrangements will be made for children and preschool age

Make Your Group Grow

Based on a research project where 1000 teachers were surveyed
to discover what contributes to the growth of a group.

Sunday February 10:15 AM Worship

Message: "One Magnificent Obsession"

This seminar focuses on ten reasons WHY we would give
ourselves to the vision of growing groups. The problem in
many cases is not that we don't know how to double a class in
two years or less, it is that we are not motivated to do so.



Christmas 2018



Sunday School and Small Group Study January 7, 2018

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Preschool (birth-5) | Josiah and the Lost Scroll | 2 Kings 22:1-23:3 |
| Children (gr 1-6) | Josiah and the Lost Scroll | 2 Kings 22:1-23:3 |
| Students (gr 7-12) | Jesus Provides | Mark 6:34-44 |
| Adults | Jesus Provides | Mark 6:34-44 |

ONE CONVERSATION™

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

CONNECTION POINT: The Bible tells about Jesus' care for people.

THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE: Many people relegate Jesus to solely the spiritual realm—as though the spiritual life is separate from all other areas of life. Jesus saves the whole person. He seeks to help us and sustain us in every area of every life—and we can trust Him to do so. As Jesus meets our every need, we can be a conduit of His care in the lives of others.

**BIBLE
STUDIES
FOR LIFE**

MARK 6:34-44

Jesus Provides

PRESCHOOL



2 KINGS 22:1-23:3

LIVE IT OUT: Let your child use the Bible at home. Invest in a preschool Bible—one that has the whole Bible, not a Bible storybook. Sit and help your child turn the pages of the Bible and talk about some of the Bible people. Emphasize that the Bible is real and true.

Josiah was 8 years old when he became king. He loved God and wanted to obey Him. Josiah became a man and wanted to obey God.

The temple (church) needed to be cleaned and repaired. King Josiah told one of his helpers, "Give money to carpenters, builders, and stone masons to repair the temple."

The workers found a Bible scroll. The worker gave the scroll to the king's helper. The helper read words from the Bible scroll. When Josiah heard the words, he was upset. "The words of this Bible scroll tell what God wants us to do," Josiah said. "We have not been doing these things."

King Josiah called the people to the temple. The people listened to the words from the Bible scroll. Josiah promised he would do the things God said. The people promised God they would do what God said, too.

KIDS



2 KINGS 22-23

LIVE IT OUT: Provide several different translations of the Bible and use them to read the weekly verse, Psalm 119:89. Help your child memorize his favorite translation of the verse.

Josiah became king when he was eight years old. When Josiah was older, he told his helper, "Tell the priest give money the people have given for the temple. Give money to the builders. Buy wood and stone for the repairs."

When the helper met the priest, the priest said, "I found the book of the law here in the temple!" He gave the it to the helper.

King Josiah listened to what was written in the book. He was sad and tore his clothes! Josiah realized that he and the people had not obeyed God.

King Josiah tore down the altars where people prayed to other gods. The law said the people must celebrate the Passover. This feast had not been done for many years!

King Josiah led the Passover feast. He turned to God more than any other king before him.

STUDENTS

THE POINT: Jesus cares and meets the needs in our lives.

- What was something provided for you as a child that you didn't appreciate at the time?
- Where do you see evidence of God's compassion in the world today?
- How do we balance the importance of meeting physical needs and spiritual needs?
- Where do we have opportunities to participate in God's provision for others?

Discuss the following quote: "Hope is the poor man's bread."
—George Herbert

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:** Pray with your student thanking God for the good things and the blessings He has provided.
- **COMMUNITY:** Begin by talking about ways God has used someone recently in your life to meet a need. Then consider ways you and your family can meet the needs of others in your community.
- **CULTURE:** Discuss ways you may be trusting in others or even yourself above trusting in God to provide for your needs.

1. George Herbert, "Entire Quotes Database," Christian Quotes [online], [accessed 23 May 2017]. Available from the Internet: <https://www.christianquotes.info/search-for-a-quote/?listpage=2&trunc=c:2#participants-list-2>.

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