

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

Phone: 618.457.0479

Email: RidgeChurch@OnTheRidge.org

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

### Join us Sunday Morning

8:30 am "Coffee And ..."

9:00 am Sunday School/Small Groups

10:15 am Morning Worship

Evening Activities Dismissed

### 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](https://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*

## Six WEEK STUDY Made for Something More *I Am a Minister*

**The Point:** God works through  
us to make a difference

Join us Sunday at 9 AM  
as we study 2 Corinthians 3:4-12  
and discuss these 5 questions

1. What's a chore you'd love to 'outsource' to someone else?
2. When have you had the privilege of ministering to someone?
3. How can we tell if we're relying on our own competency instead of trusting Christ to work through us?
4. How would you summarize Paul's point in these verses?
5. What does it look like to serve Christ with boldness in today's culture?

\*\*\*\*\*

Pray for  
Gorham Community  
and Outreach



# The Witness

Wes Henson, Pastor

February 4, 2018

Vol. 42, No. 05

## 6 Reasons Sunday School Small Groups Rock!



1. Sunday School Small Groups (SSSG) improve your Bible knowledge. When you know and understand God's Word, you are more likely to obey it.
2. SSSG, assist your spiritual growth. Think of Sunday School teachers and class members who have modeled the Christian life. Most importantly, spiritual growth often occurs best in the context of small group Bible study.
3. SSSG provide a "place to belong." In a Sunday School class you are known, personally recognized and transparency is more likely to occur. You can share needs and concerns. As you participate, you become part of the group.
4. SSSG help you build meaningful relationships. You meet people, learn their names, hear their stories, and meet their families. You share fellowship times with class members. You minister alongside others.
5. SSSG provide opportunities to serve and minister. Contacts with sometimes "unchurched prospects" gives you the privilege of sharing your faith. You show the love of Jesus by ministering to class members who have needs.
6. SSSG have a place for the whole family. In one trip to church, your entire family can participate in the important purposes of Bible study, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, worship, and evangelism.

We will recognize **Sunday School Small Group Workers** Sunday, February 25, @ 10:15 am.

We Labor Together With God, *Wes*

**Deacon of the Week:**

Jack Peterman

**Trustee of the Month**

Louie Hertter

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Weekly Count**

SS/Small Group 112

Worship 108

**God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

General Fund \$2,903.00

Canvas & Coffee 20.00

Debt Retirement 227.58

Wednesday Supper 70.00

**Hospitality February 4**

**Casserole: Debi Hanson**

**Bakery: Myrtle Huppert**

**Fruit: Courtney Griffith**

Call the Church office to sign up

**Home Connection**



**Richard Stewart**

2950 Westridge Pl.

Carbondale, IL

62901

Please remember

Richard with a card

or a phone call.

Home Connections!  
Make one This Week

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



**Get Ready for Fuge**

**Who:**

6th-12th graders

**What:**

Centrifuge/Mfuge combo

**When:**

June 25-29, 2018

**Where:**

Carson-Newman

Jefferson City, TN

**Why:**

Because FUGE is awesome!

**Cost: \$277/ person**

After the \$25 deposit we  
hope to fundraise the rest

Questions??

**Contact info:**

Courtney Griffith

618-559-7139

cngriffith4@gmail.com

Other Details:

**Deadline to register:**

**February 1st**

**Coming Up**

**Souper Bowl Offering**

**"Let's Tackle Hunger" with "Souper Bowl of Caring Offering"**  
**Sunday February 4, 2018 following the morning worship service**

Before you indulge in Super Bowl treats and copious amounts of food  
Pray this prayer: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl Football  
game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."

**Sunday Nights - Winter and Spring**  
**Faith in Action**

**February 18 - Faith to Persevere - Acts 14:8-23**

The miracle of the healed cripple has some astonishing similarities  
to the one performed by Peter in Jerusalem in Acts 3. Both  
healed men were lame from birth. Both leaped up and walked  
following their healing. In both cases, the apostle looked intently  
at the lame man. What is going on? **We plan to steam on FB Live**

\*\*\*

**Outreach Event**

**Canvas & Coffee on The Ridge**  
**February 17, 2018 9 AM to Noon**

Bring a friend, come and paint. Cost of Materials: \$10/person

Open to all! Limited seating. Register: See Lisa Hottensen

\*\*\*

**Talent Night / Fuge Fundraiser**

## This Week on The Ridge

### Sunday, February 4

8:30 AM - Coffee and....  
9:00 AM - Sunday School  
and Small Groups  
10:15 AM - Worship  
6:00 PM - Evening Activities  
are dismissed

### Tuesday, February 6

6:30 PM - Church Council Meeting

### Wednesday, February 7

7:00 AM - Men's Prayer Time  
5:45 PM - Dinner by reservation  
**menu:** sloppy joes, tater tots, relish  
tray, salad & dessert  
6:30 PM - Adult Prayer time, Bible  
Study, children's  
mission activities  
7:15pm - Trustees Meeting  
\*\*\*\*\*

### **Inclement Weather?**

Call the church office or find us on  
facebook for the latest updates on  
services when the weather is non-  
compliant. 618.457.0479

## Information You Need

**Made For Something MORE!**  
small group study

**February 4**

*I Am a Minister*

Adult Discussion Guide available  
[www.Bible.com/events/348679](http://www.Bible.com/events/348679)

**February 11**

*I Am a Priest*

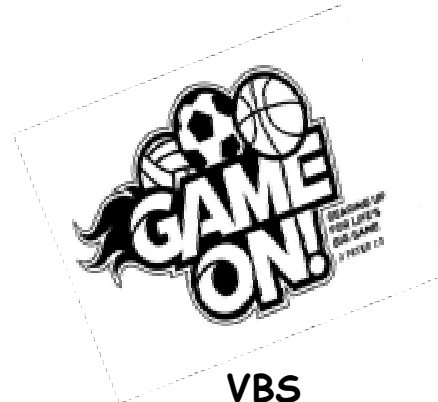
**February 18**

*I Am Just Passing through*

**February 25**

*I Am a Light*

\*\*\*



**VBS**

June 11-15; 9 am - Noon  
4 years thru completed  
6<sup>th</sup> grade

## **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.



# The Ridge Church Vacation Bible School

Ages 4 yrs thru  
completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade



**VBS Workers Get Together**  
Sunday February 18, 5 PM  
On The Ridge

### VBS Training Clinics

**March 3 -**  
FBC, Carterville, 8:30- Noon,  
OR  
**March 17-**  
Pleasant Hill, Mt Vernon,  
8:30 - Noon

#### **Day 1 Jesus Cares About Me**

The Point: Jesus cares about me.  
Bible Story: The Lost Sheep Luke 15:1-7

#### **Day 2 Jesus Gives Me Hope**

The Point: Jesus gives me hope.  
Bible Story: The Resurrection of Lazarus John 11:1-44

#### **Day 3 Jesus Helps Me Believe**

The Point: Jesus helps me believe  
Bible Story: Thomas Believed John 20:19-31

#### **Day 4 Jesus Loves Me**

The Point: Jesus loves me.  
Bible Story: John Wrote About Jesus  
John 13:1-35; 19:25-27; 20:1-10; 21:1-14

#### **Day 5 Jesus Gives Me Joy**

The Point: Jesus gives me joy.  
Bible Story: Paul and Silas in Prison  
Acts 16:23-34

#### **Theme Verse**

His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 2 Peter 1:3

#### **Motto**

Gear up!  
Get ready!  
Game On!

# Sunday School and Small Group Study February 4, 2018

|                     |                               |                       |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Preschool (birth-5) | John the Baptist told @ Jesus | Mat 3, Luke 3, John 1 |
| Children (gr 1-6)   | John the Baptist told @ Jesus | Mat 3, Luke 3, John 1 |
| Students (gr 7-12)  | I Am a Minister               | 2 Corinthians 3:4-12  |
| Adults              | I Am a Minister               | 2 Corinthians 3:4-12  |

## ONE CONVERSATION™

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

**CONNECTION POINT:** The Holy Spirit helps Christians live their lives for Jesus.

**THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE:** While we can be thankful for the work of our pastors and church leaders, ministry is not just for a select few. Some people are set apart for specific offices and ministries within the church, but we are all given the privilege of doing the work of a minister. The call to follow Christ is a call to serve Him, and we serve Him through the opportunities He gives us to serve others.

**BIBLE  
STUDIES  
FOR LIFE**

**2 CORINTHIANS 3:4-12**

*I Am a Minister*

### PRESCHOOL



**MATTHEW 3:1-6,13-17;  
LUKE 3:1-22; JOHN 1:18-37**

**LIVE IT OUT:** Your child may want to know more about baptism after hearing this week's Bible story. If she has never seen a baptism, make an appointment to visit the baptistry in your church. Remind your child that God sent Jesus to earth because He loves us.

God had a special job for John. God wanted him to tell people about Jesus. John lived in the desert and wore a leather belt around his waist. His clothes were made of camel hair, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

John told the people, "Someone who is more powerful and greater than I will come." He wanted the people to understand that God had sent him to tell about Jesus.

John baptized many people. One day Jesus went to the river where John was. John knew that Jesus was God's Son. John baptized Jesus, placing Him under the water for a few seconds. Then a dove appeared, and God's voice was heard saying that Jesus was God's Son.

John did what God told him to do. He taught people about Jesus.

### KIDS



**MATTHEW 3:1-6,13-17;  
LUKE 3:1-22; JOHN 1:18-37**

**LIVE IT OUT:** Depending on the age of your child, the Holy Spirit may be new information for your child. Tell your child that when he became, or becomes, a Christian, the Holy Spirit will always be present in his life.

John the Baptist was given a special job by God. He was to tell people about Jesus.

John traveled all around the area of the Jordan River, teaching that Jesus was the Savior, the one and only Son of God. He told people to ask for forgiveness for their sins and to be baptized. John told everyone the good news that Jesus was coming soon.

One day Jesus went to the Jordan River. John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Here is the God's Son, who takes away the sins of the world!" John was talking about Jesus.

Jesus asked John to baptize Him. John was surprised, but he baptized Jesus in the Jordan River.

After Jesus was baptized, the Spirit of God came down from heaven like a dove. Then they heard a voice from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son. I take delight in Him!"

### STUDENTS

**THE POINT:** God works through us to make a difference.

- What's a chore you'd love to "outsource" to someone else?
- What do these verses teach us about our role in God's work?
- How do we make sure that God gets the glory for our ministry?
- What does it look like to serve Christ with boldness in today's culture?

Discuss the following quote: "Trying to do the Lord's work in your own strength is the most confusing, exhausting, and tedious of all work. But when you are filled with the Holy Spirit, then the ministry of Jesus just flows out of you."<sup>1</sup>

—Corrie Ten Boom

1. Corrie Ten Boom, "26 Corrie Ten Boom Quotes," Christian Quotes [online], [accessed 25 May 2017]. Available from the Internet: <https://www.christianquotes.info/quotes-by-author/corrie-ten-boom-quotes/#ixzz4j2mz2w>.

**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:** We serve and love others just as Christ first loved and served us. Discuss with your student ways Christ has ministered to him or her.
- **COMMUNITY:** How can your family come together this week to serve and minister to others in your community? Consider inviting another family to join you or including other students in your church family.
- **CULTURE:** People that are not a part of God's family do not always understand a culture that is not self-oriented. How can your family demonstrate service that is other-oriented?

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