

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

Phone: 618.457.0479

Email: [RidgeChurch@OnTheRidge.org](mailto: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

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](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*

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

**The Point:** As servants of Christ,  
we are His representatives.

Join us Sunday at 9 AM  
as we study **1 Peter 2:4-10**  
and discuss these 5 questions

1. If you could have a direct line to a notable figure in our society, whom would you choose?
2. How should we understand the metaphors described in these verses?
3. In what ways do people stumble over Jesus and His message today?
4. Which of the descriptions of God's people in verse 9 most resonates with you? Why?
5. How can we work as a group to praise God and declare His goodness intentionally?

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# The Witness

Wes Henson, Pastor

February 11, 2018

Vol. 42, No. 06

## Small Groups - Good for Thee; Not for Me!



Scripture reminds us that we need to be in relationships for our personal and spiritual growth. In the midst of this fragmented and persecuted world, we desperately need to be connected!

**Are you thinking this is great for thee, but not for me?** Perhaps you are struggling with a very busy full plate in life. A plate overfilled with mounds of things that you need to do and are responsible for in your life. Perhaps, they are overflowing your dish. We all struggle with the demands of our career and all of the frustrations and stress placed on us, such as goals, deadlines, and workflow.

Then there are our family obligations, taking the kids to school, picking them up here and there, dealing with all of their demands and obligations too. Then maybe you are already volunteering for something in the church or community. Maybe you are juggling work and school and family, to the point there is not a free minute in your week.

Then you are asked, "**Hey, why don't you join our small group?**" What??? I do not have the time! I cannot possibly commit to anything else. I am overloaded and overwhelmed! Well, to be honest, then you are the person who needs to be in a small group the most!

We ALL need a place to grow, and we as humans in a relationship with Jesus grow best in community with people who love and care for us!

We Labor Together With God, *Wes*

**Deacon of the Week:**

Mike Garlinghouse

**Trustee of the Month**

Louie Hertter

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**The Weekly Count**

SS/Small Group	122
Worship	105

**God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

General Fund	\$3,211.00
Canvas & Coffee	20.00
Debt Retirement	127.58
Wednesday Supper	61.00
Souper Bowl	318.00

**Hospitality February 11**

**Casserole: Lisa Hottensen**

**Bakery: Jeff Yates**

**Fruit: Diana Andrews**

Call the Church office to sign up

**Home Connection**



Home Connections!  
Make one This Week

**Venida McKinnies**

Parkway Manor

Rm.207

Marion, IL

62959

Please remember  
RVenida with a card  
or a phone call.



**Online giving to The Ridge**

**Church is available 24/7**

Scan this QR code Or,  
download the Tithely 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:

**Youth: your deposit is due now.**

**Must be in by February 18**

**Coming Up**

**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**

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**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

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**The Time Has arrived ...**

**The moment we have ALL been waiting for ...**

**Spaghetti Dinner and Talent Night #OnTheRidge**

**Youth Fundraiser for Fuge**

**March 4, 2018**

**5:30 PM Theme: Clue: The Game**

**18 youth have signed up to attend Fudge Camp this year**

## This Week on The Ridge

### Sunday, February 11

8:30 AM - Coffee and...  
9:00 AM - Sunday School  
and Small Groups  
10:15 AM - Worship  
5:00 PM - Deacons Meeting  
6:00 PM - Evening Devotion

### Tuesday, February 13

12:00 PM - Adult 5 Brown Bag  
Luncheon

### Wednesday, February 14

7:00 AM - Men's Prayer Time  
5:45 PM - Dinner by reservation  
**menu:** taco bar, salad & dessert  
6:30 PM - Adult Prayer time, Bible  
Study, children's  
mission activities

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### Prairie Living Sunday School

**Resumes 9:00 am**  
**March 4<sup>th</sup> in the Chapel.**  
Don Barrett is leading. If you  
are AVAILABLE to assist, see  
Don or contact the office.

## Information You Need

**Made For Something MORE!**  
**9 AM Sundays**

**February 11**  
*I Am a Priest*  
*Interactive Adult Study Guide*  
[www.bible.com/events/348878](http://www.bible.com/events/348878)

**February 18**  
*I Am Just Passing through*

**February 25**  
*I Am a Light*  
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**Fill the Rack!**  
The Holiday Food Drives are  
over! **SO ... Mission Action Team**  
**Food Drive** begins.  
Please bring non-perishable  
items through February. Canned  
meats, veggies, peanut butter

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**VBS**  
June 11-15; 9 am - Noon  
4 years - completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade  
**Theme Song: Game On**  
Listen In:  
[tinyurl.com/VBS-GameOn](http://tinyurl.com/VBS-GameOn)

## **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 11, 2018

Preschool (birth-5)  
 Children (gr 1-6)  
 Students (gr 7-12)  
 Adults

Jesus Helped People  
 Jesus Helped People  
 I Am a Priest  
 I Am a Priest

Matthew 8:1-13  
 Matthew 8:1-13  
 1 Peter 2:4-10  
 1 Peter 2:4-10

## ONE CONVERSATION™

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

**CONNECTION POINT:** Christians should care for others because Jesus cares about them.

**THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE:** We have different images of a priest, from an Old Testament high priest to a modern-day Roman Catholic priest to a religious figure in some cults and Eastern religions. Most Christians would never consider themselves priests, but the Bible describes us as such. A priest is someone who goes before God on behalf of others, and a priest represents Christ to those same people. Peter wrote that such a priesthood is a characteristic of a follower of Christ.

**BIBLE  
 STUDIES  
 FOR LIFE**

**1 PETER 2:4-10**  
*I Am a Priest*

### PRESCHOOL



#### MATTHEW 8:1-13

**LIVE IT OUT:** Briefly review the Bible story with your child. Remind him that Jesus helped people because He loved and cared for them. Assist your child in praying for a family or church member who is ill. Explain that praying is a way we can care like Jesus.

As Jesus came down a mountain where He was teaching people, a man came up to Him. The man had a skin disease. The man asked Jesus to make him well. Jesus touched the man and healed him. Jesus told the man to show himself to the church helper and give an offering to God.

In a town called Capernaum, a soldier came to Jesus. He told Jesus about his servant who was sick and in pain. He asked Jesus to heal his servant. Jesus said He would come to his house.

"Jesus, You do not have to come to my house," the soldier said. "If You speak the word, my servant will be well."

Jesus was amazed. He knew that the soldier believed that He could make the servant well.

Jesus told the soldier, "Since you believed, your servant will be healed." The servant was healed at the very moment Jesus spoke.

### KIDS



#### MATTHEW 8:1-13

**LIVE IT OUT:** Talk about today's Bible story with your child. Tell her that Jesus still cares for and helps people. Make a list of ways Jesus cares for your family. Work together to compose a prayer of thanks for His love and care.

Large crowds followed Jesus everywhere He went. A man who was sick came to Jesus and said that he believed Jesus could make him well. Jesus reached out and touched the man and he was healed. Jesus told the man not to tell what had happened.

Jesus then went to the city of Capernaum. A man who was a leader in the army came to Jesus. He told Jesus that he had a servant at home that could not walk and was in terrible pain. He asked Jesus to heal him. Jesus said he would go to his home to heal the servant.

The man said he believed that Jesus could say the word and his servant would be healed. Jesus said that he had never met anyone that had such strong faith. Jesus spoke, and the servant was healed at the very moment Jesus spoke.

### STUDENTS

**THE POINT:** As servants of Christ, we are His representatives.

- If you could have a direct connection to an influential person in our society, who would you choose?
- What is your reaction to the idea that God has made believers into a holy priesthood?
- How should these verses influence our understanding of those who don't know Jesus?
- Which of the descriptions of God's people in verse 9 resonates most strongly with you?

Discuss the following quote: "You have instant, direct access to God. God loves mankind so much, and in a very special sense His children, that He has made Himself available to you at all times."  
 —Wesley L. Duewel

1. Wesley L. Duewel, "20 Wesley L. Duewel Quotes," Christian Quotes [online], (accessed 25 May 2017). Available from the Internet: <https://www.christianquotes.info/quotes-by-author/wesley-l-duewel-quotes/> [https://www.christianquotes.info/quotes-by-author/wesley-l-duewel-quotes/?listpage=1&instance=2&participants=1&1=2]

**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 every night this week thanking Jesus for the restoration to God and the ability to speak with Him at any time.
- **COMMUNITY:** Create a list with your student of people that you can focus your prayers on. Commit to pray for these people every night this week.
- **CULTURE:** It's our job to seek God on behalf of those who cannot and to also represent God to those who do not know Him. Discuss with your student ways you can perform this task throughout the week.

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