

# "When the Going Gets Tough"

Tony Turner

We have all had times in our lives when things get tough. The world has a way of throwing challenges our way when we least expect it or when we are least capable of handling them. Sometimes the challenges get so difficult that we may want to give up. What should we do when we get to that point? We should follow the example of three men in the Bible who faced very difficult challenges but kept the faith: Jeremiah, Daniel, and Paul.

Because of Jeremiah's prophecies to the people of Judah, King Zedekiah had him seized and thrown in a cistern where he sank into deep mud (Jer. 38:6-7, ESV). When King Zedekiah had him taken out of the muddy hole, Jeremiah never wavered in telling the king the prophecies of the Lord concerning Jerusalem (38:17-18). Daniel knew that if he prayed to anyone other than to King Darius, he would be thrown in the lion's den. Nevertheless, he prayed to God three times a day, and was indeed thrown in the den of lions (Dan. 6). Paul withstood severe hardship as he spread the gospel. He was given 39 lashes five times, beaten with rods three times, stoned once, shipwrecked three times, and in constant danger (2 Cor. 11:24-26). Still, Paul continued to share the good news. What was it about these men that allowed them to persevere in such dire circumstances?

First, they served God. Just as Joshua decided to serve God (Josh. 24: 15), these men decided to serve God. Next, they obeyed God. As Peter and the apostles stood before the Jewish council after being told not to teach about Jesus, they told the council, "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29). When pressured by men Jeremiah, Daniel, and Paul obeyed God rather than the men oppressing them. Finally, they trusted God. In the fourth chapter of Philippians, Paul said he learned to be content in whatever circumstance he was in (vs. 11), because "I can do all things through him who strengthens me" (vs. 13). This trust in God is what kept Jeremiah, Daniel, and Paul strong and able to overcome their challenges.

Brethren, when life's challenges get you down, remember the example of Jeremiah, Daniel, and Paul. Serve, obey, and trust God.



# Welcome

TO  
KOUNTZE  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sep.

"Repent and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins."

*Acts 2:38*

19<sup>th</sup>

## Meeting Times

Sunday Bible Class – 9:30

AM Worship – 10:30

PM Worship – 1:30

Wednesday Night Bible Class – 7:00

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101.3 FM Radio

Kountze Church of Christ

# Today's Lessons

AM.....Am I Saved?  
PM.....Offended by Jesus

## Men to Serve

Announcements.....  
Song Leader.....Sterling McDonald  
Opening Prayer.....  
Communion Leader.....Steve Deatricks  
Sermon.....Corey Tackett  
Closing Prayer.....

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

- The Vidor church of Christ will have a Gospel Meeting with Glen Colley Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>.
- If you have other announcements to be added to next week's bulletin, please give them to Corey.

Sep 25<sup>th</sup> – Workday  
Oct 30<sup>th</sup> – Fall Festival / Trunker Treat  
Oct 31<sup>st</sup> – Church Homecoming

## Records

Sunday AM..... Wednesday PM.....N/A  
Sunday PM..... Contribution.....N/A

### Birthdays:

04.....Erin Neely  
08.....Shane Jenkins  
10.....Sterling McDonald  
15.....Zach McDonald  
20.....Denise Whatley  
23.....Callie Collins

### Anniversaries:

09.....Stuart & Donna  
12.....Steve & Cindy

## Visitors,

You are welcome and wanted. We are glad you made the decision to be with us.

If you have any questions or needs, please reach out to any of our members and we'll be more than happy to help you.

If you're looking for a Church home, we'd love the opportunity to study with you and have you join our congregation's family.

## Prayer Requests and Updates

### Members:

- Dwayne Baker
- Ed & Linda Bumstead
- Gaylon & Gladys Williams

### Family and Friends:

- Tony Wright
- Kyle Shavers
- Jeanie Beck
- Danny Roberts
- The Walter's family
- Shawn Gunter
- Susan Golden
- Kyle Tantillo
- Donna Melton
- Jim Andrews