

Connect The Dots

From the Desk of Bishop Wells

I wish grace and peace upon all the saints from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, our soon coming King. I trust that you are all well and remaining healthy in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our God has been so kind and gracious to us, preserving so many of us, and helping and healing others touched by the virus. But His goodness has extended well beyond remaining healthy. He has been sending His word, perhaps in unprecedented ways. Because of live streaming, the saints have been receiving the word of God in ways that had not before been available. In the word that God has been sending to O.A.A. through the Sunday School Zoom and in building class, the Monday night Prayer Conference Call, the Wednesday Night Bible Class, both streaming and in building, and then the Thursday "Around the Table with the Word" class on Zoom, God has been blessing us. Through most of these opportunities, the saints have been receiving the "finest of the wheat." The word has been rich. I believe that most of the members will agree.

Yet in all that, God is saying, "Don't forget to connect the dots." What does He mean by that? He means just like one of those little puzzle pictures, you have to connect the dots to get the big picture. Make no mistake, each of these messages or lessons has enough character to stand on its own. But what the Spirit is saying is that there is an overall and connecting message that ties all the Bible classes, prayer meetings and sermons together. You need all of the parts to understand the whole. Isaiah 28:10 says, "For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little." God is telling us two things at least. Don't neglect the immediate lesson or the "dot," if you will. Then don't neglect putting them all together to get the overall message.

So in closing, saints, the Lord is speaking great things out of His law for such a time as this to encourage His people. But to get it all, we've got to "Connect the Dots."

Maranatha,

Bishop Wells



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Corner Connection: The Gospel At Work In Us

Recently Bishop Wells referenced Psalms 1:1, “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.” He drew a picture of the progression of apostasy: one begins by walking according to the advice and purpose of the ungodly, they then take a stand according to the manner and course of life of transgressors, then finally they assume a position of teaching and authority, speaking all manner of arrogance. In short, they become ambassadors of false teaching. This progression came to mind as I read John 10:1, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.” This ‘climbing up’ is like the progression of apostasy. One starts at the bottom (listening to false teaching) and makes his way up to the position of authority. This person is a thief and robber. Jesus said, “I am the door” (John 10: 9a). ‘Door’ (in Greek) here implies “conditions which must be complied with.” We are all aware that nobody comes to the father except through Jesus - through His death, burial and resurrection.

As Bishop preached, the foundation makes the difference. Repent, be baptized in Jesus’ name, be filled with the Holy Ghost - this is the way we came in and it is by this Gospel that we must go out. Romans 6:3-4, “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in the newness of life. (Death, burial, resurrection).

The pandemic is no accident as we all know. As a body we have often referred to 2 Chronicles 7:14, “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.” He is speaking to His people, telling us to turn (repent). Only then will He hear us from heaven, forgive us our sin and heal the land. (Death of our sins, burial with Him, resurrection by Him).

Bishop said we can’t assume that we are in the same place we were when we first were saved. If this position were automatic, he would not be sounding the alarm against seducing spirits that would say otherwise. Hebrews 6:1 admonishes us to “go on unto perfection” and to not keep having to repent from the same old sins. This pandemic is a warning for us to keep moving! In the Thursday Bible roundtable, our book’s author, who is a former shepherd, talks about the necessity of the shepherd to keep his flocks moving. If the sheep stay too long in one place, they remove all the nourishment from the ground and no longer have good food to eat. They can become sick. Bishop has been moving us from one part of the pasture land to another. The ground where we have been is no longer sustainable and the Good Shepherd is calling his church to higher ground (hinds’ feet await!). Paul knew not to stay where he was. Philippians 4:12, “Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend of Christ Jesus.” Apprehend refers to ‘to seize upon’ in the sense of ‘to go up to a higher place: to Jerusalem’. Verse 15 says, “Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be *otherwise minded*, God shall reveal even this unto you.” (After we pray, we must listen!). This is what we are dealing with now - the ‘otherwise minded’ things.

In the sermon “Battling the What If’s,” we were called to battle to pull down strong holds, truth being of a particular help here. We are to pull down *our* personal dreams, ambitions and aspirations and to let Christ replace them with His will. (Death of our will, burial with Him, resurrection by His will). It is interesting to note that ‘strong holds’ (Greek) means roughly “to fortify, hold safely.” Strong holds are arguments and reasonings by which we endeavor to fortify our opinion and defend it against God! This takes me back to Psalms 1, “nor standeth in the way of sinners.” We are to pull down these strong personal arguments and reasonings, not stand with them! Let us take heed, we have been told, lest we fall. 2 Chronicles 7:14 (and Psalms 19, particularly verse 11) is a call to be cleansed from the deeper things and secret faults. I have read that in preparation for the celebration of the Passover, “all leaven had to be removed from homes and a solemn search made by candlelight to find any hidden leaven” (*Search For Truth#2*, Twentier and Willhoit).

Tell me what it is, Lord! I want to make it! Tell me what I need to hear to stay on track! Remember Naaman, a military man of renown who had leprosy? He knew where to go for help and he went, but after hearing the instruction, the strong hold of pride and anger expressed itself and almost caused him to miss his cleansing. Thank God he stopped to listen and obey! To secure his blessing, he pulled down pride and anger, washed in the Jordan seven times, and came away clean. (Death, burial, resurrection). Thank God for His saving grace, for His long-suffering, and for the Gospel of Jesus Christ at work in us.

PRAYER REQUEST

Email us at: ofallonapostolic@gmail.com

We are here to lift you up in prayer.

Monday Night Prayer Line

Conference Line No.: 712.832.8597
Passcode: 4371394

- Need prayer?
- Want to be added to our prayer list?

Email us: ofallonapostolic@gmail.com

2 Chronicles 7:14

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Bible Class

Sunday 9:30a- 10:30a
Wednesday 7p-8:30p
Thursday 11:30a- 1p

Wednesdays are Livestreamed on Facebook
Sundays and Thursdays are on ZOOM

To be added to our Zoom list, email us at ofallonapostolic@gmail.com

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

Sunday School 9:30am

Announcements

Women Linking Virtually

The women will be meeting virtually on Saturday, September 5th at 11AM. The Zoom information is listed below:

◆ [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87944441229?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87944441229?pwd=V31XRDC3eEVjN0NUaXpMYi9UaG1XUT09)
pwd=V31XRDC3eEVjN0NUaXpMYi9UaG1XUT09

Meeting ID: 879 4444n1229

Passcode: 159553

Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Please RSVP to Sis Barbara Jones if you plan on attending.

Bring the Following:

- ◆ An inspirational quote
- ◆ A family photo
- ◆ A mask
- ◆ A long stemmed glass with your favorite drink

PURPOSE

Sister-2-Sister is an extension of our Women's Ministry that crosses generational and racial boundaries to bring the Body of Christ together as believers. Just as God sent Ruth to Naomi and Mary to Elizabeth God continues to use women to inspire and empower each other to live our best lives right now!

As forging relationships over Social Media becomes a norm, The Sister-2-Sister Connection was created to show the importance of face to face relationships among our Sisterhood and to draw greater awareness of the need for personal connections in the digital age through ZOOM! We connect with one another through our strengths, resources and callings, which eventually elevates us all to reach our highest potential.

Help Wanted

We are looking for people to assist in the AV / Social Media Departments. If you are interested please notify Jeanette (email: jjones8379@gmail.com or text at 618.409.2906)

- ◆ Must be willing to learn both audio and video sides including social media.
- ◆ Must be available for rotations of services.
- ◆ Must be dependable

The O'Fallon Childcare and Learning Center is looking for Early Childhood Education (ECE) Teachers. If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested please contact 1st Lady Wells for further information.

Don't Forget!!

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with Givelify

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This advertisement promotes online giving through the Givelify platform. It features a smartphone displaying the mobile giving app interface and a desktop monitor showing the online giving website. Logos for the App Store and Google Play are also present.

f LIVE

Join us on as we stream live on Sunday at 11am

This advertisement features the Facebook logo and the word "LIVE" in a red box. It includes a smartphone displaying the Facebook logo and text encouraging viewers to join a live stream on Sunday at 11am.

YouTube

Please tune in on Sundays at 11AM and Wednesdays at 7PM just follow the link below.

DON'T FORGET TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR CHANNEL

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UCBU8xUIKzFYN7GvjPcZ3Yw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBU8xUIKzFYN7GvjPcZ3Yw)

This advertisement features the YouTube logo and text encouraging viewers to tune in on Sundays at 11AM and Wednesdays at 7PM. It includes a YouTube logo and a "SUBSCRIBE TO OUR CHANNEL" button, along with a URL to the channel.

O'Fallon Apostolic Assembly

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