

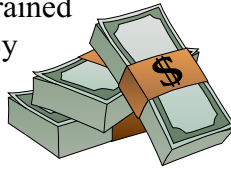
Munfordville Church of Christ

No 944

April 14, 2013

Taxes & Excuses

Tomorrow is April 15. This is a day that is ingrained in our society as a day of reckoning. By midnight, April 15, we must file an income tax return or at least an extension. Something must be done by that time. We cannot simply let it go by without action.



Consider the following excuses that are often offered for slackness in attendance or other work for the Lord. They have been altered somewhat to reflect what they would sound like if offered when discussing our failure to file income taxes with the IRS.

1. I was just too tired to file. I'll file next week.
2. I had company come in at the last minute. They hardly ever visit. I'll file later.
3. April 15 was the only day I had off that week. I had to rest instead of filing.

4. My parents always filed when I was a child. Since I'm now an adult, I feel it should be my personal choice and I shouldn't be made to file.
5. Others who file are hypocrites. They often cheat. There is no use in me even trying to file. I don't want to be associated with hypocrites.
6. I'm still young. I want to enjoy life. I'll start filing as I get older. I have plenty of time.
7. I don't like the people at the local IRS office. I don't want to be associated with them.
8. I was sick and could not file. [Note— There are times when we are genuinely sick and cannot attend, but many people let small ailments cause them to miss services and other work for the Lord when they would never let the same ailment cause them to miss a tax deadline or their job.]
9. My husband (or wife) never files. I feel like I need to support them from time to time.
10. I don't have any good clothes to wear when preparing my taxes.

As you can plainly see, these excuses certainly would not work when explaining to the IRS why we did not file by midnight, April 15. We are expected to fulfill our responsibility.

Likewise, we can offer many reasons for not attending services, or doing any of the Lord's work, but are they real reasons or just simply excuses?

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Munfordville Church of Christ
104 Back St — P.O. Box 322
Munfordville, KY 42765
(270) 524-3345
www.munfordvillechurchofchrist.com

Marty Edwards, Minister
577 Possum Trot Road
Hardyville, KY 42746
(270) 528-1298
martywedwards@gmail.com

Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jean Coffey, and Vicki McDaniel.**

—This morning following services the congregation will be going for lunch at Pizza Hut to celebrate the birthday of **Shirley Parson** who turns 70 tomorrow.

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We would not dare consider offering the above listed excuses to the IRS— a man-made, government office that has only been in existence a few years. Many do not give a second thought to offering the same excuses to the eternal God, creator and sustainer of our very being.

Let's work and pray to be truly converted. Let's not offer excuses to the Lord.

—Marty Edwards

Luke 14:17, 18a, ¹⁷*And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready.* ¹⁸*And they all with one [consent] began to make excuse."*

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When a child is young, he or she may want to do many things that look enjoyable such as playing in the street, eating candy and junk food instead of the healthy food needed, etc. The child may not want to attend school, take a bath, or any number of things.

The parents constrain the child to do the activities anyway, because the parents know they are for the good of the child.

The commandments of the Lord are like this. Many people may question and ask "why," but in Deuteronomy 6:24, the Lord told the Israelites, *"And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as [it is] at this day."*

Let's always obey the Lord wholly. It is to our benefit.

—Marty Edwards❖

Sunday, April 7, 2013		
Classes	20	John 20:11-25
Preaching	28	II Peter 1:11-2:1
Contribution	\$557.00	
Evening	21	Singing
Wednesday, April 10, 2013		
Classes	17	Judges 18:1-31

Bible Quiz

What was the reaction of the disciples when Jesus showed them his hands and side?

Last Week's Answer— Early on the first day of the week, while yet it was dark (John 20:1)

—If you miss any of our services and would like to hear them, you can listen to them via our YouTube page or an mp3 can be emailed to you.

—God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)