

# Warners Chapel Church of Christ

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*"The churches of Christ salute you" Rom. 16:16*

**A CORDIAL WELCOME AWAITS YOU**

**NOVEMBER 5, 2017**

## GETTING DRUNK: PART 2

### Review

Last week we looked at the Greek word "methusko" (methuskesthe) which is translated, "drunk" in Ephesians 5:18.<sup>(1)</sup> We noted sources that identified "methusko" as an aorist, inceptive, ingressive verb.<sup>(2)</sup> In other words, it is a verb that includes the entire process with primary focus on the beginning of the process.<sup>(3)</sup>

### Objection Considered

Consider now an objection concerning the argument presented above. *The King James Version* translates Ephesians 5:18 as follows: "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit." It has been argued by some that the word "excess" refers to the amount of alcohol in question. From this they conclude that the amount of alcohol forbidden by Ephesians 5:18 is an excessive amount. There are two problems with this argument. First, the argument does not address the definition of "methusko" as an aorist, inceptive, ingressive verb. The evidence regarding the fact that "methusko" includes the entire process with primary focus on the beginning of the process is not negated. Second, the word "excess" does not refer to the amount of alcohol taken in but rather the fact that drinking alcohol is bad behavior. *The American Standard Version* reads, "And be not drunken with wine, wherein is riot . . ." Though "excess" is not an incorrect translation, the word "riot" points more directly to the correct meaning. Drinking alcohol is riotous behavior. How much does one have to drink before the drinking is considered riotous? The inceptive, ingressive of "drunk" tells us it is "riotous" behavior from the beginning. It is wrong behavior throughout the process.

### Be Sober

The drinking of alcohol is forbidden in the negative form (don't begin the process of getting drunk) by the command in Ephesians 5:18. We should also consider the fact that the drinking of alcohol is forbidden in the positive form (do be sober). I Thessalonians 5:6, 7 is as follows: "Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night." Notice command to "watch and be sober. The word "watch" is contrasted with "sleep," and the word "sober" is contrasted with "drunk". Thus the context proves the command to be sober is with reference to abstinence from

alcohol. *The enhanced Strong's Dictionary* shows us "sober" is a translation of the Greek word "nepho".<sup>(4)</sup> "Nepho" is defined as "to abstain from wine (keep sober), i.e. (figuratively) be discreet: - be sober, watch."<sup>(5)</sup> The literal meaning of the word is "to abstain from wine." The context indicates the discussion here is to be taken literally because "sober" is contrasted with "drunk". Therefore, we have the command to abstain from

alcohol. *The enhanced Strong's Dictionary* shows us “sober” is a translation of the Greek word “nepho”.<sup>(4)</sup> “Nepho” is defined as “to abstain from wine (keep sober), i.e. (figuratively) be discreet: - be sober, watch.”<sup>(5)</sup> The literal meaning of the word is “to abstain from wine.” The context indicates the discussion here is to be taken literally because “sober” is contrasted with “drunk”. Therefore, we have the command to abstain from wine given to us in 1 Thessalonians 5:6.

This argument is further reinforced by *The Expanded Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*. This dictionary says “nepho signifies to be free from the influence of intoxicants.”<sup>(6)</sup> *The Analytical Greek Lexicon Revised*, defines “nepho” as “to be sober, not intoxicated; in N.T. met. to be vigilant, circumspect.”<sup>(7)</sup> This lexicon also defines “nephaios” as “sober, temperate, abstinent in respect to wine, etc.; in N.T. met vigilant, circumspect.”<sup>(8)</sup> *The New Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon* gives a similar definition.<sup>(9)</sup> The dictionary and lexicons just mentioned give the meaning of being free from intoxicants as the primary definition. However, they do suggest a metaphorical use of the term. Yet the fact that 1 Thessalonians 5:6 uses the word “nepho” (nephomen)<sup>(10)</sup> in contrast with “methusko” (1 Thessalonians 5:7) shows that the primary use of the term “nepho” is correct. In other words, the fact that being sober is contrasted with being drunk indicates a discussion of intoxicants.

We should also note that W. E. Vine,<sup>(11)</sup> A. T. Robertson<sup>(12)</sup> and others say the word “methusko” in 1 Thessalonians 5:7 is inceptive and ingressive just as it is in Ephesians 5:18. Verse six says “be sober” (nepho) in contrast to those who “get drunk” (methusko) in verse seven. In other words, we should be sober rather than being like those who engage in the process of getting drunk.

~Kevin Rutherford

### End Notes

1. Jay P. Green, *-The Interlinear Greek-English New Testament*, Hendrickson Publishers, Peabody, 1984, 528
2. W.E. Vine, ed. By John R. Kohlengerger III, with James A. Swanson, *The Expanded Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*, Bethany House Publishers, 1984, 333
3. Dr. Terry L. Puett, *A Categorical Alphabetical Bible Study*, Vol. 4, S to Z, T&L Publications, Pueblo, 2013, 549
4. James Strong, S.T.D., LL. D., *The Enhanced Strong's Dictionary*, Olive Tree Computer Software.
5. Ibid
6. Vine, 1057
7. Harold K. Moulton, *The Analytical Greek Lexicon Revised*, Regency, Grand Rapids, 1978, 277
8. Ibid
9. Joseph Henry Thayer, D.D., *The New Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon*, Hendrickson, Peabody, 1981, 425
10. Kurt Aland, Matthew Black, Carlo M. Martini, Bruce M. Metzger, and Allen Wikgren, *The Greek New Testament*, United Bible Societies, New York, 1968, 711
11. Vine, 333
12. Archibald Thomas Robertson, A.M, D.D., LL.D. Litt. D., *Word Pictures in the New Testament*, Vol. 4 Epistles of Paul, Broadman, Nashville, 1931, 35



## READ THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2017

November 6 - Hebrews 3  
 November 7 - Hebrews 4  
 November 8 - Hebrews 5  
 November 9 - Hebrews 6



November 10 - Hebrews 7  
 November 11 - Hebrews 8  
 November 12 - Hebrews 9



## OUR SICK Please Remember in Your Prayers

Please continue to remember **Bob and Carolyn Plunk** in your prayers.

Please keep **Jody Everett** in your prayers. He underwent surgery for a detached retina last week and is now at home recuperating.

**Richard Clemmons** fell this past week and badly sprained his ankle.

**Debbie Southern** will be seeing a cardiologist on November 8th regarding her recent issue with a heart problem. Please remember her in your prayers.

**Gaye Ruark** will have cataract surgery on November 6th and December 9th. Please keep her in your prayers.

**Kim Matthews** was not feeling well this past week and was unable to attend services Wed. evening.

**Renee Morgan**, Madelene Holbrook's niece, is now at home recovering after recently undergoing major surgery at the Duke Hospital.

Please pray for D.J. Harrison's sister, **Linda Bateman**. She is to undergo major heart surgery at the end of this month.

Please pray for Nancy Minor's co-worker's husband, **Seth Carter**, got a better than expected report from his cancer doctor and will need fewer treatments than first thought. Please keep him & his family in your prayers.

**THE PRAYER LIST IS AVAILABLE ON  
THE CREDENZA IN THE FOYER.**



### ~IN SYMPATHY~

Our sympathy goes out to the family of **Thelma Minor**, who passed away Oct. 29th. The funeral was held on Nov. 1st at Hayworth Miller in Advance. Mrs. Minor was Don Minor's sister-in-law and mother-in-law of Cathy Minor.

### SHUT-INS

**Mildred Barker  
Lutrelle Chipman  
Ernestine Martin  
Kim Matthews**

**Di-Ann Moser  
Dot Pegram  
Bob Plunk  
Eva Nelle Sidden**

Please keep the shut-ins in your prayers and check the sign-up sheet to take communion to Dot Pegram if you are able to help. (sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the foyer.)



**WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU VISITING WITH US THIS MORNING. WE INVITE YOU TO RETURN THIS EVENING AT 6:00 P.M. FOR THE SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE AND AT 7:00 P.M. EACH WEDNESDAY EVENING FOR THE MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY.**

### WARNERS CHAPEL EVENTS:

**Nov. 5-8** - Gospel Meeting - Speaker: Edwin Jones  
Theme: Hidden in Plain Sight. See information on time & topics on flyers in the foyer. Finger Food Fellowship in Annex following the Sunday evening service - Everyone is invited.

**Nov. 11** (Saturday) - There will be a youth devotional at the home of Kevin and Vicky Rutherford. Youth of all ages are invited and encouraged to attend. It will begin at 6 p.m. and each family is asked to bring their favorite soup or chili, sandwiches, and drinks. After the meal there will be a short devotional followed by the showing of a movie and also board games. There is a sign-up sheet on the youth board in the foyer, please sign-up by next Wed., Nov. 8th. If you have any questions see Kevin, Vicky or Caleb.

### SHOWER

**Caleb-Jun Hee-Chul Rutherford and Kaylon Davis** will wed on December 1, 2017, in Marion, Arkansas. A bag will be placed in the foyer for a shower of gift cards or cash for the couple.

They are registered at Target, Bed, Bath and Beyond, Amazon, Pottery Barn and Home Depot. The bag will be there for the next four Sundays.

**PLEASE SEE WEDDING INVITATION  
POSTED ON BULLETIN BOARD IN FOYER**

### SOUTHWEST FOOD PANTRY

158 items were delivered to the food pantry this past week for a total of 2,469 for the year 2017. Keep up the good work for those who need help.

**The suggested food items for Nov. is:** Toiletries (deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner, etc.)

### **FOR THE RECORD**

Sunday Bible Study - Oct. 29, 2017	120
Sunday Worship Service	170
Contribution for Oct. 29, 2017	\$6,216
Daily Adult Bible Readers:	33
Chapters Read:	536
Sunday Evening Worship Service	132
Wednesday Evening Bible Study 11-01-17	93

## Lord's Day Appointments For November, 2017

Serving the Lord's Table For November:

Carl Cooper

Harry Picciuto      Mike Cooper  
Jim Harrison  
Betty Hoots  
Todd Hinson  
Andy Santiago

Preparing Communion for November:

Making Announcements on Sunday:

Making Announcements on Wednesday:

## Lord's Day Appointments - November 12, 2017

DEVOTIONS:	OPENING PRAYER:	SONG LEADER	SCRIPTURE READERS
<b>Scripture</b> - John Allen	<b>Morning</b> - Tim Harper	<b>A.M.</b> - Clayton Workman	<b>A.M.</b> - Clayton Workman
<b>Song Leader</b> - Clayton Workman	<b>Evening</b> - David Elam	<b>P.M.</b> - Gene Southern	<b>P.M.</b> - Dwight Barringer
<b>Prayer</b> - Tommy Ridings		<b>Wed.</b> - Nathan Roy	
<b>Greeters for November:</b>			
Shawn & Terri Thomason			

### Opening and Closing Building

**Sunday:** - Nov. 12 ~ Justin Minor  
**Wednesday:** - Nov. 15 ~ Justin Minor

## Lord's Day Appointments - November 5, 2017

DEVOTIONS:	OPENING PRAYER:	SONG LEADER	SCRIPTURE READERS
<b>Scripture</b> - Michael Cooper	<b>Morning</b> - D. C. Mock	<b>A.M.</b> - Tim Allen	<b>A.M.</b> - Roger Allen
<b>Song Leader</b> - Roger Allen	<b>Evening</b> - Jason Allen	<b>P.M.</b> - Roger Allen	<b>P.M.</b> - John Allen
<b>Prayer</b> - Tim Allen		<b>Wed.</b> - Clayton Workman	
<b>Opening and Closing Building</b>		<b>Greeters for November:</b>	
<b>Sunday:</b> - Nov. 5 ~ Rick Clemmons		Shawn & Terri Thomason	
<b>Wednesday:</b> - Nov. 8 ~ Rick Clemmons			

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES - Nursery open for small children during all services.

#### SUNDAY:

Bible Classes	10:00 AM
Morning Worship	10:50 AM
Evening Worship	6:00 PM
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b> Mid-Week Service	7:00 PM

**“GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BIBLE” at 10:30 p.m. each week night on Cable 8**  
SEARCH PROGRAM - Sunday Mornings at 7:30 a.m. on Cable 68

**WARNERS CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**8999 LASATER ROAD**  
**CLEMMONS, NC 27012**

#### ELDERS

#### DEACONS

David Moore  
Tim Allen  
Joe Everett  
Todd Hinson  
Steve Tesh

Randy Warner  
Keith Warner  
Andy Santiago  
Mark Minor  
Jason Allen  
Mike Cooper

Jody Everett  
Gene Southern  
Shawn Thomason  
Mark Roy  
Adam Warner  
Jacob Woodbury