

Reading the Bible in 2010

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15



MIKE WILLIS

Let's Read the Bible

Editor's Page

This special issue is presented to you to encourage you to join us in reading the Bible in 2010. The Scriptures emphasize that faith is derived from the hearing of the word of God (Rom. 10:17). Were I to meet someone who did not believe in Jesus, I would direct him to the four gospels to create faith in Jesus. Were I to talk to a weak Christian about the weakness of his faith, I would ask him, "Have you been reading your Bible?"

In keeping with this theme, Chris Reeves has put together this special issue on Bible Reading. The issue is very good and we would like to express appreciation to Chris and the various writers for their good work.

In the first article, Thomas Keese emphasizes the need for the family to read their Bible together. Too much family time is spent in front of a television and too little reading the Bible. The TV preaches the values of a secular world which derides adherence to biblical values. If Christians do not put God's word in the hearts of their children, the world will fill their hearts with its values. The church cannot replace the parent. After all, the children are in two Bible classes a week (if they attend both classes), each of which lasts less than one hour. In addition, our children hear two sermons a week of less than an hour's length, assuming that they are old enough to follow the sermon presentation and are present both morning and evening on Lord's day. Two to four hours out of a 168-hour week is not sufficient to impart the faith to our children. Parents must take the leading role and view the Bible classes and worship hours as supplementary.

Another article in the series emphasizes the Public Reading of Scripture. Most congregations would benefit from giving their male members who read in the assembly a copy of this article by Marc Gibson. John Gentry makes suggestions about using the Bible in preaching and Doug Lancaster addresses the need for reading the Bible during Bible classes. Sometimes a teacher lets the art work and illustrations overwhelm the text of Scripture. Cheri Reeves also addresses the issue of reading God's word in children's classes and Sharon Baker discusses the need to use the Bible in ladies' classes. Chris Reeves suggests a chronological reading of the Scriptures; Dan King has good instruction about appreciating the different kinds of literature that are in the Bible. Steve Reeves has an excellent article on the kinds of translations that are available for Bible reading.

Steve Monts suggests our need to read the Bible for daily encouragement, recalling the advice that his mother passed to him. Joel Plunkett inspires churches to lead their members in memorizing the text of Scripture, telling about a program being used where he works that has enabled participating members to commit to memory 125 verses of Scripture.

Michael Stout mentions numerous electronic versions of the Scripture which might be particularly useful to the younger generation.

Finally, Justin Monts give the reader some suggestions for elementary hermeneutics in reading Scripture.

I cannot think of an issue more relevant to Christian living than this issue. Let's get started reading our Bibles in 2010. When you read, don't focus on the negative! Before you begin a daily Bible reading schedule, accept the fact that there are going to be days that you miss. When you miss a day, instead of feeling the pressure to "catch up" or quitting because you are "so far behind," take a moment to remind yourself of how much more you have read this year than before you began this program. So, relax and enjoy reading the greatest Book ever written.



Daily Bible Reading Schedule Bookmark

A bookmark with daily Bible readings for each day of the year. Designed to read through the Bible in a year.

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Contents



Let's Read the Bible
Family Bible Reading
<i>The Public Reading of Scriptures</i>
Chronological Bible Reading
Reading the Bible for Encouragement
"They Read in the Book"
How to Read Bible Literature
How to Read God's Word for Memorization
Bible Reading in Bible Classes
<i>Reading God's Word in Children's Bible Classes</i>
Reading the Bible in Ladies' Bible Classes
Reading and Studying the Bible Electronically
Take Heed How You Read
<i>Which Bible Translation Should I Read From?</i>
Directory of Churches



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Family Bible Reading

And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up (Deut. 6:7).

am quite confident no one would disagree with the idea that reading the Bible to your family on a daily basis is a good thing. The question I wish to focus on is just why then don't we do more of it? When reading the above passage in Deuteronomy and Psalm 78:5-7, one notices the diligence

THOMAS & DAPHNE KEESE

Other than choosing a passage to read, there is little preparation you will need to do. There are many Bible reading schedules available which can help you plan. Remember, your purpose is not to give various Bible scholars' views of the passage. You are simply reading the text of the Scriptures. Obviously, you should make sure they have understood what you have read and answer any important questions they raise. If a question is raised that is not critical to answer immediately, try setting aside the time to deal with it later. Hopefully

and consistency God was trying to impress upon His people for studying His word. If we truly desire to raise godly children, we must be diligent and consistent in training our children. The basis for the spiritual education of our families should begin with families reading the Bible together.

First of all, let me define what I mean



this will start to raise interest in your children which may lead to more in-depth studies.

As you start the practice of family Bible reading, it may be awkward. All of you will become more comfortable as you become more consistent with the practice. If you begin the practice and later fall out of the habit, don't give up.

by family Bible reading. What I would suggest is to gather your family together to a place in your home where you can be left undisturbed as much as possible. This will mean that TV, computer, stereo, iPods, etc. are turned off. If the phone rings, let it ring or turn the ringer off. It is good if you can find a consistent time in your schedule for this practice. If there doesn't seem to be a consistent time, do it whenever you can. Set aside a short amount of time (between 15 and 30 minutes per day is all that is necessary) to show your children that the Bible and their spiritual growth are the most important things in the world to you. You may want to add a few songs and a prayer. When our children were young, the time that seemed to work the best for my family was right before bedtime.

The goal of family Bible reading time is not necessarily to teach the Bible, although that will occur. The goal is to establish and maintain a relationship with your children. You are not only sharing facts with them, you are sharing your faith with them. There is no doubt you will face many challenges when it comes to adding and keeping this practice as a part of your daily schedule. However, if the eternal destination of your children is important to you, you will find a way to adapt and overcome these challenges. The apostle Paul's advice in Galatians 6:9 is so important for us to remember: "Let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." I can promise you, if you become consistent with the practice of family Bible reading, your family bonds will become stronger and you will see benefits in many areas you may not have expected.

The Public Reading of Scriptures



MARC GIBSON

The inspired Scriptures play an important part in our worship unto God. Our Bible classes are opportunities to be instructed in the Scriptures. The hymns and spiritual songs we sing reflect the thoughts and stories of Scripture. Reverent prayers are drawn from examples and principles found in the revelation of God. Faithful evangelists fill their lessons with the thorough study of Bible passages that convict the sinner and edify the saint.

There is also an important place for the public reading of Scripture in our worship. It is read publicly in the course of Bible classes and sermons. There can also be a time set aside during worship for the public reading of Scripture in the hearing of the whole congregation. This practice is not designed to kill a few minutes in between songs or just before the sermon, but should be an important act of worship unto God. Are we giving little thought and preparation to the important task of the public reading of Scripture? We should recognize that, in this time of reading, our minds are being filled with the "word of his grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified" (Acts 20:32). Those who would have the responsibility of reading the Word of God publicly should not approach such a task lightly.

BIBLE EXAMPLES

King Josiah had all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem gather to him, "and the king went up to the house of the Lord with all the men of Judah, and with him all the inhabitants of Jerusalem – the priests and the prophets and all the people, both small and great; and he read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant which had been found in the house of the Lord" (2 Kings 23:1, 2). The public reading of Scripture on this occasion had a tremendous impact on the king and the people: a covenant was made to follow the Lord and His commandments, to remove the idolatrous effects from the land, and to keep the Passover.

After the Babylonian captivity, the remnant of Israel that had returned gathered "as one man" to hear Ezra the priest read from the Book of the Law of Moses (Neh. 8:1). He read from it "from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law" (v. 3). Once again, this public reading of Scripture had a deep impact on the hearers. The people wept when they heard the words of the Law (v. 9), and rejoiced that they could understand it (v. 12). The people then observed the feast of Tabernacles according to the revealed will of God.

When Jesus returned to his hometown of Nazareth, he entered the synagogue on the Sabbath day and "stood up to read" (Luke 4:16). He was given the book of the prophet Isaiah, and, after reading a portion of messianic prophecy [Isa. 61:1-2], he said, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing" (vv. 17-21). This public reading of Scripture afforded Jesus an opportunity to identify Himself as the Messiah. All who heard marveled at His "gracious words" (v. 22).

These examples demonstrate the need and effect of the public reading of Scripture. Those who would do this reading in the hearing of others should give diligent attention to careful preparation and proper technique. We should "give attention to [public] reading" (1 Tim. 4:13).

PREPARING TO READ THE SCRIPTURES PUBLICLY

Too often there is little to no preparation for the public reading of Scripture. Men may be scheduled in advance for the reading, but they give it no thought until they arrive at worship services. The reading is then hurriedly chosen or assigned, and then done "cold." What results will often be a bland, monotone reading filled with uneven stops and starts and a clumsy handling of unfamiliar words and names. The holy Scriptures deserve better than this, do they not? Should not the reading of Scripture reflect the dignity and reverence of its divine Author? Let us give careful and thoughtful preparation before we arise to give voice to the revealed word of God. Consider the following suggestions that can assist in that preparation:

1. Choose a Reliable Version. With the multitude of English versions available today, we need to use and read

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

The Public Reading of Scriptures

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

from the most reliable versions available (anyone using the Bible in personal study, public reading, and preaching/ teaching should do his homework on this subject). The version that you use in public reading should be a reliable version you and most of your hearers are familiar with. It is sometimes advisable to announce the version being used so that those who read along in a different version will note any differences.

2. Study the Text. Once you know the text you will be reading (whether chosen or assigned), a study of that text should follow. This is why one should know what text he is reading days, or at least some hours, in advance, not a few minutes before worship services begin. This will not be an intense, exegetical study of the text as for a sermon or class, but an overview of the context, setting, and grammar of the text. Different texts will lend themselves to different approaches in reading style (parable, narrative, poetry, history, etc.). Knowing the context that comes before and after the reading can help in understanding what is being said in the reading itself. If the reading is in the middle of a larger context, a short statement just prior to the reading might be appropriate to inform the hearers of what that larger context is.

Examine the words of the reading so that they will be properly pronounced. A Bible or English dictionary can provide a pronunciation guide, and some Bibles have diacritical marks over the names of people and places. Identify the key words and phrases that will be emphasized with your voice. In other words, get to know your text thoroughly so that you can read it with as much meaning as possible. The reader is the link between the text and the hearer, and that link needs to be strong, not weak.

3. Analyze the Punctuation. Punctuation marks are the road signs of reading. Periods, commas, semi-colons, question marks, etc. are all given to assist in regulating the speed, inflection, and tone of a reading. For example, we should stop at periods, pause at most commas, and sound inquisitive as we approach a question mark. Reading through a passage of Scripture without a familiarity with the punctuation is like driving a road at night you have never driven before. You will be tentative and unsure, something the reading of Scripture should never be.

4. Practice, Practice, Practice. How do you become familiar with a passage of Scripture? Practice reading the text several times, considering the contextual setting, pronun-

ciation, and punctuation. Have someone listen to you read and provide honest feedback. Consider recording yourself and listening with a critical ear to identify problems and look for improvement. Reading the Scriptures publicly is serious business before God and man. Be serious in your preparation and read as though someone's soul depends on what you are saying (It does!).

Important Aspects of Publicly Reading

With careful preparation done, one is ready for the actual exercise of publicly reading Scripture. There are important aspects to consider when reading publicly:

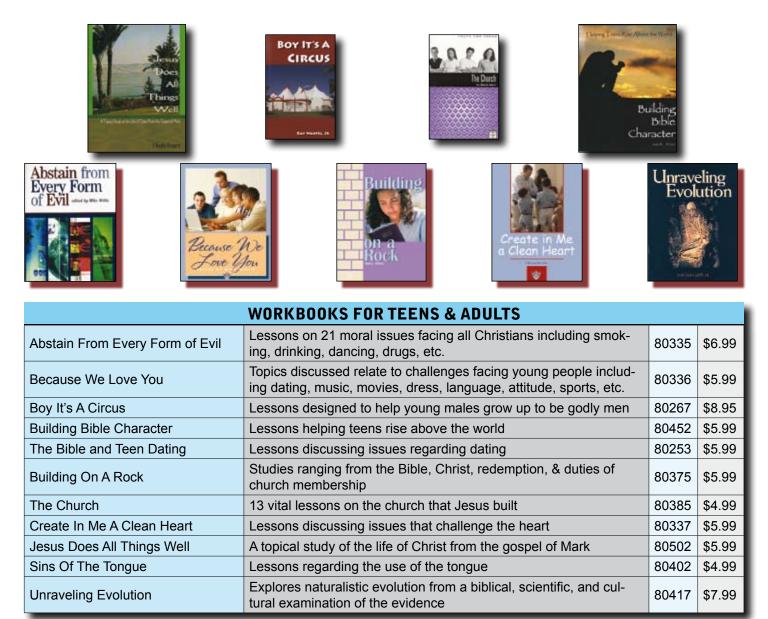
1. Using the Voice. The human voice is a marvel of God's creation, and it is the public reader's most important tool. It should be used to its fullest extent for the benefit of the hearer.

a. Speak up. There is no need to read if one cannot be heard. Speak loudly and distinctly so as to be heard to the last row of pews. Use the microphone (if provided) to assist in projecting your voice. Do not mumble or let your voice trail off inaudibly at the end of sentences.

b. Pitch. Pitch, or the rising and lowering inflection of voice, is important to bring out the character of what the text of Scripture is saying. Monotone reading lulls everyone to sleep. Read at your natural pitch, raising or lowering it as necessary to open up the character of that particular text (excitement, questioning, fear, doubt, etc.). Help the hearer to envision the action of a narrative, or feel the emphatic point being made in the midst of doctrinal passage.

c. Emphasis. In connection with the previous point, use your voice to emphasize the key words and phrases of a passage. Raising or lowering the inflection of your voice, or a timely pause, can emphasize a point in an unforgettable way. Use the range of your voice to convey emotion (anger, sadness, fear, joy) and setting (danger, tension, bliss). Don't become over-dramatic, but give the reading some life. Remember, it is not about you, but the words of life.

2. Slow Down. A common tendency is to read too fast in the rush to get the whole thing over with as soon as possible. Slow down! Calmly approach the podium, clearly announce *twice* where the text is found (book, chapter, and verses), give a few moments for those turning in their Bibles to get to the text, take a deep breath, and begin reading in a calm, relaxed rate of delivery. Sometimes what we



think is slow reading is still perceived as fast to the hearers. Request feedback later and adjust your rate as necessary.

3. Posture. Good public reading is not facilitated by being hunched over the podium with your head hanging downward. Stand up straight with your head held up so that your voice will be projected outward. This will make breathing easier and deeper, which provides a good, clear voice. Present yourself as though you really want to read the Holy Scripture, and show the respect due the inspired word by your handling of it in public reading.

Conclusion

Since faith comes by "hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:17), the recitation of Scripture in Bible classes, sermons, and public readings continues to be of vital importance today. It should be done with the utmost respect, thorough preparation, and diligent exercise. Let us do our best work when publicly reading the Scripture so that the Lord may be glorified and His word will do its great spiritual work in the heart of men, for Jesus said, "The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life" (John 6:63).

Additional Sources

Public Reading of Scripture: A Handbook, Clayton J. Schmit.

Effective Speech Communication in Leading Worship, Charles L. Bartow.

Reading Scripture in Public, Thomas Edward McComiskey.

Speaking for the Master, Batsell Barrett Baxter.

Chronological Bible Reading

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CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER VERSUS CANONICAL ORDER

All of God's word is inspired (2 Tim. 3:16), but the order of books in the Bible is not. The order of the books in the Bible is man-made. There is no divinely inspired order of Bible books. In fact, the order of Bible books differs between the Bible of the Hebrew, the Catholic, the Protestant, and the Eastern Orthodox. If one were to use a standard Bible and start reading in Genesis and read book-by-book in order to Revelation, he would be reading the Bible in canonical order.

The standard order of books in most Bibles today is the canonical order: Genesis to Malachi and Matthew to Revelation. The canonical order of books does not follow a chronological order all the way through the Bible. Rather, it follows the order of books found in the Greek Septuagint and the Latin Vulgate translated by Jerome in the 4th century A.D. The "canonical order" groups books together according to their type of literature: law, history, poetry, and prophecy in the Old Testament; gospel, history, and epistle in the New Testament. The "chronological order" groups books or portions of books together according to their historical date and content.

CHRIS REEVES

Today, the order of books in many Bibles is basically in chronological order from Genesis to 2 Kings, but after that chronological order of events often disappears. In the New Testament, Matthew through Acts is basically in chronological order, but after that the chronological order of events once again is gone. The majority of printed Bibles today arrange their books canonically rather than chronologically.

To place Bible books in chronological order, three kinds of rearranging must be done. First, whole books must be relocated. For example, in the Old Testament, Job is often placed after Genesis. Haggai and Zechariah would be placed within the book of Ezra. In the New Testament, Philemon would be grouped with Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians. James and Thessalonians would be placed before Corinthians. Second, portions of books must be relocated. For example, portions of 1 Chronicles, Isaiah, and Jeremiah are moved to reflect chronological order. Third, portions of books must be combined. For example, some of the Psalms are placed within 1 and 2 Samuel and Old Testament prophetic material is placed within the books of Kings and Chronicles. In the New Testament, the four gospels are combined together and some of Paul's epistles are inserted into the books of Acts.

Keep in mind that Bible scholars and historians differ on some aspects of Bible dating and so determining chronological order is not an exact science. Chronological ordering is not easy to do and will differ some from person to person. While chronological ordering can be relative and tentative at times, the reader can still gain a general chronological flow of Bible history from beginning to end.

BENEFITS OF CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLE Reading

Reading the Bible in chronological order has two important benefits not found by using other reading methods. First, reading the Bible chronologically gives one a better sense of the overall flow of Bible history from beginning to end. The reader learns to keep a Bible passage in its historical context and order. By reading chronologically, the Bible student can more easily follow God's plan of salvation from the beginning – the "mystery" that has been manifest from times eternal to the present (Rom. 16:25-26; 1 Cor. 2:7; Eph. 3:9; Col. 1:26). Remember, the Bible is not a catechism or a topical textbook arranged by subject matter: God, man, sin, salvation, etc. The Bible is a single and unified message of salvation that flows through several periods of history.

Second, reading the Bible chronologically allows the reader to put together the historical events with the doctrinal lessons attached to them. For example, in the Old Testament, one can read about the tumultuous events of

the life of David in 1 Samuel, followed by the God-honoring feelings of his life in the book of Psalms. Or, one can read about the ungodly history of Israel in 1-2 Kings, followed by the powerful sermons preached by the prophets during that time. The historical events are explained by the spiritual lessons and vice-versa. This chronological connection of historical events with spiritual lessons is especially important to Bible class teachers and preachers as they prepare class lessons and sermons.

Tools for Chronological Bible Reading

There are three types of helps available to anyone interested in reading the Bible chronologically. First, chronological study Bibles are available for purchase in various translations. The books and chapters in these Bibles are rearranged from the standard, canonical order and printed in chronological order. Most chronological study Bibles contain both the Old and New Testaments, but a few contain the New Testament only. One older example

of a chronological Bible is *The Student's Chronological New Testament* by A.T. Robertson (Fleming H. Revell, 1904). There are also several contemporary chronological Bibles to choose from. *The Chronological Study Bible* by Thomas Nelson Publishers uses the New King James Version and is highly recommended. *The One Year Chronological Bible* by Tyndale House Publishers uses the New International Version and the New Living Translation. *The Narrated Bible In Chronological Order* and *The Daily Bible: In Chronological Order* by Harvest House Publishers both use the New International Version. *The Seamless Bible: The Events of the New Testament in Chronological Order* by Charles C. Roller and *The Reese Chronologi-* *cal Bible* by Bethany House Publishers both use the King James Version.

Second, if someone wants to use his own Bible, he can purchase a printed outline of Bible passages in chronological order. The reader would follow the chronological outline and read from his own Bible. One example of a printed chronological outline is: *Footsteps Through The Bible: A 52-Week Chronological Reading Plan and Study Reference* by Richard M. Gagnon (Hendrickson Publishers, 2000). Another helpful outline is: *Read Through the Bible in a Year: In Chronological Order* by John R. Kohlenberger III (Moody Publishers, 2008).

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Third, there several internet resources available for chronological Bible reading. The advantage to these sources is that one does not have to spend any money to get started reading chronologically. One site is: www.ewordtoday.com/year/. This site contains five Bible reading plans including a chronological plan which can be used with several English versions and some foreign language versions. Another online site that contains a chronological plan in different versions is: www. bibleplan.org/. You can also look at the chronological reading plans supplied by Back to the Bible (www.backtothebible. org/index.php/Bible-Reading-Guides. html), Bible Gateway (www.biblegateway.com/resources/readingplans/), Into Thy Word (www.intothyword.org/articles view.asp?articleid=31608&colum nid=3801), SBL Ministries (www.sbl. org/readthrubible/chronological/index. shtm), A. Allison Lewis (www.christianbeliefs.org/brs/biblereadingsch-00.html), and Gene Brooks, based on the Reese Chronological Bible (www.geocities.com/

genebrooks/bible-chron-january.html).

READ CHRONOLOGICALLY

Let me encourage you to read the Bible in chronological order at least once in your lifetime. It will reward you greatly in your understanding of God's overall plan for saving mankind. The Bible is one continuous message of salvation from paradise on earth lost (Gen. 1-3) to paradise in heaven regained (Rev. 21-22). By reading chronologically, you will see the beautiful panoramic view of the Bible's plan of salvation as it is seen through a series of unfolding events across the epochs of time.

Reading the Bible for Encrouragment

STEVE MONTS

There are some things passed down to you that you never forget. One day my mother told me of a time in her life that she was greatly discouraged. She had been trying to find a sound church to worship with in Washington State. She had trouble finding one that would stand for the truth on the subject of marriage, divorce, and

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remarriage (one man, one woman for life with one exception). Her immediate family (including me) was in the liberal, institutional church of Christ and so she would travel alone looking for a place to worship. She felt so small and isolated and became discouraged. She talked with Ron Halbrook on the phone and asked what she should do to help her spirit. Ron advised her to spend time reading the Psalms and the book of Job. Both were written by downcast and discouraged people. There you will find those who can sympathize and learn how they handled their trials.

This story was passed down to me from my mother at a time I was severely depressed and it is one I will never forget. I have passed it on to others in their time of need, whether it was for those who have had serious illness or anxiety. This advice has helped them and it has helped me many times.

The power of God is in the word (Rom. 1:16). God's word has the power to convince, rebuke, *and* exhort (2 Tim.

4:2). Paul warned Timothy of perilous times (2 Tim. 3:1). He told Timothy, "all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution . . . evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived." That sounds really bad; it sounds really discouraging. The uphill battle will take its toll on the faithful. What should Timothy do? "But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of." Truth is assuring and reassuring. It would help Timothy through his dark days. Paul goes on to say, "knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures which are able to make you wise for salvation." His learning which was passed

down to him would help him, yes, it would save him. Further, it will make him wise for salvation. He will have the appropriate solution for the problem at hand. Truth can make us wise for salvation, too. Perhaps too often we turn to some "self help" book for our time of need. Sometimes they help, sometimes they leave us empty still. But the Bible always helps. Listen as Paul continues, "All scripture is given by the inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:12-17). Scripture has so much power it can make us complete, whole, and mature in contrast to emptiness and despair.

If you are discouraged, try reading the Psalms. Notice the following:

FEELING ALONE?

"Help Lord, for the godly man ceases! For the faithful disappear from among the

sons of men." David felt alone, too, and Psalm 12 informs us of his cry.

Feeling as if God has forsaken you (righteous people)?

"Why do you stand afar of, O Lord? Why do you hide in times of trouble?" "How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?" Psalms 10 and 13 offer help to such a feeling. God does not forsake the righteous though it may feel that way. Here you find those who can sympathize with such a feeling. You are not the first to feel that way. How did they deal with it? Read Psalms 10 and 13 to find out.

DO YOU NEED REASSURANCE IN WHOM TO PLACE YOUR TRUST?

"O Lord my God, in You I put my trust; Save me from all those who persecute me; and deliver me." "Preserve me, O God, for in You I put my trust." Psalms 7 and 16 are reassuring you have not misplaced it in God.

You see, "the righteous cry out and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart" (Psa. 34:17-18). We know that it is good for us to go through trials and the Lord will deliver us out of them all, not by removing them, but by altering our attitude through them. That is what we need in depressing times—a good attitude adjustment, a good reminder, the Lord is with us. "I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears" (Psa. 34:4).

The Psalms contain such power to encourage. Who of us has not been moved by a reading of Psalm 23 – "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want"? It is so powerful that often it encourages those who need not be encouraged. Those still in their sin need to be reproved that they might be made free from sin. Yet vile offenders will quote Psalm 23 in their hard times repeatedly as they try to lift up their spirit. I mention this simply to demonstrate the power in Scripture. Imagine how true it must be for one truly deserving of encouragement.

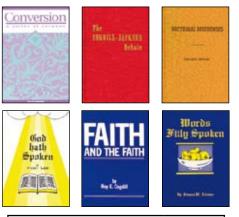
Through the years I have spent more time in the Psalms. As I age, I know more of what Solomon says in Ecclesiastes 1:18, *"For in much wisdom is much grief, and he who increases in knowledge increases in sorrow."* The world's ways do not encourage a Christian and his ways. Thus, I have been preaching through the Psalms starting from the beginning. It has been good for my soul to develop this material and I pray it has been good for the hearers as well.

I pray this helps you to read for encouragement in your time of need. Paul told Timothy, "But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures" (2 Tim. 3:14-15). Just as Timothy received truth passed down, so too did I. Thank you, dear mother. Thank you, brother Ron.



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"They Read in the Book"

JOHN R. GENTRY

And they read in the book, in the law of God, distinctly; and they gave the sense, so that they understood the read-ing (Neh. 8:8).

That should a preacher preach? "Preach the word" (2 Tim. 4:2). You would think this was a no-brainer, but unfortunately "the word" is seldom heard from some pulpits today, including some of our own brethren. I just returned from attending a seminar put on by a local church of Christ in which the number of jokes, quotes, anecdotes, and comic strips outnumbered the number of scriptures nearly 50 to 1—actually only a single passage was used the entire sermon, and that passage wasn't referenced until ten minutes into the sermon. Brethren, listen to the warning of the apostle: "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things that were heard [the gospel message, jrg], lest we drift away from them" (Heb. 2:1). We need fewer jokes, quotes, anecdotes, and comic strips in our sermons and more reading of Scriptures!

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

What was the practice of God's people in the Bible? In Exodus 24:7 Moses "took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that Jehovah hath spoken will we do, and be obedient." In Deuteronomy 31:11–13 Moses commanded the priests and elders

when all Israel is come to appear before Jehovah thy God in the place which he shall choose, thou shalt read this law before all Israel in their hearing. Assemble the people, the men and the women and the little ones, and thy sojourner that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear Jehovah your God, and observe to do all the words of this law; and that their children, who have not known, may hear, and learn to fear Jehovah your God, as long as ye live in the land whither ye go over the Jordan to possess it.

In Nehemiah 8:5, 8 we read,

And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up. . . . And they read in the book, in the law of God, distinctly; and they gave the sense, so that they understood the reading.

In the New Testament we see a similar emphasis being placed on the public reading of scriptures in connection with teaching and preaching. For example, in Luke 4:16–21 we read that Jesus

came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and he entered, as his custom was, into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Isaiah. And he opened the book, and found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, Because he anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor: He hath sent me to proclaim release to the captives, And recovering of sight to the blind, To set at liberty them that are bruised, To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down: and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them. . . .¹

We read of a similar occasion in Acts 13:15, 16ff:

And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on. And Paul stood up, and beckoning with the hand said, Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, hearken. \dots^2

The sermons recorded and described in Acts and the epistles (not to mention the content of the epistles themselves) included many quotations of Old Testament Scriptures. Sound, solid preachers read from the Scriptures during their sermons.

PRACTICAL POINTS

Much of the underlying drive behind the accumulation of preachers (cf. 2 Tim. 4:3) who use fewer Scriptures and more jokes, quotes, and anecdotes is the mentality of many who want to be served rather than serve and the desire to be entertained. How do we reverse this tendency, or at least not fuel the fire? Encourage those in the audience to take out their Bibles, turn to the passage, and read along (cf. Acts 17:11). There may be times when quoting a passage is the most efficient thing to do, but limit quick quotations and encourage those in the audience to see the passage in their own Bibles. It is even good to give enough time for the children to turn to the passages so that they too can read along. If we don't teach and train our children to expect the reading of Scriptures in sermons, what sort of sermons will they preach?

PowerPoint and projectors promote the ease of displaying Scriptures for the viewing of the audience. However, if a preacher places every passage on the screen for the people to read along with him, is this not encouraging the let-me-sit-here-and-be-served/ entertained mentality? Would it not be better to place the reference on the screen, have the audience turn in their Bibles to read the passage, and then, if necessary to make a point, place the text of the passage on the screen? Some will say, "Well the mothers with young children can't turn and read in their Bibles if a baby is in their lap." Can the mothers not hear the passage being read? This is not a question of whether or not it is scriptural to place the text on the board—it is a question of what is best (cf. Luke 10:38–42).

CONCLUSION

When describing the work of an evangelist, Paul told Timothy, "devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching" (1 Tim. 4:13, ESV). The "public reading of Scripture" done by Timothy was not to be an isolated part of the worship service. It was to be a part of his work as a preacher and was to be included with the exhortation and teaching he was to be doing. "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:17; cf. 1:16). Do you want to have saving faith? Do you, preachers, want to instill faith in some and exhort others to greater faith? Jokes, quotes, and anecdotes will not get the job done! But the reading of Scriptures in your sermons will. "Preach the word!"

Endnotes

¹ Regarding this passage, Vincent noted, "Usually in New Testament of *public* reading. [In post-classical Greek, sometimes of reading aloud with comments. This may explain the parenthesis in Matt. 24:15.] After the liturgical services which introduced the worship of the synagogue, the "minister" took a roll of the law from the ark, removed its case and wrappings, and then called upon some one to read. On the Sabbaths, at least seven persons were called on successively to read portions of the law, none of them consisting of less than three verses. After the law followed a section from the prophets, which was succeeded immediately by a discourse. It was this section which Jesus read and expounded. See Acts 13:15; Neh. 8:5, 8. For a detailed account of the synagogueworship, see Edersheim, "Life and Times of Jesus," i., 430 sq."

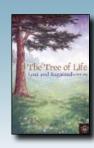
² cf. Acts 15.21; 2 Cor. 3.14; Col. 4.16; 1 Thess. 5.27; Rev. 1.3. The word *anaginōskō*, translated "read" in these passages, refers to a public reading of the Scriptures, sometimes with comments/exhortation. See BAGD, TDNT, et al.



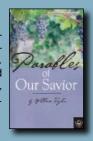
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The Miracles of Our Savior

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How to Read Bible Literature



DAN KING

Reading the 39 Books of the Old Testament

It is singularly important to learn to read the various elements that comprise the biblical literature on their own terms and not in a way that fails to consider their differences. Neglecting to do so will lead to misunderstanding and misapprehension of the distinctiveness of the material that is presented in those parts which comprise it. This concept is readily acknowledged and well understood in regard to all other forms of communication, and it applies in this area also. For example, today it is possible for one to pick up a title that falls into the category of "children's literature." The subject matter of such a work would obviously be juvenile in nature. The language would no doubt be extraordinarily simple. Most adults would find it to be well below the average as far as grammatical style is concerned. Everything about it would leave us with the impression that the material was written for children specifically. It provides the reader with a whole host of indicators about what type of material he has encountered.

On the other hand, the average reader would immediately find himself quite at home reading a newspaper article printed in the local paper. The language, style, and grammar would all suit the reader while challenging him almost none at all in those terms. Newspaper articles are intentionally written with the average reader in mind, so all of this is no accident. At the other end of the spectrum would be a university professor's research paper published in a professional medical journal. The language would be extremely specialized and most of it would be above the reading level of the average reader. The grammar and style would also be very challenging. Content would be full of facts and figures that would hold interest only for a person versed in the subject matter under consideration in the essay. A book for children in a kindergarten class and a professor's research paper would be worlds apart in every sense of the word, and the reader would readily pick up on the internal indicators of those differences!

The principle which we have just enunciated in regard to the literature common to our own era applies equally well in regard to that which we meet when we open the pages of the Holy Bible. The Bible is composed of 66 different smaller compositions, each one with its own peculiar properties. Multiple styles and types of literature are present within this variegated collection of written works. On the surface, it is clear that one part of the Bible is to be considered as sacred history, the book of Genesis and the books of Samuel and Kings would fit into this easily recognized category. These documents must be treated exactly as they are presented: as historical works accentuated by prophetic comment upon the events as they pass before the eyes of the reader. Sacred history is not mere factual rendering of events as they occurred. It is far more than this.

The person and personality of deity intrudes at almost every important juncture in the history. He judges evil doers as such and regularly endorses and blesses righteous words and deeds along with those who embrace or inculcate them. King David's adulterous relationship with Bathsheba illustrates this point well. After the narrator rehearses the story in all of its ugly detail, he remarks, "But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord" (2 Sam. 11:27). It is this special aspect which accentuates the historical literature of the Bible. Additionally, in the biblical history forward movement is constantly toward a single important object. It is not mere history recorded for history's sake. Rather, it is history with a purpose. The ultimate purpose is the arrival of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. The entirety of the Old Testament is directed toward this irrepressible conclusion. In the New Testament what is only hoped for is fully realized in the incomparable person of Jesus of Nazareth. After His first coming is recorded, then His eventual return, attended by the resurrection and judgment become the conclusion toward which all of history is moving.

Another part of the Bible is strictly legal in nature. The book of Leviticus is an example of this type of literature. Its purpose is to set forth the divine demands for Israel in the era of the first covenant. Ritual cleanness is emphasized in order to underscore the holiness of God. One cannot come into the presence of God while still stained with sin or its sordid evidence upon one's person. One might get some hint of this if he could imagine owning a new house with pure white carpet and a big, scruffy, and untrained dog with dark mud coming in out of the rain and tracking into the house, shaking his coat as he made his way through the place! Such a canine would be an unwelcome visitor. God sees the unredeemed sinner in just such a light. Some people read this material as though it had no useful purpose to fulfill, considering it burdensome to appreciate, but it must be remembered that, in the plan and purpose of the All-wise God, it was indicative of higher spiritual verities. Even now it continues to teach this important lesson to human beings who have very little sense of how utterly unseemly and scandalously filthy sin appears to the eyes of the Holy One of Israel.

Still another part of the Old Testament literature is hymnic, qualifying as religious psalmody. The five books that make up the Israel's Psalter or song book, designated in total as the Book of Psalms, is representative of religious music in the Bible. They were penned by individuals like David, the "sweet psalmist of Israel," then they were eventually archived and utilized in the Temple services. Religious songs are filled with beautiful imagery, frequently non-literal in nature. It is so today and it was so back then. Israel's inspired songs lift our hearts through poetic verse to apprehend heavenly realities and even at times to appreciate different features of the Messianic era.

Other elements of the literature are sagely and practical. The book of Proverbs is illustrative of this important element within the biblical corpus. A "proverb" is a saying that encapsulates some important practical or religious truth. However, its meaning has occasionally been pushed beyond its intended purpose in certain isolated instances. A "proverb" is by nature generally true but not universally true. In other words, there are exceptions to every proverb. We must be careful to read these tiny bits of wisdom just as they were written and never push their simple erudition out of the bounds of practical reality into the world of surreal impracticality. Unfortunately this has often occurred in the history of the interpretation of these simple sayings.

The prophetic literature of the Bible is unique among the world's great literary productions. Nothing like it exists elsewhere. Both the Major Prophets like Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel, as well as the Minor Prophets like Amos, Hosea, and Joel have as their main impetus to set the people of Israel back on track in their observation of the Law of Moses. Their preaching attacked the power politics of their day, condemning kings, princes, the rich and influential, as well as unholy priests, and even other prophets who refused truthfully to proclaim the Word of God and heed it. They also assaulted the godless ways of common men and women. They preached in Israel in the north as well as in Judah in the south. This was their primary responsibility. Occasionally, they also made predictions of things to come. They are most identified with this particular aspect of their work, especially as it pertains to Jesus Christ. But this by no means defines the major work that they did. The prophets were primarily preachers and their literature ought to be read with this always in mind.

Of course, one of the most significant aspects of the Old Testament literature has to do with its durability. Many people today read these incredibly rich works of our spiritual heritage as if they had to live by them and will someday be judged in the light of them. Even the Jews are inconsistent on this point, however. Jewish readers ignore all of the requirements for bloody sacrificial offerings, believing that their acts of benevolence and deeds of charity are a sufficient replacement. They do not aspire to build the Temple or offer the bodies of animals on that altar any longer. The Judaizing teachers of Paul's day attempted to impose the rite of circumcision upon Gentile converts to the church. Jews are not alone in this idiosyncrasy, though. Modern Sabbatarians observe the seventh-day Sabbath along with many of the food laws while they ignore altogether the other rituals of the Old Testament.

Some other denominational groups believe there is a distinction to be made between the moral and the ritual aspects of the Law. They observe the former but consider the latter to be nonbinding for them and their lives today. Paul's steely words grind all of these theoretical approaches into pulp: *"Yea, I testify again to every man that receiveth circumcision, that he is a debtor to do the whole law"* (Gal. 5:3). We cannot take it piecemeal. It is an all or none proposition. The Law of Moses has been nailed to the cross (Col. 2:14), so we are no longer bound by any of its provisions (Co. 2:16-17). The Old Testament today ought to be read for the spiritual lessons we may learn from it (Rom. 15:4), not because it is the law under which we live (cf. Heb. 8:8ff; Jer. 8:8ff.).

Reading the 27 Books of the New Testament

We could go on with this sort of thing by applying the identical principles to the literature in the New Testament. It is comprised of four Gospels, reports concerning the life of Jesus as seen through the eyes of His closest disciples, history (the book of Acts which gives a review of the earliest history of the church as it expanded from Jerusalem to Rome at the hands of men like Simon Peter, Paul, Barnabas, Silas, and others while excluding the important work done in other parts of the world by other apostles of Christ. This suggests that Acts is not intended as a general history of the early church but rather as an explanation of the work done by Peter and Paul to show that they were unified in their approach to the gospel as it pertained to Gentile converts. Essentially it constitutes a refutation of the

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How to Read Bible Literature

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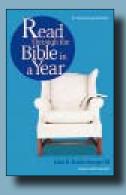
Judaizing teachers' assertion that Peter stood with them against Paul's Gentile mission), Epistles divided into the General type (such as Hebrews) and those assigned to particular churches (Galatians, Philippians, Colossians, etc.) or written to certain designated individuals (Philemon, 3 John).

All of these letters were at first sent to instruct, encourage, or admonish churches and individual Christians in their service for the Lord. The implications and applications as well as the doctrinal and moral particulars of these lessons are appropriate for the Lord's people in every age until Christ returns. They ought to be read in the light of the original circumstances under which they were written, giving due notice to the historical realities applicable at the time. At the end of the day, though, every verse has some practical, even if secondary, application to our own situation and to the church in our own age. That is where "the rubber meets the road" for us.

In addition, the book of Revelation would assuredly fit the typology of "apocalyptic" since that terminology is borrowed from the Greek description of the book in its opening lines (cf. 1:1, *apokalupsis*). This intriguing book describes in colorful language and arresting figures the confrontation between Christianity and the Imperial Roman world power and its unique form of paganism, picturing the definitive triumph of

God over Satan through this bloody and costly conflict. The Lord's punishment of the persecuting power of Rome in His own time is the writer's main interest. As well, the eventual return of Christ and the ultimate rewarding of the righteous is the grand theme of this book since this will represent the final punishment of the oppressive Caesars and their provincial accomplices.

Its picturesque figures, however, have frequently proven challenging to students because they have tended to read them in terms of their own age rather than in concert with the age in which they were first penned. Too, many expositors have attempted to push the realization of most of the Revelation into the "end times" and have tried to make it into a book of eschatology in spite of the fact that it makes no such claim for itself. The result of this mischaracterization of the literature has been a broad misunderstanding of the book and its vibrant symbols. The reader would do well carefully to analyze the first three verses of the first chapter before he launches too deeply into the figures and images which comprise the heart of the work. The things this author discusses are (according to his own words) to "shortly come to pass" (1:1; cf. also 22:6), so any interpretation which does not honor the writer's own self-definition of his work cannot possibly represent a correct understanding of the book.



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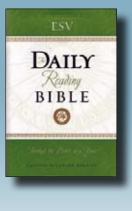
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Reading God's Word for Memorization



JOEL PLUNKETT

here is a need to read and memorize Scripture because it engraves God's word on our heart. The "tablets of the testimony" were graven on stones by the finger of God for the children of Israel (Exod. 31:18). The word "statute" means "engrave or write." In Psalm 119, "statute" occurs twenty-two times. In ancient times, statutes were engraved on metal or stone so that people could read the laws and keep them. The wise man, Solomon, said, "My son, keep my words...lay up my commandments with thee...write them on the tablet of your heart" (Prov. 7:1-3).

God said He would make a new covenant with the house of Israel (Jer. 31:31). "I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts..." (Jer. 31:33). The new covenant teaches us to engrave God's word on

our hearts. What better way than memorization? We are told in James 1:21 to "receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls." Timothy was commended because, from a child, he had known the Holy Scriptures, which were able to make him wise unto salvation. Preachers in the past spent

their time memorizing Scriptures rather than memorizing jokes. We need to learn that the power to save is not in man's ability but in the word of God. Paul did not visit Corinth to correct the brethren, but sent them the written word. We are to treasure that word. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:21).

What are some of the reasons to memorize Scripture? Memorized passages in our heart will help us in times of temptation. It is the only antidote for sin. Jesus, when tempted in the wilderness, did not ask for a copy of the Old Testament. He quoted Scripture and the devil left Him. The devil – unlike many of us – realized the power of God's word. The same God who spoke the stars into existence spoke His word to us (Heb. 4:11). Hosea said, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge..." (Hos. 4:6). The degree of our spiritual growth is in direct proportion to how much of His word we put in our hearts.

Memorization also allows us to meditate upon what we have studied in our beds, in our cars, in our work, and in all areas of our lives. The word "meditate" carries the idea "of chewing the cud" as a cow receives nourishment. Being able to meditate on verses memorized gives us fresh insight and nourishment for our souls. We digest it until it becomes part of our nature (Ps. 119:15, 23, 48, 78, 148). Most of us have heard or read Hebrews 10:25 until there is no question about where we will be on the first day of the week. All of God's word should become part of our nature. In the spiritual world, we really are

what we eat. "Thy words were found, and I did eat them..." (Jer. 15:16). Memory work makes God's word a part of us (1 Pet. 2:2).

Finally, memory work helps us to exercise our minds in godliness (1 Tim. 4:7). A meaning for exercise is "to exert effort." What better way to exert effort

than to put God's word in our heart? The brethren of Rock church of Christ in Dickson, Tennessee exercise themselves every Sunday night by memorizing Scripture together fifteen minutes before services. When this effort was first started, some of the elderly thought they could not do it. But, with time and persistence they have surprised themselves. Some say they go to sleep at night quoting these Scriptures. We have memorized together 125 Scriptures. We recite them together led by six men in the congregation using the same version to avoid confusion. We must take the word of God off the pages of the Bible and put it on the pages of our hearts. "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Ps. 119:11).



Bible Reading in Bible Classes

denominational friend of mine once visited a Sunday morning Bible class with us. Later, we were discussing his visit and, much to my shock, he told me he was surprised at how much emphasis was placed on the Bible. His comment piqued my interest, so I quickly asked him to expound on it. He proceeded to tell me about the classes where he was attending at the time, telling me how there was a lot of talk

of personal experiences, advice for daily living, and reading from the prepared class material, but just not very much actual study of the Bible. He was impressed that we focused on the Bible so much.

My friend's comments caused a lot of introspection about our classes. Of the many collective activities we customarily enjoy together, one of my favorites has always been our Bible classes. Bible classes offer us continued opportunities to read God's instruction manual together and come to a better understanding of what He wants us to know. There is. however, constant pressure from our society to 'modernize' our thoughts and procedures. Many are yielding to this pressure and are exchanging quality time in reading and studying God's word together for a review of comments from scholars and popular figures like athletes and business gurus. Secular, motivational messages and quotes from these folks end up being the focal point of discussions. God's wisdom is supplanted by theirs. Certainly, non-biblical quotations can be helpful, but such should only be done as illustration of God's truth and

not as a substitute for it. Bible class teachers need a solid diet of God's word, so they can teach it like it should be taught. Class students need to be focused on studying God's word and be satisfied with learning what God intends. Teachers and students need to hold each other accountable, demanding that teaching and comments be based squarely on the truth of His word.

Our Bible classes should exhibit a similar picture to that of Nehemiah's day; of God's people yearning to study God's word together; of us focusing our attention on His words and not the wisdom of men; and of us taking the applications of His truth into our daily lives.

DOUG LANCASTER

It is interesting to look through the Bible, noting the number of times we are told that God's word was read among groups of people. Consider a few examples. When Moses had come down from receiving the law on Mt. Sinai, we read, "So Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord" (Exod. 24:3). Then notice verse 7, "Then he took the book of the covenant and read in the hearing of the people." Near the end of his

life, Moses told Joshua, along with the priests and elders of Israel, "...you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing" (Deut. 31:11). We later learn of Joshua's faithfulness to this charge. "There was not a word of all that Moses had commanded which Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel, with the women, the little ones, and the strangers who were living among them" (Josh. 8:35). During Josiah's reign, the law of God was found (it had been lost in the house of God - a sad commentary). 2 Kings 23:2 tells us, "And he (Josiah) read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant." Acts 13:27 and Acts 15:21 speak of the Scriptures being read regularly in the Jewish synagogues. Allow me to encourage you to search the Bible for many other such examples. God has always wanted His people to focus on His word, both individually and in the company of others. As you know, one can read and study the Bible for a lifetime and still not exhaust the wealth of wisdom, insight, and information contained in it. Bible classes can be a wonderful tool in acquiring knowledge

of the will of God.

Much Bible class material is available for our use. Good, well-prepared class books abound and can be very helpful in our studies of God's word. However, we should be warned about them. Some material requires little more than turning to a verse and filling in a blank. Although not to my taste, even these types of books can be used to promote deeper study and thought, if the student is so inclined. What was true of people while Jesus was on earth is still true today. People who have the desire to search and understand His will, are the ones who will look deeper and understand it. We also should be warned against using prepared class material as a crutch. The temptation exists to use these materials as our text for classes, rather than a supplement. As good as those materials may be, they serve as a poor substitute for reading and studying the Bible itself. Always remember that class materials are the works of fallible men. Demand excellence in your class material and be satisfied only with that which is in agreement with God's truth.

In Nehemiah's day, when the remnant returned from captivity to rebuild Jerusalem, God's truth was the focus. "Then he (Ezra) read from it in the open square that was in front of the water gate from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law" (Neh. 8:3). What a beautiful picture of people with hearts prepared to learn what God had to say. It was not enough to just read and hear the words. The teaching was explained, so that the hearers could understand it plainly. This is evident from verse 8, "So they read distinctly from the book, in the law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to understand the reading." We see that this pattern of reading, studying, and understanding God's word continued. The next day found the heads of the families, the priests, and Levites "gathered to Ezra the scribe, in order to understand the words of the law" (Neh. 8:13). Take note how they kept coming back for more, demonstrating a real hunger and thirst for God's instructions. We are told that they found the teaching requiring Israel to build and live in booths during the feast. As a result of understanding what God wanted, they took action and lived in booths during that time. It was not enough just to read, hear and understand what needed to be done. They actually did something about it. They put the teaching into practice. Notice another result we read: "and there was very great gladness" (Neh. 8:17). When people come to the knowledge and understanding of God's will and then take action to follow it, great rejoicing will be produced in our lives.

Our Bible classes should exhibit a similar picture to that of Nehemiah's day; of God's people yearning to study God's word together; of us focusing our attention on His words and not the wisdom of men; and of us taking the applications of His truth into our daily lives. Reading and studying the Bible in Bible classes will produce great joy in our lives as we allow His word to be our guide each day. May we never get to the point where we are surprised at how much the Bible is emphasized in our Bible classes, but rather glorify Him by focusing on His word.





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April

January February March

□ Jan 1: Gen 1-3 □ Jan 2: Gen 4-7 □ Jan 3: Gen 8-11 □ Jan 4: Gen 12-15 □ Jan 5: Gen 16-18 □ Jan 6: Gen 19-21 □ Jan 7: Gen 22-24 □ Jan 8: Gen 25-26 □ Jan 9: Gen 27-29 □ Jan 10: Gen 30-31 □ Jan 11: Gen 32-34 □ Jan 12: Gen 35-37 □ Jan 13: Gen 38-40 □ Jan 14: Gen 41-42 □ Jan 15: Gen 43-45 □ Jan 16: Gen 46-47 □ Jan 17: Gen 48-50 □ Jan 18: Ex 1-3 □ Jan 19: Ex 4-6 □ Jan 20: Ex 7-9 □ Jan 21: Ex 10-12 □ Jan 22: Ex 13-15 □ Jan 23: Ex 16-18 □ Jan 24: Ex 19-21 □ Jan 25: Ex 22-24 □ Jan 26: Ex 25-27 □ Jan 27: Ex 28-29 □ Jan 28: Ex 30-32 □ Jan 29: Ex 33-35 □ Jan 30: Ex 36-38 □ Jan 31: Ex 39-40

□ Feb 1: Lev 1-4 □ Feb 2: Lev 5-7 □ Feb 3: Lev 8-10 □ Feb 4: Lev 11-13 □ Feb 5: Lev 14-15 □ Feb 6: Lev 16-18 □ Feb 7: Lev 19-21 □ Feb 8: Lev 22-23 □ Feb 9: Lev 24-25 □ Feb 10: Lev 26-27 □ Feb 11: Num 1-2 □ Feb 12: Num 3-4 □ Feb 13: Num 5-6 □ Feb 14: Num 7 □ Feb 15: Num 8-10 □ Feb 16: Num 11-13 □ Feb 17: Num 14-15 □ Feb 18: Num 16-17 □ Feb 19: Num 18-20 □ Feb 20: Num 21-22 □ Feb 21: Num 23-25 □ Feb 22: Num 26-27 □ Feb 23: Num 28-30 □ Feb 24: Num 31-32 □ Feb 25: Num 33-34 □ Feb 26: Num 35-36 □ Feb 27: Deut 1-2 □ Feb 28/29: Deut 3-4

□ Mar 1: Deut 5-7 □ Mar 2: Deut 8-10 □ Mar 3: Deut 11-13 □ Mar 4: Deut 14-16 □ Mar 5: Deut 17-20 □ Mar 6: Deut 21-23 □ Mar 7: Deut 24-27 □ Mar 8: Deut 28-29 □ Mar 9: Deut 30-31 □ Mar 10: Deut 32-34 □ Mar 11: Josh 1-4 □ Mar 12: Josh 5-8 □ Mar 13: Josh 9-11 □ Mar 14: Josh 12-15 □ Mar 15: Josh 16-18 □ Mar 16: Josh 19-21 □ Mar 17: Josh 22-24 □ Mar 18: Jud 1-2 □ Mar 19: Jud 3-5 □ Mar 20: Jud 6-7 □ Mar 21: Jud 8-9 □ Mar 22: Jud 10-12 □ Mar 23: Jud 13-15 □ Mar 24: Jud 16-18 □ Mar 25: Jud 19-21 □ Mar 26: Ruth □ Mar 27: 1Sam 1-3 □ Mar 28: 1Sam 4-8 □ Mar 29: 1Sam 9-12 □ Mar 30: 1Sam 13-14

□ Mar 31: 1Sam 15-17

□ Apr 1: 1Sam 18-20 □ Apr 2: 1Sam 21-24 □ Apr 3: 1Sam 25-27 □ Apr 4: 1Sam 28-31 □ Apr 5: 2Sam 1-3 □ Apr 6: 2Sam 4-7 □ Apr 7: 2Sam 8-12 □ Apr 8: 2Sam 13-15 □ Apr 9: 2Sam 16-18 □ Apr 10: 2Sam 19-21 □ Apr 11: 2Sam 22-24 □ Apr 12: 1Kgs 1-2 □ Apr 13: 1Kgs 3-5 □ Apr 14: 1Kgs 6-7 □ Apr 15: 1Kgs 8-9 □ Apr 16: 1Kgs 10-11 □ Apr 17: 1Kgs 12-14 □ Apr 18: 1Kgs 15-17 □ Apr 19: 1Kgs 18-20 □ Apr 20: 1Kgs 21-22 □ Apr 21: 2Kgs 1-3 □ Apr 22: 2Kgs 4-5 □ Apr 23: 2Kgs 6-8 □ Apr 24: 2Kgs 9-11 □ Apr 25: 2Kgs 12-14 □ Apr 26: 2Kgs 15-17 □ Apr 27: 2Kgs 18-19 □ Apr 28: 2Kgs 20-22

□ Apr 29: 2Kgs 23-25

□ Apr 30: 1Chron 1-2

May

□ May 1: 1Chron 3-5 \Box May 2: 1Chron 6 □ May 3: 1Chron 7-8 □ May 4: 1Chron 9-11 □ May 5: 1Chron 12-14 □ May 6: 1Chron 15-17 □ May 7: 1Chron 18-21 □ May 8: 1Chron 22-24 □ May 9: 1Chron 25-27 □ May 10: 1/2Chron 28-1 □ May 11: 2Chron 2-5 □ May 12: 2Chron 6-8 □ May 13: 2Chron 9-12 □ May 14: 2Chron 13-17 □ May 15: 2Chron 18-20 □ May 16: 2Chron 21-24 □ May 17: 2Chron 25-27 □ May 18: 2Chron 28-31 □ May 19: 2Chron 32-34 □ May 20: 2Chron 35-36 □ May 21: Ezra 1-3 □ May 22: Ezra 4-7 □ May 23: Ezra 8-10 □ May 24: Neh 1-3 □ May 25: Neh 4-6 □ May 26: Neh 7 □ May 27: Neh 8-9 □ May 28: Neh 10-11 □ May 29: Neh 12-13 □ May 30: Est 1-5

□ May 31: Est 6-10

June

□ Jun 1: Job 1-4 □ Jun 2: Job 5-7 □ Jun 3: Job 8-10 □ Jun 4: Job 11-13 □ Jun 5: Job 14-16 □ Jun 6: Job 17-20 □ Jun 7: Job 21-23 □ Jun 8: Job 24-28 □ Jun 9: Job 29-31 □ Jun 10: Job 32-34 □ Jun 11: Job 35-37 □ Jun 12: Job 38-39 □ Jun 13: Job 40-42 □ Jun 14: Ps 1-8 □ Jun 15: Ps 9-16 □ Jun 16: Ps 17-20 □ Jun 17: Ps 21-25 □ Jun 18: Ps 26-31 □ Jun 19: Ps 32-35 □ Jun 20: Ps 36-39 □ Jun 21: Ps 40-45 □ Jun 22: Ps 46-50 □ Jun 23: Ps 51-57 □ Jun 24: Ps 58-65 □ Jun 25: Ps 66-69 □ Jun 26: Ps 70-73 □ Jun 27: Ps 74-77 □ Jun 28: Ps 78-79 □ Jun 29: Ps 80-85 □ Jun 30: Ps 86-89

20TRUTH MAGAZINE • JANUARY 2010



July August September October November December

□ Jul 1: Ps 90-95 □ Jul 2: Ps 96-102 □ Jul 3: Ps 103-105 □ Jul 4: Ps 106-107 □ Jul 5: Ps 108-114 □ Jul 6: Ps 115-118 □ Jul 7: Ps 119:1-88 □ Jul 8: Ps 119:89-176 □ Jul 9: Ps 120-132 □ Jul 10: Ps 133-139 □ Jul 11: Ps 140-145 □ Jul 12: Ps 146-150 □ Jul 13: Prov 1-3 □ Jul 14: Prov 4-6 □ Jul 15: Prov 7-9 □ Jul 16: Prov 10-12 □ Jul 17: Prov 13-15 □ Jul 18: Prov 16-18 □ Jul 19: Prov 19-21 □ Jul 20: Prov 22-23 □ Jul 21: Prov 24-26 □ Jul 22: Prov 27-29 □ Jul 23: Prov 30-31 □ Jul 24: Ecc 1-4 □ Jul 25: Ecc 5-8 □ Jul 26: Ecc 9-12 □ Jul 27: Solomon □ Jul 28: Is 1-4 □ Jul 29: Is 5-8 □ Jul 30: Is 9-12 □ Jul 31: Is 13-17

□ Aug 1: Is 18-22 □ Aug 2: Is 23-27 □ Aug 3: Is 28-30 □ Aug 4: Is 31-35 □ Aug 5: Is 36-41 □ Aug 6: Is 42-44 □ Aug 7: Is 45-48 □ Aug 8: Is 49-53 □ Aug 9: Is 54-58 □ Aug 10: Is 59-63 □ Aug 11: Is 64-66 □ Aug 12: Jer 1-3 □ Aug 13: Jer 4-6 □ Aug 14: Jer 7-9 □ Aug 15: Jer 10-13 □ Aug 16: Jer 14-17 □ Aug 17: Jer 18-22 □ Aug 18: Jer 23-25 □ Aug 19: Jer 26-29 □ Aug 20: Jer 30-31 □ Aug 21: Jer 32-34 □ Aug 22: Jer 35-37 □ Aug 23: Jer 38-41 □ Aug 24: Jer 42-45 □ Aug 25: Jer 46-48 □ Aug 26: Jer 49-50 □ Aug 27: Jer 51-52 □ Aug 28: Lam 1-3:36 □ Aug 29: Lam 3:37-5 □ Aug 30: Ezek 1-4 □ Aug 31: Ezek 5-8

□ Sep 1: Ezek 9-12 □ Sep 2: Ezek 13-15 □ Sep 3: Ezek 16-17 □ Sep 4: Ezek 18-20 □ Sep 5: Ezek 21-22 □ Sep 6: Ezek 23-24 □ Sep 7: Ezek 25-27 □ Sep 8: Ezek 28-30 □ Sep 9: Ezek 31-33 □ Sep 10: Ezek 34-36 □ Sep 11: Ezek 37-39 □ Sep 12: Ezek 40-42 □ Sep 13: Ezek 43-45 □ Sep 14: Ezek 46-48 □ Sep 15: Dan 1-3 □ Sep 16: Dan 4-6 □ Sep 17: Dan 7-9 □ Sep 18: Dan 10-12 □ Sep 19: Hos 1-7 □ Sep 20: Hos 8-14 □ Sep 21: Joel □ Sep 22: Amos 1-5 □ Sep 23: Amos 6-9 □ Sep 24: Oba-Jonah □ Sep 25: Micah □ Sep 26: Nahum □ Sep 27: Hab-Zeph □ Sep 28: Haggai □ Sep 29: Zech 1-7 □ Sep 30: Zech 8-14

□ Oct 1: Malachi □ Oct 2: Matt 1-4 □ Oct 3: Matt 5-6 □ Oct 4: Matt 7-8 □ Oct 5: Matt 9-10 □ Oct 6: Matt 11-12 □ Oct 7: Matt 13-14 □ Oct 8: Matt 15-17 □ Oct 9: Matt 18-19 □ Oct 10: Matt 20-21 □ Oct 11: Matt 22-23 □ Oct 12: Matt 24-25 □ Oct 13: Matt 26 □ Oct 14: Matt 27-28 □ Oct 15: Mark 1-3 □ Oct 16: Mark 4-5 □ Oct 17: Mark 6-7 □ Oct 18: Mark 8-9 □ Oct 19: Mark 10-11 □ Oct 20: Mark 12-13 □ Oct 21: Mark 14 □ Oct 22: Mark 15-16 □ Oct 23: Luke 1 □ Oct 24: Luke 2-3 □ Oct 25: Luke 4-5 □ Oct 26: Luke 6-7 □ Oct 27: Luke 8-9 □ Oct 28: Luke 10-11 □ Oct 29: Luke 12-13 □ Oct 30: Luke 14-16 □ Oct 31: Luke 17-18

□ Nov 1: Luke 19-20 □ Nov 2: Luke 21-22 □ Nov 3: Luke 23-24 □ Nov 4: John 1-2 □ Nov 5: John 3-4 □ Nov 6: John 5-6 □ Nov 7: John 7-8 □ Nov 8: John 9-10 □ Nov 9: John 11-12 □ Nov 10: John 13-15 □ Nov 11: John 16-18 □ Nov 12: John 19-21 □ Nov 13: Acts 1-3 □ Nov 14: Acts 4-6 □ Nov 15: Acts 7-8 □ Nov 16: Acts 9-10 □ Nov 17: Acts 11-13 □ Nov 18: Acts 14-15 □ Nov 19: Acts 16-17 □ Nov 20: Acts 18-20 □ Nov 21: Acts 21-23 □ Nov 22: Acts 24-26 □ Nov 23: Acts 27-28 □ Nov 24: Rom 1-3 □ Nov 25: Rom 4-7 □ Nov 26: Rom 8-10 □ Nov 27: Rom 11-13 □ Nov 28: Rom 14-16 □ Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4 □ Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

□ Dec 1: 1Cor 9-11 □ Dec 2: 1Cor 12-14 □ Dec 3: 1Cor 15-16 □ Dec 4: 2Cor 1-4 □ Dec 5: 2Cor 5-9 □ Dec 6: 2Cor 10-13 □ Dec 7: Gal 1-3 □ Dec 8: Gal 4-6 □ Dec 9: Eph 1-3 □ Dec 10: Eph 4-6 Dec 11: Philippians □ Dec 12: Colossians \Box Dec 13: 1Thess □ Dec 14: 2Thess □ Dec 15: 1Timothy □ Dec 16: 2Timothy □ Dec 17: Titus-Philemon □ Dec 18: Heb 1-6 □ Dec 19: Heb 7-10 □ Dec 20: Heb 11-13 \Box Dec 21: James □ Dec 22: 1Peter □ Dec 23: 2Peter □ Dec 24: 1John □ Dec 25: 2John-Jude □ Dec 26: Rev 1-3 □ Dec 27: Rev 4-8 □ Dec 28: Rev 9-12 □ Dec 29: Rev 13-16 □ Dec 30: Rev 17-19 □ Dec 31: Rev 20-22

Reading God's Word in Children's Bible Classes



CHRIS REEVES

earning the word of God from one's youth is, indeed, a blessing. The psalmist said in Psalm 70:17, "O God, You have taught me from my youth; And to this day I declare Your wondrous works." As we are presented the opportunity to teach young people more about God's word, we should eagerly accept the task and prepare ourselves to accurately divide the word of God (2 Tim. 2:15).

CHOOSE TO TEACH

It is always exciting beginning a new quarter of teaching young children the Bible in the church's Bible class sessions. Yes, it is also hard work and perhaps not so exciting if our

teaching schedule falls at a time when things outside the church have piled on top of us and consumed any extra time that we usually have to offer.

When we make time to prepare our classes and to teach young minds, we make an important choice and certainly an important priority has been placed over those mundane things outside our service to the Lord (Luke 10:41-42). When we use our talents to teach (Rom. 12:3-12), we offer both the Lord and those young minds a great service.

PREPARATION BEGINS WITH Homework, Not the Decorations

Once we are assigned to teach a Bible class, another important choice we make is how to spend the time getting ready for our classes. We might start out by seeing what topic we've been assigned, what theme to decorate our room, what color of paper to use on our bulletin boards, and even what maps might be available to us. While these decisions might be necessary ones to make, we need to first look at the topic and the Bible text being studied. Too much time can be devoted to supplying the room with papers, crafts and decorating materials, turning the classroom and worksheets into more of a show-and-tell afterwards.

While it is important to captivate a child's attention through our teaching, we need to realize it is God's word we are teaching and keep our emphasis on getting the message of God's word to the ears of those children.

First, open the Bible. Turn to the Bible passages to be studied during your quarter. Read through them. (Yes, this will likely take more than one sitting.) Then, any preparations to be made for your physical classroom will come more naturally. Once you read and study the text yourself, you will know more concerning what part of the text and stories to emphasize. You will realize what overall applications will be necessary to make throughout the quarter. You will be ready to then proceed to teach those young minds the knowledge the Holy Spirit wants

those children to have.

Get an outline in your mind, then on paper, of how you will conduct each class. Always keep in mind the importance of Scripture for each class period. Allow the reading of the Scripture to be the focus of each and every class period. Use your aids (workbooks, worksheets, quizzing, etc.) as just that, aids, to further apply the reading.

Reading the Bible in Bible Class

Once you begin to teach, make sure an opened Bible is continually used throughout the quarter. When Ezra brought "the Law before

the assembly of men and women and all who could hear with understanding," he read the text from morning until midday. In our Bible classes, we typically have 40 to 45 minutes to read God's word. We need to "read distinctly from the book" and help the ones we teach "understand the reading" (Neh. 8:8).

Different ages do require different ways to read God's word.

First of all, *all ages* need to be encouraged to *bring* their own Bible to class. This is a wonderful habit to begin at a very early age.

To the very young, read to them a verse or more, being repetitive at times, so that they can retain even a little part of God's word at a very early age.

To the beginning reader, help them find the passages by

There is not an age group that does not profit from the reading of God's word. reciting the Old or New Testament books that come prior to the one being read. Once they find that book, then count to the chapter number, then to the verse, and read that passage together.

To the more advanced reader, have the child turn to the Scriptures themselves and read them to you and the rest of the class.

To the older children, have them read the verses and then explain their meaning.

These might sound like simplistic instructions, but there are many classes where the Bible is not read. Many teachers are opting to read through a chosen workbook only and then answer only the questions given in the workbook. The rest of the class time is sometimes crammed with frantically filling out worksheets copied from the Internet or coloring pages pulled from coloring books. Teachers sometimes will ask, "How am I ever going to fill 45 minutes with the children in Bible class?" The answer is simple: By reading from the Bible.

Once you read the text that is designated by a helpful workbook, it is profitable to both you and the student to discuss the passages that have been read. After the text is read and discussed, there will be plenty of time left in your class period to review what the author of the Bible class workbook has prepared.

The Importance of Reading God's Word in the Classroom

We know from 2 Timothy 3:15 the importance of teaching the young the Scriptures. In facing apostasy, Paul reminds Timothy, "But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." There are many homes, even Christian ones, where the Bible is not studied. Your classroom might be the only opportunity that a child has to actually listen to God's word. Children who are visiting during Bible class are sometimes brought by the children of members. It might be that child's first time to study the actual Scriptures.

It is amazing to see the interest these children have when a simple Bible story is read to them. The reading is often followed by some very unique, inquisitive questions. What an opportunity the Lord blesses us with when we read our Bibles to young listeners.

BIBLE READING IS FOR ALL AGES

There is not an age group that does not profit from the reading of God's word.

It is His blessed Scriptures that strengthen us and give us our needed spiritual growth (Acts 20:32).

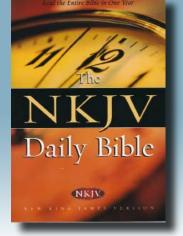
God's word is what gives us assurance of our salvation through faith in Christ Jesus (2 Tim. 3:14-15)

The Scriptures are the sword of the Spirit that enables us to withstand the wiles of the Devil as we live our lives in service to the Lord (Eph. 6:10-17)

It is in His Holy word that we learn of our inheritance that awaits us. It is an inheritance that is incorruptible and undefiled and does not fade away (1 Pet. 1:3-4).

The psalmist said in Psalm 70:17, "O God, You have taught me from my youth; And to this day I declare Your wondrous works." Read the Bible to today's young people in the children's Bible classes, so that later in life they will be able to declare God's wondrous works.

For additional information, see the article by Twilah Reeves entitled "Bible Class or Activities Class, Which Is It?" at: www. thegoodteacher.com/Teaching/distaff.htm.



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Reading the Bible in Ladies' Bible Classes

SHARON BAKER

The psalmist wrote in Psalm 63:1, "O God Thou art my God; I shall seek Thee earnestly. . . . " In our modern, fast-paced, time-crunched world, can we still seek God earnestly? Are we reading His word daily? As a wife, mother, and a public school teacher, I have felt the constant pressure of not having enough time to get everything done. Yet I know that I must use God's directions and instructions in order to be the kind of wife, mother, and teacher that He has designed. To know God's "directions" and "instructions" means that I must read daily His word, the Bible.

"I will meditate on Thy Precepts, And regard Thy ways" (Ps. 119:15).

"O how I love Thy Law! It is my meditation all the day" (Ps. 119:97).

God's word addresses all aspects of being a woman. He is the Creator. Who would know better than He (Isa. 64:8)? In Acts 16:13-15, we read of the example of Lydia and a group of women who gathered by the river in a place of prayer. Currently, ladies' Bible classes or studies are places where women can gather to grow spiritually. The Bible needs to be the first and foremost text which is used in these settings. There are benefits to sharing our thoughts and feelings with each other. For example, one who has experienced the death of a loved one can help another through that extremely difficult trial. Reading the writings of other women as you are reading the Bible can expand an individual's understanding. But personal thoughts, feelings, and writings must conform to the Bible in order to be effective. Moreover, each one of us must read the Bible text for oneself. When women gather to increase

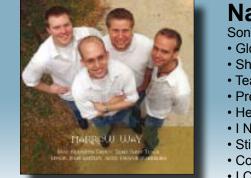
their spiritual knowledge, they should begin by reading God's word. Reading Bible verses in context increases our knowledge of and appreciation for God's revealed word. Titus 2:3-4 reveals the duty of older women to train the younger women. That training should begin by using the Bible text.

Wives of today can be like Priscilla of the New Testament who, with her husband Aquila, taught Apollos "the way of God more accurately" (Acts 18:2-3, 25-27). Priscilla could do this because she had learned for herself the way of the Lord. Today's grandmothers and mothers can do as Lois and Eunice did for Timothy. Timothy's sincere faith as a young man began as a child when he was taught by his mother and grandmother (2 Tim. 1:5). Grandmothers and mothers today can read the Bible to their children and grandchildren. As sisters in Christ, we can help "bear one another's burdens" (Gal. 6:2) and increase our own faith through greater knowledge of God's word.

Even in our instant-messaging, hyperactive, highly mobile society, we can be godly Christian women. We can be strong like Deborah who judged Israel, or as courageous as Queen Esther. Our personal spiritual strength will be only as strong as our knowledge of God's word. Our courage and ability to overcome temptation and remain faithful will be developed only by reading the Bible.

"Those who love Thy law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble" (Ps. 119:165).

May all women be diligent in their service to God and continue to read the Bible daily.



Narrow Wav

Songs Include:

- Glory
- Shine on Us
- Teach Me To Know
- · Precious Lord, Take My Hand
- He is Able
- I Need You
- Still Listening
- · Come Share the Lord
- I Close My Eyes

- Enter In
- Where No One Stands Alone
- Exalted
- Richly Blest
- · People Need the Lord
- How Beautiful
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Join Us On A Tour of Israel October 5-15, 2010

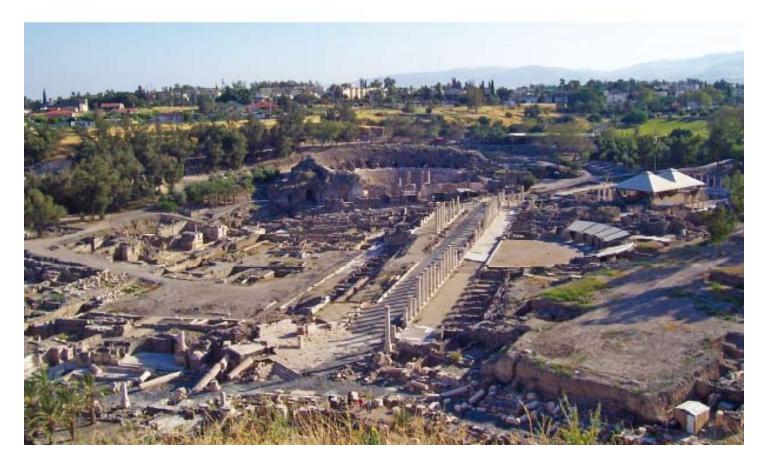
TOUR HOST: Mike & Sandy Willis

Tour Guide in Israel: Danny Herman (Archaeologist) Graduate of the Hebrew University who teaches tour guide courses He has participated in excavations at Ashkelon, Masada, Ein-Gedi, and Herodium

This Bible Lands Tour will visit the traditional sites visited on a trip to Israel: Caesarea on the Coast, Nazareth, Megiddo, Elijah's mount, Galilee with the many sites around the Sea of Galilee (Capernaum, Tabgha, Bethsaida, Gergesa, etc.), Jerusalem (with its many sites), Bethlehem, etc. An extra day to most Israel tours have been planned for Galilee and Jerusalem. A southem swing from the south of the Dead Sea westward will pick up places rarely visited on most trips (Arad, Beersheba, Lachish, Ashdod, Ashkelon, as time permits).

This custom four will not be combined with another group. Traveling together with other Christians enriches the vacation experience. You will form friendships that last well beyond the days of our travel. Our groups enjoy singing together as we travel as well as making time for worship on the Lord's day.

Join us on this marvelous tour of the Bible Lands.



Reading and Studying the Bible Electronically

While the fast-paced, electronic age we live in today, a Christian can now easily carry the Bible, commentaries, and various Bible study aids in his shirt pocket or her purse. With the help of various handheld electronic devices, he can read God's word, listen to recordings of the Bible, take notes as he studies, literally search the Scriptures, and review Bible aids wherever he might be. He can easily "study to show [himself] approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15). Whether on break at work, waiting at the

doctor's office, riding the bus, or encountering a warm contact at the grocery store, a Christian can now have God's word at his fingertips with the push of just a few buttons. Technology affords him to be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11), even when on-the-go.

It is impossible to go into public without witnessing others utilizing their cell phones, whether they are talking, texting, surfing the Internet, playing games, or listening to music. Popular cell phones like the iPhone and Blackberry have several applications which can be purchased and downloaded onto the phone to help one even read and study God's word on-the-go. These pow-

erful tools vary greatly in price, but some of the most useful tools are even free of charge. Cell phone Bible reading applications offer God's word in several translations and include various features such as: split-screen to compare two translations, Scripture search by word or phrase, daily Bible reading schedules, and the ability to write and store notes while studying, all in the palm of one's hand with variable font size to adjust to one's personal preference for readability. Unlike a traditional printed Bible, most of these mobile Bible applications do

"The Internet has a seemingly infinite number of websites to aid the avid Bible student."

MICHAEL W. STOUT

not include cross-references due to their compactness, but *Strong's Dictionary*, various commentaries, and other reference materials are available for many cell phones as part of, or in addition to, these Bible reading programs.

Amazon's Kindle book reader is attempting to make printed books a faint memory of days gone by. One can easily purchase and download entire books to this device consisting of a display screen comparable to the size of a single page of a standard hardback book. The Kindle allows the reader to display one page at a time and "turn" the pages of the electronic book one-by-one.

> Like many cell phones, the Kindle offers several Bible readers at various prices, as well as numerous Bible reference materials. Unlike the majority of the cell phone Bible readers, some Kindle readers include crossreferences and in-line *Strong's Dictionary* references. The Kindle includes audio capabilities and some Kindle Bible readers are compatible with text-to-speech to allow Bible students to not only read God's word electronically, but also to listen to recordings of the Scriptures.

The Internet has a seemingly infinite number of websites to aid the avid Bible student. Internet surfers can read the Scriptures, listen to recordings of God's word, review commentaries, research biblical

topics, discover various daily Bible reading schedules, and much more via a home computer, cell phone web browser, or even an iPod Touch Wi-Fi web browser. Many congregations' websites even include audio and/ or video recordings of weekly sermons, sermon outlines, Bible study material, and Bible correspondence courses, as well as links to other Biblical resource websites. Bible students can also download powerful computer biblical programs like e-Sword (found at www.e-sword.net) from the Internet, a must-have resource for any computerliterate Bible student. Before traveling out-of-town, one can even find a sister-congregation to worship with by visiting the Truth Magazine's website at www.truthmagazine.com. WARNING: As with all online information, Internet surfers must beware that all information found on the Internet is not accurate and reliable, so Bible students are urged to compare online religious information to the inspired Scriptures.

An MP3 player clipped onto one's belt, cradled in his pocket, or plugged into his car stereo allows the convenience of listening to music and audio recordings on-thego. Numerous audio Bibles are available for consumers. various translations of the Scriptures recorded by an abundance of incredible voice talents, and some even dramatized to include sound effects. These recordings allow a Christian to listen to God's word when it is not conducive to read the Scriptures, whether he's driving, mowing the lawn, sitting at his desk at work, exercising at the gym, or simply enjoying a peaceful stroll through the park. What better is there to listen to when one is enjoying solitude than God's word, not to mention the fact your questions of proper pronunciation of difficult biblical names are being answered through these recordings?

With the convenience of the electronic age and all of these biblical resources at one's fingertips today, a Christian has the great fortune of reading, studying, and listening to the Bible and religious materials wherever he might be. This convenience allows him to always be prepared when an opportunity arises to teach another as Jesus commanded His disciples during His great commission in Matthew 28:19, 20a: "Go ve therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Although these resources are great for one's incredibly busy on-the-go lifestyle, there will never be a substitution for serene reading and studying from your favorite well-loved and well-worn Bible with its delicate pages containing the oracles of God. Take every opportunity that arises, whether at home or on-the-go, to read and study "the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" (2 Tim. 3:15).

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Germain Instrument Image: State	A ct 2:37-41 We have seen the wonderful fict of the pouring out of the pirit, in its influence upon the reachers of the gospel. Peter, in 1 his life, never spoke at the ate that he had done now, with uch fulness, perspiculty, and ower. We are now to see nother blessed fruit of the ouring out of the Spirit in its influence upon the hearers of the oppel. From the first delivery of hat divine message, it appeared hat there was a divine power oing along with it, and it uos righty, through God, to do conders: thousands were mmediately brought by it to the bedience of faith; it was the rood of God's strength sent out of flow, Pa. 110:2, Pa. 110:3. We are here the first-fruits of that ast harvest of souls which by it were gathered in to Jasus Christ. Jome and see, in these verses, he exalted Redeemer riding orth, in these chariots of
There are three Greek words used in the New Testament to denote repentance. Retocom Retocom 2 Corifi. (1.) The verb metamelomai is used of a change of mind, such as to produce regret or even remorse on account of sin, but not Retection Retection Castering necessarily a change of heart. This word is used with reference to the repentance of Judas (Mat. 27:3). Retection Retection	onquer, <u>Rev. 6:2</u> . In these verses we find the cord of God the means of
Property (2.) Metamoco, meaning to change one's mind and purpose, as the result of after knowledge. Here Coheringe (3.) This verb, with the cognate noun metamoin, is used of true repentance, a change of mind and purpose and life, to which remission of sin is promised. Reveal Reveal 1 Treaty Evangelical repentance consists of (1) a true sense of one's own guilt and sinfulness; (2) an apprehension of God's mercy in Christ; (3) Reveal Reveal 1 marky Evangelical repentance consists of (1) a true sense of one's own guilt and sinfulness; (2) an apprehension of God's mercy in Christ; (3) Reveal Reveal	edit of the function of the second of the se
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Take Heed How You Read



JUSTIN MONTS

In Luke 8:18 Jesus said, "Take heed how you hear." A similar admonition could be, "Take heed how you read." Many can read and still not understand what they're reading. When I was younger, I used to watch Charlie Brown and the Peanuts and, in their class, Peppermint Patty would sit, not paying attention to the teacher. The voice of the teacher would come across as "Mwo, Mwo, Mwo... Mwo, Mwo, Mwo." She could hear the voice of the teacher. She knew the teacher was talking, but she didn't pay attention to a word that was said. In like manner, sadly, we may act like Peppermint Patty. We can know that something is written, but unless we pay careful attention to how things are phrased and the implications of what is written, we'll be no better than Patty at school with her teacher.

It is the devil's work to blind our eyes from seeing the truth (2 Cor. 4:4). In tempting Christ to jump from the pinnacle of the temple, the Devil said, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone"" (Matt. 4:6). The Devil had taken passages from Psalm 91 out of context. Others may not act from malicious motives, but merely out of ignorance. When Jesus came to the Feast of Booths in Jerusalem, many drew wrong conclusions about Him. "Many from the crowd, when they heard this saying, said, 'Truly this is the Prophet.' Others said, 'This is the Christ.' But some said, 'Will the Christ come out of Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from the town of Bethlehem, where David was?' So there was a division among the people because of Him" (John 7:40-43). If just a little more investigation had been done, all would have seen that Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea. They failed to be thorough in a search for truth, and we can be guilty of the same.

Jesus, on the other hand, interpreted the Scripture rightly and called on men to do so as well. Over and over again He asked the question, "Have you not read?" (Matt. 12:3, 5; 19:4; 22:31). He was asking this of the scribes who copied the law and the Pharisees who taught the law (Matt. 23:1-3). Of course in a literal sense they read the law privately

and even recited it in the synagogues. But the point was they hadn't understood what they were reading! Why? Was God's word impossible to understand? No (Eph. 3:4). The problem was with the heart and that they hadn't taken time to learn the correct implications (Matt. 15:3-9; John 7:17). Yet Jesus showed us a better way. In Matthew 22, when debating the Pharisees, He asked, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said, "The son of David." Jesus then connected the dots for them with Psalm 110:1. They knew the Messiah was to be the son of David, that is, a descendant from David's fleshly line. But as far as being God in the flesh, evidently a good number of them hadn't reached that conclusion! Jesus took them to the text to illustrate that the Messiah was more than the son of David. He was the very Son of God Himself. "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool." If David calls the Messiah Lord. how is the Messiah merely his son? The Pharisees had not paid attention!

Another example from that same Psalm is when the Hebrew writer showed that Jesus is a high priest by appealing to that Psalm. The Hebrew writer couldn't claim arbitrarily that Jesus was a high priest. He was writing to an audience that would pick up on an apparent contradiction. If all the high priests were sons of Aaron and Jesus was not a descendant of Aaron, on what grounds could the writer claim Jesus was a high priest? What Scripture would verify it? The answer was simple. Psalm 110:4 stated the Messiah would be a high priest "in the order (mold or make, jnm) of Melchizedek." Melchizedek predated Aaron and his priesthood. Thus, Jesus had a priesthood which was before and far superior to that of Aaron. An argument once again was made from one phrase in one verse!

It is vital that we pay attention to details when going through a text for these details *will shape* our beliefs and practices. We should ask important questions such as, by whom was this written? Who was this written to? Why was it written? What was the cultural setting of the time? Etc. Details like these are all incredibly important and can play a huge factor in whether we arrive at the proper understanding regarding a verse, a chapter, a book, and indeed, whether we arrive at a proper understanding of the whole Bible itself.

So, what are things we can look for when we read the text?

1. Follow the context, look above and below. Countless false beliefs and practices have been established because a verse was lifted out of context! For instance, in Hebrews 10:38 when we read, "The just shall live by faith" many have assumed that this teaches justification by faith alone. This was never meant to suggest that faith without works would please God! In the verse just before the writer tells these faltering Christians they need *endurance*, so that after they have *done* the will of God they may inherit the promises (v. 36). After this verse he gives a list of sixteen examples of men and women by name who manifested their faith *by their accompanying actions* (Heb. 11). Does this sound like the writer was trying to teach justification by faith alone? No. Not at all.

Do you look above and below a verse of Scripture when you hear it quoted at church or when you read it on your own?

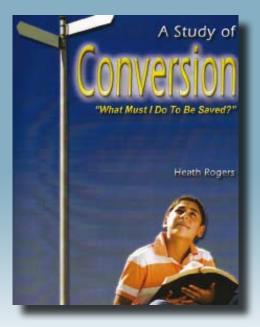
2. Follow pronouns. Many in denominations will view Holy Spirit baptism to have been given to the 120 in the upper room on the Day of Pentecost and then conclude it is available for us today. This stems from a failure to look at the text closely and follow the pronouns. Beginning in verse 26 of the first chapter of the book of Acts, we are reading about the apostles, and no one else. With that information we can know that baptism of the Holy Spirit occurred only on the twelve apostles and not the 120. "When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they (that is, the apostles, jnm) were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they (the apostles, jnm) were sitting. . . . And they (the apostles, jnm) were all filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:1-4).

From John 14-17, individuals make all sorts of blunders thinking that the promises of Christ there extend to all Christians and they fail to realize Jesus was just addressing the apostles. We are not guided into all truth directly by the Holy Spirit, but the apostles were (John 16:13)! Like the eunuch, we need to ask perhaps, "Of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man" (Acts 8:34)? Learn *who* is under consideration.

3. Pay attention to numbers, singular or plural. Is there authority for a one-man pastor? Biblically speaking, pastors are one and the same as elders and bishops. Whenever we read about them appointed in Scripture they are always presented as a *plurality* of men. When Paul went about teaching congregations about church government the record tells us "they appointed elders in every church" (Acts 14:23). Did you catch that the word "elders" is plural? And with this, the words of other passages agree: Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:1-2; 1 Thess. 5:12-13.

Read with a careful eye. Take heed how you read.

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Which Bible Translation Should I Read From?



STEVE REEVES

here's a song that little children sing that begins with the phrase, "Read, Read, Read the Book, read it every day...." Elsewhere in this issue are articles encouraging us to read, study, teach, apply, and memorize the Bible. So we get out our favorite English translation of the Scriptures (few of us know Hebrew or Greek well enough to read it in its original language) and begin to read. Is that it? Just choose your favorite version? Do you like the King James Version (KJV) or New King James (NKJV)? Maybe you prefer a more modern translation like New American Standard (NASV) or New International (NIV). Some folks like one that "reads easily," like the New Living Translation (NLT) or God's Word (GW). Still others look for greater literalness reading the American Standard (ASV). Does it really make a difference? Don't they all teach the same thing? Don't all of them accurately express the thought of the author, just in a different way? If we are going to invest our time reading, teaching, and memorizing Scripture, do we not want to be reading all that the Lord has spoken in the way He spoke it?

Before we address the above questions we need to understand a little about the categories of Bible translation. Most English translations of the Bible fall into one of three categories. The first category is called "word-for-word," "literal," or "formal equivalence." Some translators also use the term "essentially literal" (EL) to describe this category, because a truly literal translation would be more what we call a transliteration. Transliterations are found in works like an interlinear, where the Hebrew or Greek text is printed with a wordfor-word English translation beneath it. The transliteration strictly follows the word order of the original and, without a good understanding of the grammar and syntax of the original, the reader may not get the message of the author. An example of this can be found in Alfred Marshall's interlinear translation of 2 Timothy 1:13. It reads: "A pattern have thou of being healthy words which from me thou heardest in faith and love in Christ Jesus." A rearrangement of the words and sometimes additional words (italicized) are needed in order to translate the message of the author in the way the author wrote it. So, we read in the ASV translation: "Hold the pattern of sound words which thou hast heard from me, in faith

and love which is in Christ Jesus." Translations like the ASV are sometimes called "formal equivalent" because there is an effort by the translators to have a *form* in English to match the *form* in the original, say for instance, Greek. If the Greek text has a noun or participle, there will be a matching noun or participle in English. If there are eight words in Greek, there will be eight English words, or enough words to accurately translate *all* eight words in the original. In this way the meaning of *every word* in the original is brought over into an English translation. The following translations are considered to be "essentially literal" translations: KJV, NKJV, ASV, NASV, and ESV (English Standard Version).

The second category of Bible translation is called "dynamic equivalence" or "functional equivalence." These translations seek to give the reader a translation of "thoughtfor-thought" rather than "word-for-word." In these, the translators seek to determine the *meaning* of the words in the original and replicate the same *meaning* in English. The translators do not deem it necessary to translate every word in the original, just the thought or idea. These translators also put a premium on trying to replicate the *impact* on today's reader that is functionally equivalent to the impact that was had on the original reader. This requires the translator to serve as a *commentator* and *editor* as well. The translator will determine what impact was had by the words of Jesus or Paul and then decide how to state their intent in such a way as to have the same impact on the reader today. In order to accomplish this task, the translators sometimes leave out words in the original that they feel might be confusing. In other instances, figurative language in the original is reduced to giving the reader the "meaning" of the figure of speech. While the stated intent of the translator is to bring the reader closer to the author's message, in reality he removes the reader away from the author's original words and without the original words you cannot know meaning! The meaning of a man's message is delivered in his words. With "dynamic equivalent" translations, the reader has to trust the translators to give him the right meaning, because the translators will not always give the reader all of the words of the original text! In the case of 2 Timothy 1:13, one "dynamic

equivalent" translation ends up changing the meaning of the original text. The God's Word (GW) translation reads: "... consider what you heard me to say to be the pattern of accurate teachings." All of the above mentioned "essentially literal" versions speak of "holding to" or "retaining" the pattern of sound words, while the God's Word translation has Paul saying that you need to "consider" his teachings to be a pattern. While we all may "consider" Paul's teachings to be a pattern, the issue is: do we need to *hold* to it or not? When you change the words in English, you change the meaning of the original text. The following versions all fall into the category of "dynamic equivalence" translations: NLT, GW, CEV (Contemporary English Version), and NIV. The NIV claims to attempt to strike a balance between "dynamic" and "formal" equivalence. However, some translation scholars place it squarely in the category of a "dynamic equivalence" translation

The third grouping of Bible translations is an extension of

the "dynamic equivalence" type (from here on referred to as DE). These translations are often called paraphrases. The paraphrase philosophy is similar to DE in that there is no concern in translating the original word for word. However. while the DE translations tend to reduce the text in some verses in order to simplify the message, paraphrases tend to add many words in order to explain of the text.



Therefore, in a paraphrase, you have an expansion of the original text. You have many English words and phrases that are not part of the original text!

Why is an understanding of Bible translation important? In recent years I have noted that many brethren are using the newer translations of the DE type as their primary study Bible. Many think that these Bibles are accurate translations just like the KJV, NASV, or others, except that they have an up-dated vocabulary. Many young people are also showing up at Bible studies with the NLT or GW and are not aware of the dangers behind these translations. Some preachers are preaching out of DE type Bibles as their primary text!

DANGERS OF DYNAMIC EQUIVALENT TRANSLATIONS

First, DE translations tend to exchange figurative language for a plain statement of fact. Paul's "thorn in the flesh" (KJV) becomes "a recurring problem" (GW) (2 Cor. 12:7). In Colossians 4:6, Paul tells us that our speech should be "seasoned with salt" (ASV), but in GW it becomes "well thought out." One reason that figures of speech are used in all languages is to accurately describe a situation with a limited vocabulary. Before there were thermometers, how would you accurately describe the temperature beyond the use of words like "cool," "cold," or "coldest"? You might use a figure of speech and say, "It was cold enough to freeze butter!" That's cold! If the Lord and the Holy Spirit saw fit to reveal God's word with figures of speech, who are we to say that they aren't necessary?

Secondly, these versions introduce denominational doc-

trines (false doctrines) such as "inherited sin." In Romans 8, the word translated "flesh" in many literal versions is translated in several DE versions as, "sinful nature" (NIV), "human nature" (Today's English Version), and "corrupt nature" (GW). The Scriptures do not teach that man has a corrupt nature! The same bias is seen in Psalm 51:5: "I was brought forth *in iniquity*"(ASV) becomes "I was born

guilty" (GW) or "*I was sinful at birth*" (NIV). Being born into a world of sinful influence is different than being "born guilty." This is pure Calvinism!

Finally, DE translations add to and subtract from the original words of the text. The question of who are "they" and "them" in Acts 2:1-4 has been argued with Pentecostals and others. In other words, who was filled with the Holy Spirit and who began to "speak in other tongues"? The original text simply contains Greek pronouns translated (by EL versions) as "they" and "them." It is up to the reader to understand who "they" were, by the context. The context shows "they" to be the Apostles that were "filled" and began to "speak."

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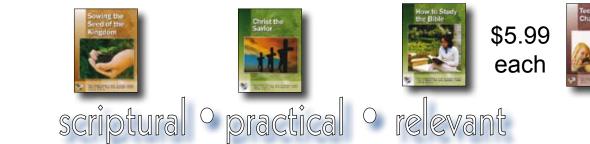
Which Bible Translation Should I Read From? (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31)

Some DE versions add to these pronouns the phrase "the believers" (GW, TEV, NLT). So they have the "believers" being filled with the Holy Spirit. In 2 John 9, the words "goeth onward" (ASV) (from Gr. proago) and not abiding in the doctrine of Christ, is left out in some DE versions (GW). In the original, there are *two* injunctions: you must abide in *and* you must not "transgress" (KJV) or "go on ahead" (ESV).

There are many other dangers with the DE versions. Some change "gender references" to suit "political correctness," while others eliminate "technical theological" words like "grace," "repentance," and "righteousness." We cannot cover them all in this space, but these should suffice to warn us of their danger. While DE versions may be useful in our study as a commentary, or alert us to modern synonyms, or help express a difficult passage, they cannot be relied upon to give us the original message in our language. Though essentially literal or "word-for-word" translations may seem awkward or at times hard to read, they at least strive to give us all of the words of God in the original text. Why is that important? We need to let the Bible speak. Jesus said in Matthew 4:4: "*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*" In His revelation recorded by John, Jesus warns man to not add to or take way from "the words of the prophecy" of that book (Rev. 22:18, 19). An angel told Cornelius that Peter would tell him "words whereby" he could be saved (Acts 11:14). When it comes to the salvation of our souls we want to know all of God's words. We want to read, teach, and memorize all that God has said, nothing more and nothing less.



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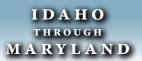
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FLORENCE, AL College View Church of Christ 851 N. Pine St. (Next to University Campus) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evangelists: Mark White (256) 766-0403	MONTGOMERY, AL Eastbrook Church of Christ 650 Coliseum Blvd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Bildg: (334) 272-4232 Evangelist: Brian Moore 279-1077 Carroll Puckett 288-1461; Charles Martin 283-2983; Bob Smith 334-277-1904	GLENDALE, AZ Church of Christ 6801 N. 60th Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:40 A.M. Bible Study 5:00 P.M. Evening 5:40 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven Harper	FT. SMITH, AR South 46th St. Church of Christ 2323 South 46th St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Hagenbuch (479) 478-6108 or 782-0588	ROGERS, AR Central Church of Christ P.O. Box 763 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ricky Manes (479) 636-7484 (479) 685-5067	EL CAJON/SAN DIEGO, CA Church of Christ 523 S. Johnson Ave El Cajon, CA 92020 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evengelist: John Mulligan (619) 444-6106 (619) 922-0395
HUNTSVILLE, AL Chapman Acres Church of Christ 2137 Penhall Dr., NE (I-565, Exit 21, left on Maysville Rd, left on Chapman Ave., right on Penhall Dr.) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Roger Blackwelder (256) 536-5296 or 617-2848	NORTHPORT, AL Northwood Church of Christ 4601 Northwood Estates Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Hartselle	TUCSON, AZ Church of Christ 145 N. Country Club Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 PM. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Hugh Delong 326-3634 or 722-3179	HARRISON, AR Capps Rd. Church of Christ 407 Bella Vista Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Norman E. Sewell 741-9104 or 741-5151	TEXARKANA, AR Church of Christ 2301 Franklin Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marc R. Hinds	FOLSOM, CA Church of Christ 900 E. Natomas St. P.O. Box 492 Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: David Posey (530) 676-9514 or (916) 608-4866 www.folsomchurch.com

CALIFORNIA THROUGH GEORGIA

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

FREMONT, CA Centerville Church of Christ 3885 Beacon Ave, Ste D Fremont, CA 94538 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. (510) 794-7659	MONTROSE, CO San Juan church of Christ 1414 Hawk Parkway, Unit C Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 2:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Richard Thetford (970) 626-5558 or (970) 249-8116	FORT LAUDERDALE, FL Northside Church of Christ 912 NW 19th St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (305) 763-1404	KEY LARGO, FL Key Largo Church of Christ 100695 N. Overseas Hwy. 33037 m.m. 100.5 on U.S. 1 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Roland Fritz	ORLANDO, FL S. Bumby Church of Christ 3940 S. Bumby Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Evengelist: Joshua C. Creel (407) 851-8031 or	HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP
HEMET, CA Church of Christ 203 W. Acacia Ave. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (951)925-1991	Place Your Ad Today!	FORT MYERS, FL Church of Christ 200 Pine Island Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Vernon E. Ford (239) 567-0819	(305) 451-1194 KISSIMMEE, FL Church of Christ 2431 Fortune Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Copeland (407) 931-1725 or 348-0300	(321) 235-3307 PALATKA, FL Palatka Church of Christ 505 Third Ave. (Third Ave. intersects Hwy. 19 one block south of Hwy. 20) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Skomp (386) 326-3952 or 546-5689	SEFFNER, FL Church of Christ 621 E. Wheeler Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist. Bobby Witherington (813) 684-1297 www.seffnercoc.org
LONG BEACH, CA Church of Christ 3433 Studebaker Rd. Bible Study 9:50 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Lonnie Fritz (562) 420-2363 Mark Reeves (562) 420-9577 (562) 377-1674	DOVER, DE Kent-Sussex Church of Christ 2041 South DuPont Hwy Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (302) 672-7087 www.delawarebiblestudies.com	FORT MYERS, FL Southside Church of Christ 13641 Learning Ct. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David P. Schmidt 433-2838 or 482-2158	LAKELAND, FL Lakeland Hills Blvd. Church of Christ 2510 Lakeland Hills Blvd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelists: Marc W. Gibson Don Hastings (863) 688-4336	PALMETTO, FL Palmetto Church of Christ 1575 14th Avenue W. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: David Beck (941) 722-1307, or (941) 803-8084 www.palmettochurchofchrist.com	TAMPA, FL Central Church of Christ 2701 E. Fowler Ave (in the Clarion) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. John Lockaby (813) 833-5786 John Trimble (813) 914-0546 Tom O'Neal (813) 625-5651
OCEANSIDE-VISTA,CA Church of Christ 2020 Sunset Dr. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Lowell C. Bell (760) 940-8003	ALACHUA, FL Santa Fe Hills Church of Christ Hwy. 441, 1/2 mile west of I-75 (Exit 78) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (386) 462-4325 or (352) 333-7003	FT. WALTON BEACH, FL 6 Lane Dr. Mary Esther, FL Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joey Rankin (850) 244-9222	MERRITT ISLAND, FL Church of Christ 512 Plumosa St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (321) 453-3320	PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL Beach Church of Christ 8910 Front Beach Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ben Liggin (850) 234-2521 or 234-1368	ZEPHYRHILLS, FL Church of Christ 5444 4th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Assembly 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (813) 788-9587
ARVADA, CO (Denver) Northgate Church of Christ (Lincoln Academy Charter School) 6980 Pierce Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Afternoon Class/ Worship 1:30 P.M. (303) 456–4895	BRONSON, FL Church of Christ 894 E. Hathaway (Hwy. 27A) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Thursday 7:00 P.M. Evengelist: John Zellner (352) 528-3058	FROSTPROOF, FL Church of Christ 40 W. "A" St. Frostproof, FL 33483 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike Freese (863) 635-2607 or 635-4278	MIAMI, FL Flagler Grove Church of Christ (Nearest to Airport) 500 N.W. 53rd Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: John Buttrick (305) 634-5924	PANAMA CITY, FL Church of Christ 3339 Florida Ave. (Between Baldwin Rd. & Hwy. 390) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Marvin Hudson (850) 265-6539	CENTERVILLE, GA Centerville Church of Christ 250 Collins Ave. (Near Robins AFB) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: J. Wiley Adams (478) 922-1128
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO Northeast Church of Christ 6660 Galley Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (719) 597-6661	BROOKSVILLE, FL Church of Christ 604 W. Fort Dade Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: V.C. McCormick (352) 796-9803	GENEVA, FL Church of Christ Ave. C and 2nd St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. (407) 349-9998	MIAMI, FL Church of Christ 12780 Quail Roost Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evening 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Clark Pace (305) 233-9590 or (954) 430-1437	PENSACOLA, FL East Hill Church of Christ 2078 E. Nine Mile Rd. at Camberwell Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 PM. Wednesday 7:00 PM. Evangelist: Stan Adams 479-2130 or 994-7749	CONYERS, GA Rockdale Church of Christ East Metro Atlanta, 705 Smyrna Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Forrest Bacon, elder (770) 918-1932; Wendell Holland, elder (770) 761-6987; Building (770) 929-3973
FT. COLLINS, CO Foothills Church of Christ 1200 Raintree Drive Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:30 A.M. Call (970) 482-9690 for Wednesday Service (Meets in home.)	CHIPLEY, FL Church of Christ 1295 Brickyard Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (850) 638-4942	HOLLYWOOD, FL Harding St. Church of Christ 5828 Harding St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (954) 961-4112	OCALA, FL Church of Christ 3900 S. Pine (441, 301 & 27 S.) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist:Al Sandlin 352-351-5188	To make changes to your ad, contact us at andyalex@bellsouth.net	CORDELE, GA Crisp County Church of Christ 120 Emmaus Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jismy Tuten Call for directions: (229) 271-1964 (229) 382-8766 (229) 3263715
GRAND JUNCTION, CO Valley Church of Christ 491 Sparn Road P.O. Box 40531 Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Bohannon www.ValleyChurchofChrist.net	DELAND, FL North Blvd. Church of Christ 823 N. Woodland Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Owen (386) 734-6907 or 734-4311	JACKSONVILLE, FL Julington Creek Church of Christ 1630 State Rd 13N Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (904) 230-3332 (Bidg.) or 268-9638 (Wendell Bowman) www.jccoc.com	ORLANDO, FL Pine Hills Church of Christ &890 Hastings St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ray West (407) 293–2851 or 290–8650	PUNTA GORDA, FL Church of Christ 2300 Taylor Road PO Box 511069 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening (NovMar.) 4:00 P.M. Evening (AprOct.) 5:00 P.M. Evagelist: Paul Branch (239) 458-3566	PINE MTN. VALLEY, GA Church of Christ Route 116 (near Callaway Gardens) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Tommy W. Thomas (706) 628-5117 or 628-5229
IGNACIO, CO Church of Christ 295 Burns Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 1:00 P.M. (970) 563-9418	DESTIN, FL South Walton Church of Christ 64 Casting Lake Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 PM. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (850) 622-3817 www.southwaltonchurchofchrist.com	JACKSONVILLE, FL Marietta Church of Christ 8150 Driggers St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jamie Rhoden & Steve Frazier (904) 781-5704 or 693-0432 www.mariettacoc.com	ORLANDO, FL Azalea Park Church of Christ 6800 Lake Underhill Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 4:00 PM. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: James P. Needham (407) 277-7931 or 628-2995	ST. PETERSBURG, FL Church of Christ 901 49th St. South Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 PM. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Doug Barlar (813) 321-2721	SAVANNAH, GA Costal Church of Christ 7201 Johnny Mercer Blvd Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ron Nelson ronnelson@embarqmail.com (912) 306-4631 www.coastalchurchofchrist.com

34 TRUTH MAGAZINE • JANUARY 2010



VALDOSTA, GA Church of Christ 4313 North Valdosta Rd. (Located 1 mile E. of Exit 22 off-75) Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. (No evening worship) Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (229) 244-8630	PALATINE, IL Church of Christ (N.W. Chicago Suburb) 1050 N. Deer Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (847) 967-9667 CLARKSVILLE, IN	MUNCIE, IN Church of Christ 301 N. Calvert Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Kevin Sulc (765) 284-5299 or 286-5488	EL DORADO, KS Emporia St. Church of Christ 1154 S. Emporia Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (316) 321-1025	CAMPBELLSVILLE, KY Sunny Hill Dr. Church of Christ (near the Dairy Queen) Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Lee stevelee4510@windstream.net (270) 789-1651 CANEVVILLE, KY	REGINA, KY Road Creek Church of Christ 7 miles west of Elkhorn City on Route 460 & Route 80 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (606) 754-9883, 754-8642 or 754-5398
BLACKFOOT, ID Church of Christ 370 N. Shilling P.O. Box 158-83221 Bible Study 1:30 P.M. Worship 2:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (208) 785-6168 or 681-1552	Clarksville Church of Christ 407 Lewis and Clark Pkw. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Kipp Campbell (812) 941-0747 or 944-2305 KCampbell@earthlink.net Elders: 944-1878 or 948-9917	OOLITIC, IN Church of Christ 400 Lafayette Ave. P.O. Box 34 Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (812) 279-4332	LENEXA, KS Lenexa Church of Christ 7845 Cottonwood Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Stauffer (913) 631-6519 or 764–9170	Caneyville Church of Christ 103 N. Main St. (near the 4 way stop) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dale Barnes (270) 879-6152 or 274-3065	BATON ROUGE, LA Park Forest Church of Christ 9923 Sunny Cline Dr. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Crews 275-4684 or 273-1105
ABINGDON, IL Abingdon Church of Christ 209 N. Main Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Evangelist: John B. Wilson (309) 462-5368	ELLETTSVILLE, IN Church of Christ 303 W. Temperance St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Isaac Edwards (812) 876-2285	PEKIN, IN Church of Christ (First St. & Karnes Ct.) Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 0:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Henry 967-3437 or 967-3520	TOPEKA, KS 17 th Street Church of Christ 5600 SW 17 th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (785) 235-8687 or 273-7977 www.17thstreetchurchofchrist.org	DANVIILE, KY 385 E. Lexington Ave. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Scott Vifquain (859) 236-4204 or 238-0860	BOSSIER CITY, LA Bossier Church of Christ 2917 Foster Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (318) 747-4308 or 742-4557
BENTON, IL Church of Christ 203 N. Central St. P.O. Box 12 (west of Wal-Mart) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Greg King (618) 438-2911 or 435-2981	HAMMOND, IN Woodmar Church of Christ 2133 169th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (219) 845-8942	PLAINFIELD, IN Church of Christ 350 E. Township Line Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist : Johnie Edwards (317) 839-0174	WICHITA, KS Ridge Road Church of Christ 7001 W. 21st St., North Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. (316) 722-6622 or 744-1841	FRANKLIN, KY 31–W North Church of Christ 1733 Bowling Green Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Monts (270) 586-3978 www.franklinchurch.com	HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP
CHICAGO, IL Northside Church of Christ 2543 W. Division St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: James R. Davis, Jr. (312) 961-2150	HOBART, IN Church of Christ 300 N. Liberty St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Cleek (219) 942-2663	RICHMOND, IN Gaar Road Church of Christ 1835 Gaar Rd. (1 mi. S. of 1-70 off Hwy. 227) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evengelist: Douglas R. Clark (765) 935-2911	WICHITA, KS Westside Church of Christ 2626 W. 47th St. South Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike O'Neal (316) 729-9302 or 942-1649 www.cocwestside.com	GLASGOW, KY East Main St. Church of Christ 106 Carnation Dr. (across from Gorin Park) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Evenneg 5:00 P.M. Evangelist: Doug Lancaster (270) 404-0346 or 651-7141	LEESVILLE, LA White Park Church of Christ 17801 Nolan Trace; 20 mi. from Fort Polk (5 mi. W. of Leesville) Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:35 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. (337) 239-4614 www.whiteparkchurchofchrist.org
CHICAGO, IL Church of Christ 1514 West 74th Street Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: James E. Scott Bldg. (773) 224-9279 (708) 339-6126	INDIANAPOLIS, IN Castleton Church of Christ 7701 East 86th St., 46256 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (317) 842-3613	SALEM, IN Westside Church of Christ 2000 West State Rd. 56 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Evan Casey (812) 883-2033 www.westsidechurchofchrist.info	BEAVER DAM, KY Church of Christ 1235 Williams St. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study After Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike Thomas (270) 274-4451 or 274-4486	LEITCHFIELD, KY Mill St. Church of Christ Highway 62 E. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:55 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joey Cooper (270) 259-4968	MANY, LA Lakeside Church of Christ 12095 Texas Hwy. (Hwy. 6 W.) 12 miles west of Many Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (318) 256-9396
DOWNERS GROVE, IL Church of Christ 1236 63rd St. (1 and 1/2 mile E. of 1355) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:55 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (630) 968-0760 • www.dgcco.org	JAMESTOWN, IN Church of Christ (1 Mi. south of 1-74) Cor. Darlington & Mill Sts. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Halbrook 765) 676-6404 or (317) 892-6285	TRAFALGAR, IN Spearsville Rd. Church of Christ, 6244 S. 500W. (1.2 mi. S. of Hwy. 135) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David R. Dodd (317) 878-5969 or (317) 439-3252 spearsvillerodmessenger@gmail.com	BOWLING GREEN, KY Eastside Church of Christ 1706 Smallhouse Rd Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wed. 10:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Gary Kerr (270) 843-9925 www.mightyisthelord.com	LOUISVILLE, KY Valley Station Church of Christ 1803 Dixie Garden Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Dudley Ross Spears (502) 937-2822	STONEWALL, LA N. DeSoto Church of Christ 2071 Highway 171 (South of Shreveport) Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evenagelist: Steve Bobbitt (318) 925-2733
GLEN ELLYN, IL Church of Christ 796 Prairie, 60137 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Joseph T. Novak (630-529-2149) (630) 858-2290	See YOUR ad here!	DES MOINES, IA Church of Christ 1310 N.E. 54th Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:40 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (515) 262-6799	BOWLING GREEN, KY West End Church of Christ 300 Blue Level Rd., 42101 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Todd Chandler & Lowell Sallee (270) 842-7880 www.westendchurch.com	LOUISVILLE, KY Church of Christ 4401 West Broad St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donald Wright, Jr. (502) 772-3026 or 491-9372	WEBSTER, MA Church of Christ Webster 168 Main St. Sunday Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Sunday Worship 10:30 A.M. Wed Bible Study Call for details (508) 765-6067 Preacher: Peter Capoccia
MATTOON, IL Southside Church of Christ 1100 S. 17th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (217) 234-3702	MARION, IN South Marion Church of Christ 3629 S. Washington St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Eveneday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Alan Jones (765)-922-7602	GRINNELL, IA Church of Christ 1402 Third Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (641) 236-1955 (641) 521-6485	BRANDENBURG, KY Brandenburg Church of Christ 612 Broadway Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Charles J. White (270) 422-3878	OWENSBORO, KY Southside Church of Christ 2920 New Hartford Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evengelist Jarrod Jacobs (270) 683-5386 or 264-7869	PORTLAND, ME Church of Christ 856 Brighton Ave. (Breakwater School) Leave Maine Turmpike at Exit 48 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Second service immediately follow- ing morning worship. Mid-week Bible Study—Please call for times & places (207) 839-3075 or 839-8409

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TRUTH MAGAZINE • JANUARY 2010 35

MARYLAND THROUGH OHIO

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

ARBUTUS, MD Arbutus Church of Christ 5205 East Dr., Suite D (East Drive Shopping Center) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Church phone: (410) 247-1396, (410) 590-2852 SEVERN, MD	CLINTON, MS McRaven Rd. Church of Christ 301 McRaven Rd. (120, exit 36) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 PM. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Leonard White (601) 925-9757 or 924-2645	DONIPHAN, MO Southside Church of Christ Hwy. 142 E. ½ mile (P.O. Box 220) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (573) 996-3251 or 996-3513	ST. JAMES, MO Church of Christ 685 Sidney St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Lynn Huggins (573) 265-8628	ALAMOGORDO, NM 25th & Hawaii Church of Christ P.O. Box 2065 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. (505) 434-5834	HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP
Southwest Church of Christ 805 Meadow Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Brandon Trout (410) 969-1420 or (410) 551-6549 www.swcofchrist.com	COLUMBUS, MS Woodlawn Church of Christ 359 Sanders Mills Rd. Steen Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Willis Logan (601) 356-6629	FAIR GROVE, MO Church of Christ 217 N. Orchard Blvd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Walter Myers (417) 830-8972 or (417) 736-2663	ST, JOSEPH, MO County Line Church of Christ 2727 County Line Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (816) 279-4737 www.countylinechurchofchrist.com	ALBUQUERQUE, NM Albuquerque Church of Christ 1908 Sunshine Terrace SE Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (call to confirm time) 764-9277	HOPE MILLS, NC Gray's Creek Church of Christ Gray's Community Bldg. School Road Worship 10 am Bible Study 11am (910) 321-9023 (910) 424-2372
RIVERDALE, MD (Washington, D.C. area) Wildercroft Church of Christ 6330 Auburn Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mike Thomley (301) 474-7460 or 446-1912	GULFPORT, MS Morris Rd. Church of Christ 1 blk. N. of Dedeaux Rd. & 3 Rivers Rd. on Morris Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Don Davis (228) 832-5529	KANSAS CITY, MO Nashua Church of Christ 11425 N. Main St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Broyles (816) 532-4270 or 734-4142	ST. JOSEPH, MO Prairie Hills Church of Christ 14273 County Rd. 307 (.7 mi. E of Intersection I-29 & Hwy. 169) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (816) 233-6485 Evangelist: Erik Smith	ALBUQUERQUE, NM Heights Church of Christ 7801 Zuni Road, S.E. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evanagelist: Darrel Yontz (505) 266-7577 www.heightschurchof christ.com	MARION, NC Hwy. 70 Church of Christ 18 Peachtree St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (828) 652-7504 or 652-2584
CEDAR SPRINGS, MI Grand Rapids Area W. Michigan Church of Christ Sr. Citizen Center, 44 Park St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joseph Gladwell (616) 975-2778	MERIDIAN, MS Grandview Church of Christ 2820 Grandview Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Danny Gardner (601) 681-4505 or 482-9543 dg1969@bellsouth.net	KANSAS CITY, MO Vivion Road Church of Christ 2026 N.E. Vivion Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Tom Kinzel (816) 453-6157	BEATRICE, NE Church of Christ 7th and Bell Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. 233-4102 or 228-3827 www.churchofchrist7bell.com	Place Your Ad Today!	BEAVERCREEK, OH Knollwood Church of Christ 1031 Welford Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Keith Greer (937) 426-1422
DULUTH, MN Church of Christ 4401 Glennwood St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Nick Krumrei (218) 728-3233	MERIDIAN, MS 7th St. Church of Christ 2914 7th St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 PM. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. (601) 483-3101	KENNETT, MO Church of Christ 703 Harrison St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (573) 888-6778	LAS VEGAS, NV Vegas Dr. Church of Christ 3816 Vegas Drive Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (702) 648-4827	BUFFALO, NY Greater Buffalo Church of Christ 3578 Walden Ave Lancaster, NY 14086 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:15 A.M. Tuesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Daniel Bailey (716) 870-3259	CINCINNATI, OH Blue Ash Church of Christ Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evang:elist: Russell Dunaway, Jr. 891-3174
Shop online at truthbooks.net	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	LILBOURN, MO P.O. Box 270 211 Benton St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Shane Williams (573) 688-2234 or 748-5204	RENO, NV Central Church of Christ 2450 Wrondel Way, Ste. A Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (775) 786–2888	CARY, NC Walnut St. Church of Christ (Raleigh) 217 Walnut St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Rick Billingsly (919) 467-0012 (919) 372-1497	CLEVELAND, OH Lorain Ave. Church of Christ 13501 Lorain Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (216) 476-0660, 651-1689 or (330) 725-3960, 723-0111
ROCHESTER, MN Church of Christ 2002 Second St., SW Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Russ Jones (507) 254-3929	BLUE SPRINGS, MO Southside Church of Christ 4000 SW Christiansen Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Balley (816) 228-9262	RAYMORE, MO Raymore Church of Christ 107 N. Woodson St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ryan Boyer (816) 322-0042 www.raymorechurchofchrist.org	SPARKS, NV Sierra Nevada Church of Christ 2425 Pyramid Way Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Monday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ross Triplett, Sr. (775) 972-4911 retriplett@tripletweb.com	CHARLOTTE, NC Harris Blvd. Church of Christ 5424 E.W.T. Harris Blvd. Worship 8:30 A.M. Bible Study 9:30A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Various members of local congregations Don Moeller (704) 532-9242	COLUMBUS, OH Laurel Canyon Church of Christ 409 McNaughton Rd. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (614)868-1375 www.lccoc.net
ST. CHARLES, MN Church of Christ 636 Whitewater Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 2:45 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Lehnertz (507) 534-2905 or 932-3521	CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO North Cape Church of Christ 121 S. Broadview St. Suite 2 Cape Girardeau, MO 63703 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Lee Westbrook (573)334-9673	RAYTOWN, MO Sterling Ave. Church of Christ 5825 Sterling Ave. (Near Sports Complex) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Norman E. Fultz (816) 358-3096 or 792-2040 www.sterlingavechurchofchrist.org	PISCATAWAY, NJ 258 Highland Ave. Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Bible Classes 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gary P. Eubanks (732) 463-1323	CHARLOTTE, NC Charlotte Church of Christ 5327 S. Tyron St. Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Wendell Powell (704) 525-5655 or 522-9971	DAYTON, OH West Carrollton 28 W. Main Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Michael Grushon (937) 866-5162 or 434-3090 E-mail: www.wc-coc.org
BOONEVILLE, MS Oakleigh Dr. Church of Christ 101 Oakleigh Dr. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Building: (662) 728-1942	COLUMBIA, MO Eastside Church of Christ 5051 Ponderosa Columbia, MO 65201 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. 445-5497 or 636-0224	Subscribe Today! Truth Magazine 1-800-428-0121	VAUXHALL, NJ Church of Christ Milbourn Mall Suite 6 2933 Vauxhall Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Harry A. Persaud (908) 964-8570	DALLAS, NC Deepwood Forest Church of Christ 2002 Lineburger Rd., Hwy. 275 (Between Dallas & Stanley) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Louis Woollums (704) 922-8985	FRANKLIN, OH Church of Christ 6417 Franklin/Lebanon Rd. State Route 123 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Eston Vandever (937) 746-1249 or (513) 422-2466



FREMONT, OH Church of Christ 3361 W. State St. 1 mi. W. of Fremont on U.S. Rt. 20 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (419) 849-3340 or 849-3686 www.amplex.net/churchofchrist	NORTHWOOD, OH (Toledo Area) Church of Christ 4110 Frey Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donald Jarabek 893-3566 or 691-0688	PHILADELPHIA, PA Church of Christ 7222 Germantown Ave. Bible Study 10:15 A.M. Worship 11:15 A.M. Tues. night 8:00 P.M. Evangelist: James H. Baker, Jr. (215) 248-2026 www.mtairychurchofchrist.org	COLUMBIA, TN Jackson Hts. Church of Christ 1200 Nashville Hwy., Hwy. 31N Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Mid-week 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Andrew Roberts (931) 388-6811	MARYVILLE, TN Smokey Mt. Church of Christ 2206 Montvale Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 PM. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Harold Tabor (865) 977-4230 Lon Spurgeon (865) 380-5594 http://tinyurl.com/smchurch	ROCKWOOD, TN Church of Christ Highway 70 East 5080 Roane State Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Cecil Belcher (865) 717-3654
HAMILTON, OH Westview Church of Christ 1040 Azel Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:45 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David A. Stansberry (513) 868-9988	UHRICHSVILLE, OH Church of Christ 638 Parrish Street Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Mid-week 6:30 P.M.	To make changes to your ad, contact us at andyalex@bellsouth.net	COLUMBIA, TN Mooresville Pike Church of Christ 417 Mooresville Pike (.8 mi. N. of Hwy. 50/Jas. Campbell) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (931) 388-582; 381-7898; 380-1226 www.mooresvillepikecoc.com	MEMPHIS, TN Rocky Pt. Road Church of Christ 516 E. Rocky Point Rd., Cordova Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Contact: Mitch Stevens (901) 372-5580 or 758-4006	SAVANNAH, TN Savannah Heights Church of Christ 230 Harrison St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jonathan Ellis
HILLIARD, OH Church of Christ 4840 Cemetery Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (614) 876-4089	WAVERLY, OH 207 Mullins St. Church of Christ Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (740) 947-7122 or 289-3401	BEAUFORT, SC Church of Christ 2107 King St. P.O. Box 4 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Parris Island, 8:00 A.M., Sunday Evangelist: Ronald Nelson (843) 524-4400 or 524-4652	DAYTON, TN Main Street Church of Christ 250 Main St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 2:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Contact: (423) 618-6250 or 332-4604	MURFREESBORO, TN Cason Lane Church of Christ 1110 Cason Lane Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. (615) 896-0900 (Building) (615) 653-1828 (Wilson Adams) (615) 895-3484 (Phil Cavender) www.casonlanechurch.org	SHELBYVILLE, TN El Bethel Church of Christ 1801 Hwy. 41-A North Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donnie V. Rader (931) 685-1113 or 931-607-9099 dvrader@hughes.net
MANSFIELD, OH Eastside Church of Christ 326 Grace Street Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: James Bond 526-2868 or 526-4739	OKLAHOMA CITY, OK Seminole Pointe Church of Christ 16300 N. May Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John M. Duvall (405) 340-3189 or 513-6691 www.seminolepointecofc.org	COLUMBIA, SC Lower Richland Church of Christ 3000 Trotter Rd. (Hopkins, SC) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Wayne Seaton (803) 776-0754 or 234-5300 http://lowerrichlandchurch.org	DAYTON, TN Rhea Church of Christ 1367 Market Street, Suite 2 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 2:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (423) 285-7005 or 334-4606 www.rheachurchofchrist.com	MURFREESBORO, TN Northfield Blvd. Church of Christ 2091 Pitts Ln. at Northfield Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evengelists: David Bunting (615) 893-1200	TULLAHOMA, TN Church of Christ 1625 W. Lincoln St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Mickells (931) 455-0273 or 563-7312
MANSFIELD, OH Southside Church of Christ 687 Mansfield-Lucas Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Building: (419) 522-8982 Leon Bond: 525-3684 Glenn Bond: 522-1965	TULSA, OK Woodland Hills Church of Christ 9119 E. 61 St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ross Oldenkamp (918) 252-1220	NORTH CHARLESTON, SC Ashley Heights Church of Christ 2605 S. Oakridge Cir. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (843) 553.4970 www.ahcoc.info	FAIRVIEW, TN New Hope Church of Christ 7500 Jingo Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Shannon Shaffer (615) 289-1721 or 799-0162 www.newhopecoc.com	MURFREESBORO, TN South Ridge Church of Christ 488 Barfield-Crescent Rd. • PO 2257 (I-24, Exit 81, South 1.5 miles on Hwy 231, turn right) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 425-6300 southridge.churchofchrist@yahoo.com	Shop online at truthbooks.net
MARIETTA/RENO, OH Jct. St. Rt. 7 & County Rd. 20 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (740) 434-5310 (Eric Krieg) or 473-9028 (Steve Foutty)	MEDFORD, OR Church of Christ 1850 Spring St. (Roxy Ann Grange Hall) Corner of Spring/Valley View Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Evengelist: Dean Blackwell (541) 773-2649	ORANGEBURG, SC Southside Church of Christ 1502 Binnicker Bridge Rd. (Grange Building - Hwy 70) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evangelist: Fred England (803) 939-0672 www.southside-church.org	JACKSON, TN Sunset View Church of Christ 3618 Hwy 70 East (Exit 87 off I-40, 7mi. @ Spring Creek) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Wilkerson (731) 987-2200 or 968-9851	NASHVILLE, TN Bell Road Church of Christ 1608 Bell Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Davenport (615) 833-4444 or 331-7377	ALLEN, TX West Allen Church of Christ 1414 W. Exchange Blvd. (2 miles w. of Hwy. 75) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry King (214) 504-0443 (972) 727-5355 (bldg)
NEW CARLISLE, OH Church of Christ 235 Funston Ave. (Near Wright–Patterson AFB) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evengeist: Randy Blackaby (937) 849-1643 or 845-8467 (bldg.)	SWEET HOME, OR Church of Christ 3702 E. Long St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Building: (541) 367-1599	SUMTER, SC Woodland Church of Christ 3370 Broad St. Extension Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: A.A. Granke, Jr. (803) 499-6023	JOHNSON CITY, TN Brookmead Church of Christ 2428 Lakeview Drive Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 PM. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Kevin Kay 423-282-6251 or 426-1836	NASHVILLE, TN Hillview Church of Christ 7471 Charlotte Pike Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Sayre (615) 797-1114	ALVARADO,TX I-35 Church of Christ (E. Service Rd. of I-35, N. of Alvarado) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (817) 295-7277 or 790-7253
NEW LEBANON, OH Church of Christ 1973 W. Main St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Glen Murphy, Jr. 687-2985	AVONDALE, PA Avondale Church of Christ 1606 Glen Willow Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (610) 268-2088 Rex Cornwell (970) 667-3507 Randy Frame (610) 869-4146	TAYLORS, SC (Greenville Area) Taylors Church of Christ 400 E. Main St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Mosely (864) 268-5224 or 877-2728 www.taylorschurchofchrist.com	KINGSTON SPRINGS, TN Kingston Springs Church of Christ 350 North Main St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dan King, Sr. (615) 952-5720 or 662-7626	NASHVILLE, TN Perry Heights Church of Christ 423 Donelson Pike Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:55A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Johnny Felker (615) 883-3118 http://perryheights.faithweb.com	ALVIN, TX Adoue St. Church of Christ 605 E. Adoue St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Mayberry (281) 331-4953 or (832) 837–9038
NEW RICHMOND, OH Church of Christ 550 Washington St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Contact: Dave Wylie (513) 553-6414 www.nrchurchofchrist.com	EXTON, PA Exton Church of Christ 217 N. Whitford Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. 363-8042	WEST COLUMBIA, SC Airport Church of Christ 4013 Edmund Hwy. (Hwy. 302) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 PM. Wednesday 7:00 PM. Evangelist: Michael McCleeary (803) 735-6065	KNOXVILLE, TN Chapman Hwy. Church of Christ 7604 Chapman Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Tim Shepherd (865) 573-6638	PIGEON FORGE, TN King Branch Road Church of Christ 560 King Branch Road Worship 10:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Facilities available for Sunday evening services upon request. Evangelist: Roger Williams (865)430-5980 www.KingBranchRoadChur- chOfChrist.org	ANGELTON, TX Kiber St. Church of Christ P.O. Box 1162 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Zeke Flores (979) 849-8376



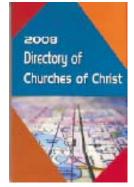
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AUSTIN, TX Wonsley Dr. Church of Christ 507 E. Wonsley Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 2:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ron Lehde BAYTOWN, TX	EDNA, TX 301 Robison Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (361) 782-5506 or 782-2844 Elders: S.A. Mercer & S. Wilson Evangelist: Heath Rogers	Place Your Ad Today!	MANSFIELD, TX Northside Church of Christ 1820 Mansfield-Webb Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelists:Tom Roberts (817) 466-3160	SAN ANGELO, TX Green Meadow Church of Christ (Off Loop 306, sw part of the city) 3438 Green Meadow Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Boyd Jennings (325) 224-2848 (325)944-8147 or (325)896-2038 SAN ANTONIO, TX	COLONIAL HEIGHTS/ PETERSBURG, VA Appomatox church of Christ 117 Orange Avenue (Pt. Lee Area) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Lenny Chapman (804) 526-6464 or (804) 675-0216
Pruett and Lobit Church of Christ 701 North Pruett St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:40 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jesse Flowers (281) 422-5926; (281) 515-8939; (713) 818-1321	EL PASO, TX Eastridge Church of Christ 3277 Pendleton Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 PM. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (915) 855-1524	(Southwest) Murphy Rd. Church of Christ 2025 Murphy Rd., Missouri City Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gene Mabry (281) 265-8071 or 261-5216	McKINNEY, TX Central Church of Christ 1805 White Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Howard III (214) 544-3035	Pecan Valley Church of Christ 268 Utopia (I-37 S.E. Exit Pecan Valley) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Clyde W. Carter (210) 337-6143	NEWPORT NEWS, VA Harpersville Rd. Church of Christ 315 Harpersville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (757) 595–9564
To make changes to your ad, contact us at andyalex@bellsouth.net	FORT WORTH, TX Woodmont Church of Christ 6417 Landview (at Altamesa) Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A.M. Afternoon 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jeff S. Smith (817) 292-4908 or 426-2242 woodmontchurch.org	HOUSTON, TX Spring Woods Church of Christ 9955 Neuens Rd. at Witte Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist (281) 794-0837	MESQUITE, TX (East Dallas) Westlake Church of Christ 427 Gross Rd., 75149 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Evening 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ashley Sharkey (972) 285-1610	SHERMAN, TX Westwood Village Church of Christ 314 N. Tolbert Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Fred Watkins	RICHMOND (Metro), VA Courthouse Church of Christ Courthouse Rd. at Double Creek Ct (2.2 miles S of Rt. 288) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gene Tope (804) 790-1629 www.courthousechurchofchrist.com
BAYTOWN, TX East Side Church of Christ 3107 N. Highway 146 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Kris Emerson (281) 427-8729; 837-9259 422-8800; 573-1940	FORT WORTH, TX West Side Church of Christ 6110 White Settlement Rd. 76114 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (817) 738-7269	HUNTINGTON, TX Church of Christ P.O. Box 858 One block north of U.S. 69 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (936) 422-4640	MIDLAND, TX Woodcrest Drive Church of Christ 1401 Woodcrest Drive Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 PM. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Danny Hooper (432) 699-0955 (432) 694-3482	TEMPLE, TX Leon Valley Church of Christ 4404 Twin City Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Warren King (254) 939-0682 or 228-5038 www.biblemoments.org	RICHMOND, VA Forest Hill Church of Christ 1208 W, 41st St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Bise, Jr. (804) 233-5959
BEAUMONT, TX Dowlen Rd. Church of Christ 3060 Dowlen Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Eveniesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Max Dawson & David Banning (409) 866-1996	FRISCO, TX (North Dallas-Plano) 4220 Preston Rd. (Holiday Inn) Call for times of services. Glenn Henderson (972) 378-3621 Rex Payne (972) 740-1486 Al Payne (972) 712-9274	IRVING, TX Westside Church of Christ 2320 Imperial Dr. (closest to D/FW Airport) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Roberts (972) 986-9131 www.JustChristians.com	Subscribe Today! Truth Magazine 1-800-428-0121	TEMPLE, TX Southside Church of Christ 2003 S. 5th Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (254) 773-0931 254	RICHMOND, VA West End 4909 Patterson Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Stacy Crim (804) 358-7933
CLEVELAND, TX Church of Christ 310 E. Houston Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Davis (281) 592-5676	GRANBURY, TX Old Granbury Rd. Church of Christ 4313 Old Granbury Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (817) 573-6878	LANCASTER, TX Dallas Avenue Church of Christ 601 N. Dallas Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (972) 227-1119 or (817) 371-5776 Iklice@sbcglobal.net wwwdallasavenuechurchofkrist.org	NACOGDOCHES, TX Stallings Dr. Church of Christ 3831 N.E. Stallings Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Randy Harshbarger & Jay Taylor	WACO, TX Sun Valley Church of Christ 340 E. Warren St. (In Hewitt, a suburb of Waco) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marc Smith (254) 666-1020 or 420-1484	RIDGEWAY, VA Church of Christ 2970 Old Leaksville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ken Sils (276) 956-1150 or 956-6049
CLUTE, TX Church of Christ 343 S. Main Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (979) 265-5283 or 265-2933	Shop online at truthbooks.net	LANCASTER, TX Pleasant Run Church of Christ 831 W. Pleasant Run Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 227-1758 or 227-2598	ODESSA, TX Crescent Park Church of Christ 1415 Royalty Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dale Garrison (432) 366-5071 or 413-7759	THE WOODLANDS, TX Woodlands Church of Christ P.O. Box 7664-77380 3987 Wellman Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (281) 367-2099 www.simplychristians.net	ROANOKE, VA Blue Ridge Church of Christ 929 Indiana Ave: N.E. 5 min. from Roanoke Convention Center 1st Lesson 9:15 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (540) 344-2755
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX Hwy. 9 Church of Christ 1146 Golla Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A.M. Worship 12:00 P.M. (361) 289-1559	HOUSTON, TX Fry Rd. Church of Christ 2510 Fry Road (77084) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Michael McLemore (713) 686-0788	LUBBOCK, TX Indiana Ave. Church of Christ 6111 Indiana Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Brett Hogland (806) 795-3377 or 928-9262	PLANO, TX (North Dallas Suburb) Spring Creek Church of Christ 2100 W. Spring Creek Pkwy. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 517-5582 or 231-3748 www.planochurch.org	CHESAPEAKE, VA Tidewater Church of Christ 217 Taxus St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Schlos (757) 436-6900	STAFFORD, VA Stafford Church of Christ 767 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evanglist: Mark McNabb (540) 891-1215
DICKINSON, TX Church of Christ 2919 FM 517 Rd. E. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 9:45 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Craig Meyer (281) 534-4870	HOUSTON, TX Bellaire Church of Christ 8001 South Rice Ave. Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. www.bellairechurchofchrist.org (713) 668-4810	LUFKIN, TX Timberland Dr. Church of Christ 912 S. Timberland Dr. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Harold Hancock James W. Adams 6:34-7110 or 6:32-7070	ROSENBERG, TX Church of Christ 908 Frost St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jason Trick Bldg: (281) 232-4425 Cell: (832) 228-8973	CHESTER, VA Chester Church of Christ 12100 Winfree St. (Central to Richmond, Hopewell, Petersburg, & Colonial Heights) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Church Building: (804) 796-2374 Also: (804) 497-3638 or (804) 271-0877	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA Southside Church of Christ 5652 Haden Rd. Worship 11:00 A.M. Robert Mallard (757) 464-4574

38 TRUTH MAGAZINE • JANUARY 2010

VIRGINIA THROUGH OVERSEAS

	CHARLESTON, WV	
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA		
Virginia Beach Church of Christ	Church of Christ	RAVENSWOOD, WV
	873 Oakwood Rd.	Church of Christ
Pembrook Manor Recreation	Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	1101 Gallatin St.
Building		
4452 Hinsdale St.	Worship 10:50 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
	Evening 6:00 P.M.	Worship 10:30 A.M.
Bible Study 10:00 A.M.		
Worship 11:00 A M		Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Evangelist: Jonathan Chaffin	Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	(304) 989-7316	(304) 273-3267
(757) 486-6639		(304) 273-3207
(· · ·) · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	(304) 342-5637	
BELLINGHAM, WA		
		WELLSBURG, WV
Mt. Baker Church of Christ	CLARKSBURG, WV	Charles St. Church of Christ
1860 Mt. Baker Hwy.	Westside Church of Christ	
		836 Charles Street
Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	Davisson Run Road	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
Worship 10:30 A.M.		
Evening 6:00 P.M.	Sunday Morning 9:30 A.M.	Worship 10:20 A.M.
		Evening 6:30 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Evangelist: Joe Price		
(360) 752-2692 or 380-2960	(304) 622-5433	Evangelist: Jessie Daniels
	(304) 022-3433	(304) 527-4438 or 737-3124
www.bibleanswer.com/mtbaker		(001)02/ 1100 01/0/ 0121
SEQUIM, WA	FAIRMONT, WV	MILWAUKEE, WI
Church of Christ	Eastside Church of Christ	Metropolitan Church of Chris
American Legion Hall	1929 Morgantown Ave.	1029 S. 58th St.
Corner of Sequim Ave. & Prairie St.		West Allis
Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	Worship 10:45 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
Worship 11:00 A.M.	Evening 6:00 P.M.	Worship 10:30 A.M.
Evening 6:00 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Evangelist: Steve Wallace	Evangelist: David Girardot
Call for Wednesday meeting place	(304363-8054	(414) 257-3035
(360) 683-2152	(304) 366-4523	Church: 258-8520
SUNNYSIDE, WA		
Sunnyside Church of Christ		CANADA
	MORGANTOWN, WV	
(sound)		Calgary, Alberta
1312 East Edison	Glen Oaks Church of Christ	Northside Church of Christ
	Greenbag Road	803 - 20 A Ave. N.E.
Bible Study 2:00 P.M.		
Worship 3:00 P.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	
Worship 3:00 P.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace	Bible Study9:30 A.M.Worship10:30 A.M.Wednesday7:00 P.M.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813	Bible Study9:30 A.M.Worship10:30 A.M.Wednesday7:00 P.M.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace	Bible Study9:30 A.M.Worship10:30 A.M.Wednesday7:00 P.M.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M (403) 276-8088
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793 MOUNDSVILLE, WV	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M (403) 276-8088 CANADA
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 PM (403) 276-8088 CANADA Jordan, Ontario
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793 MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedre St	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M (403) 276-8088 CANADA Jordan, Ontario Jordan Church of Christ
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813 www.sunnysidechurchofchrist.com	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793 MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedar St.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M (403) 276-8088 CANADA Jordan, Ontario Jordan Church of Christ
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813 www.sunnysidechurchofchrist.com	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793 MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedar St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M (403) 276-8088 CANADA Jordan, Ontario Jordan, Church of Christ 2861 Regional Road 81 (Highway
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813 www.sunnysidechurchofchrist.com	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793 MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedar St.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 PM (403) 276-8088 CANADA Jordan, Ontario Jordan Church of Christ 2861 Regional Road 81 (Highway Bible Study 10:00 A.M.
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813 www.sunnysidechurchofchrist.com	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793 MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedar St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M (403) 276-8088 CANADA Jordan, Ontario Jordan Church of Christ 2861 Regional Road 81 (Highway Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M.
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813 www.sunnysidechurchofchrist.com	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793 MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedar St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M (403) 276-8088 CANADA Jordan, Ontario Jordan Church of Christ 2861 Regional Road 81 (Highway Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M.
Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813 www.sunnysidechurchofchrist.com	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793 MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedar St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Mid-week 7:30 P.M.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 PM (403) 276-8088 CANADA Jordan, Ontario Jordan Church of Christ 2861 Regional Road 81 (Highway Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 PM.
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Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist. Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813 www.sunnysidechurchofchrist.com Shop online at truthbooks.net Place Your Ad Today! CHARLESTON, WV Church of Christ 522 Daugherty St. Bible Study 1:000 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793 MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedar St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Mid-week 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Brian Price (304) 845-2820, 845-4940 MOUNDSVILLE, WV Roberts Ridge Church of Christ Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Don Terrill: (304) 845-2344 Mail to: Sam Wood (304) 845-2202 406 Jefferson Ave. Glen Dale, WV 26038 PARKERSBURG, WV Marrtown Church of Christ 825 Marrtown Road	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 PM (403) 276-8088 CANADA Jordan, Ontario Jordan Church of Christ 2861 Regional Road 81 (Highway Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 PM. Wednesday 7:00 PM. Preacher - Chad Comfort (905) 562-4739 CANADA Hamilton, Ontario 126 Ottawa St. N. Mailing Address: 33 Highcliffe Ave. L9A 3L3 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Monday 7:00 PM. Steve Rudd, Evangelist (905) 575-8437 To make changes
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Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist. Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813 www.sunnysidechurchofchrist.com Shop online at truthbooks.net Place Your Ad Today! CHARLESTON, WV Church of Christ 522 Daugherty St. Bible Study 10:50 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793 MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedar St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Mid-week 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Brian Price (304) 845-2820, 845-4940 MOUNDSVILLE, WV Roberts Ridge Church of Christ Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Don Terrill: (304) 845-2344 Mail to: Sam Wood (304) 845-2202 406 Jefferson Ave. Glen Dale, WV 26038 PARKERSBURG, WV Marrtown Church of Christ 825 Marrtown Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M (403) 276-8088 CANADA Jordan, Ontario Jordan Church of Christ 2861 Regional Road 81 (Highway Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Preacher - Chad Comfort (905) 562-4739 CANADA Hamilton, Ontario 126 Ottawa St. N. Mailing Address: 33 Highcliffe Ave. L9A 313 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Monday 7:00 P.M. Steve Rudd, Evangelist (905) 575-8437 To make changes to your ad,
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Hour	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
8:00		Historical Controversies Over Leadership: Ron Halbook	Women in Business Meetings: Tom Roberts	The Authority of Elders: Do They Rule Only By Example? Tom O'Neal
9:00		The Family Qualifications: Bobby Graham	The Other Qualifications: Bobby Schrimshire	Qualifications As They Relate to the Work: Randy Blackaby
10:00		The Work of Elders: Sherrel Mercer	The Elders' Relationship to the Church (including terms used to describe elders): Jesse Flowers	Abuse of the Elders' Authority: Jerry Blount
10:00		Children's Class: Arranged by Donna Halbrook	Children's Class	Children's Class
11:00		Training Men to Serve: Gary Watt	The Terms Used to Describe Elders: Mike Vierheller	The Work of Deacons: Terrell Bunting
11:00		Qualifications of Elders/Deacons' Wives: Sherelyn Mayberry	Women's Role in the Church: Kate Mitchell	Great Women I Have Known: Wendy King
2:00 - 3:00 p.m.		Open Forum		Open Forum
7:30 p.m.	Leaders in the Church: Peter Steve Wolfgang	Leaders in the Church: Paul Bruce Key		Leaders in the Church: Barnabas Steve Niemeier