



Berryville Bible Beacon

How Do I Study the Bible?

There are many people who ask this question today. It is difficult to answer such a question in so short a space as I have in the bulletin, but I am going to try to give a few practical bits of information that I hope you will find valuable as you purpose to study the scriptures on a regular basis.

First, when you study the Bible, you should pray. Prayer sets the right tone for your Bible study. It places you in a respectful position of God's word and invokes God's guidance. Prayer focuses you on the task at hand. Prayer will cause you to shut out all other purposes you may have in mind. Prayer helps Bible study!

Second, reading the Bible properly is important. John pronounced a blessing upon those who read (Revelation 1:3). Ezra read from the book of the Law to all the people (Nehemiah 8:8). You can't study without reading in one form or another, but be warned, reading is not necessarily the same thing as studying. Many people "read" the Bible without studying. To truly study the Bible, we must put on our thinking caps and meditate about what we have read. Reading out loud will help you to think about the words you are reading.

Third, when studying the Bible, ask yourself questions. Who am I reading about? What is he doing, saying, teaching? When is he doing it? Where are they at? Why is he writing this? Asking questions about the text is a good way to help yourself find the answers in the text that you are looking for. Get out a piece of paper when you study and write down questions that come to your mind. If you don't understand something, then write down why you don't understand it. Many times when you write these types of things, the answers become more evident.

Fourth, keep a good dictionary handy.

When studying we often come across words that we don't understand. We need to understand those words in order to study. That's what a dictionary is for, to help us understand the meaning. Bible dictionaries are even more helpful, because they tend to define words in the context of the original culture in which they were used. Bible dictionaries also offer help in understanding weights and measures of Bible times, as well as giving information regarding proper names in the Bible. Understanding the meaning of words and names goes a long way in helping us study the Bible and learn more about God.

Fifth, try studying the Bible by topic. There are several helps and aids that you can acquire that will expedite your study this way. Most Bibles have an abridged concordance in the back. A concordance groups Bible verses based upon key words. So if you want to know more about the topic of "love," you just look up that topic and study the scriptures in which that word is found. You can also acquire more comprehensive concordances that index every single word in the Bible. These books are great when you are trying to study the Bible by topic.

Sixth, another way to study the Bible is by cross reference. Many Bibles have cross references in the text. These are often indicated by small letters. When you see one, look up the associated scripture and try to think of how those two scriptures relate. Maybe they speak about the same person; maybe the same subject; maybe they just have the same word, but it is used in a different sense in each passage. There are also larger books that contain nothing but cross references to Bible verses. Studying cross references can give you valuable information regarding one particular passage of the Bible.

Kevin Cauley

An Open Can!

It has been said that you can't keep a good man down. When I consider such individuals I can't help but think of the Apostle Paul. He had a marvelous way of looking at things. If there was ever an optimist it was him. He had zeal for the truth. He had enthusiasm for his ministry. He had a power to press on regardless of what he faced. He maintained an openness to the hand of God working in and through his life. And with such an attitude, God used Paul in powerful ways.

I came across the following clipping from an old church bulletin:

Did is a word of achievement.
 Won't is a word of retreat.
 Might is a word of bereavement.
 Can't is a word of defeat.
 Ought is a word of duty.



Try is a word of each hour.
 Will is a word of beauty.
 Can is a word of power.

(Author Unknown)

Regardless of what Paul faced, he maintained the following resolve: "I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH HIM WHO STRENGTHENS ME." (Philippians 4:13 ESV)

Paul had a will to work for God. He was willing to be used by God in reaching out with the Good News of Jesus. His power was not his own. The power Paul knew and relied upon was beyond himself, and so, for him, CAN was truly a word of power.

There are a lot of things we CAN do. However, are we willing? And is the power of God associated with the CAN? May we willingly submit to God that our life will be useful for His service. And as we do so, let us remember it is not our own strength on which we have to depend. Rather, because God is with us and for us we CAN do what He has called us to do.

Have a great day WITH GOD'S POWER IN OUR CAN!

Carl Hanson
 Via teEn MAIL

Servants To Whom We Obey

First thought, in mind, he did create,
 To sin, and never to abate,
 Ensnaring mankind with his bait,
 Eternal hell, for them to wait.

In flesh, His glory did abase,
 And suffered for the human race,
 Captivity to sin erase,
 Eternal life, to all, begraced.

To ponder life, we all do come.
 Habitually sin, the choice to some.
 The others, grace from the Son.
 In bondage to the other, or the One.

Kevin Cauley

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"
 (Romans 6:16)



Sermons and Study Topics

Week of 02/01/04

Morning	Great Statements About Faith
Scripture.....	Hebrews 11:6
Evening	Lessons from the Life of Samuel
Scripture.....	1 Samuel 3:1-10
Sunday Morning Bible Study.....	The Book of Hebrews
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	Our Passion

Weekly Record

Week of 1/25/04

Sunday Class.....	57
Sunday A.M.	74
Sunday P.M.	62
Wednesday	50
Contribution.....	\$1388.71
Budget.....	\$1760.00

When Daddy Prays

W

hen Daddy prays, he doesn't use
The words the preacher does;
There's different things for different days
But mostly it's for us.

When Daddy prays, the house is still,
His voice is slow and deep.
We shut our eyes, the clock ticks loud.
So quiet we must keep.

He prays that we may be good boys,
And later on good men.
And then we squirm, and think we won't
Have any quarrels again.

You'd never think, to look at Dad,
He once had tempers too.
I guess if Daddy needs to pray.
We youngsters surely do.

Sometimes the prayer gets very long
And hard to understand
And then I wiggle up quite close

And let him hold my hand.

I can't remember all of it
I'm little yet, you see.
But one thing I cannot forget
My Daddy prays for me!

Author Unknown
Via Ward Street church of Christ



Kevin's Korner

I can't believe that January is already gone. One twelfth of the year has already passed us by. Are we spending our hours for God? Are we engaging in selfish pursuits of the flesh? Where does our time go each day? We have eleven more months to be more dedicated and more zealous for the Lord's will this year. Let's use them well!

This is leap year, so we have one extra day this year to serve the Lord! That day will be Sunday, February 29th, 2004. Yes, February, this year, has five Sundays. You should already know where I am going with this. That will be the day that we sing at the nursing home. I hope you will start making your plans now to come to the nursing home and sing with the residents there. They do enjoy it when we come!

Yesterday morning we met the Cub Scouts down at the public library here in Berryville. Austin and I registered and got our library cards. So we checked out a few books. Austin got some books on the subject of volcanoes. The kids have science projects due by February 18th and I think that he is going to do his on the different layers of the earth. Ever since we watched the movie, "The Core" he has been fascinated with it.

Much thanks to Larry and Susan Elliott for inviting us over to their house yesterday evening. Our meal of BBQ chicken was really tasty.

The church purchased a new computer for the office this past month and it just came in this past week. I have been "tweaking" it to do all of the things that we purchased it to do. It is really a nice system and will help much in the work here at Berryville. In fact, this bulletin that you are read-

ing was completely put together on the new computer. In addition to that, it will help us in publishing our web site, tracking our digital photos, teaching people on the Internet, answering Bible questions, preparation of sermons, and the list goes on and on. I express my gratitude to the congregation for their liberal giving and to the elders for seeing the need to help me in my work here. Thank you.

Elders:

Clay Bozarth, Leon Duncan,
Bruce Foster, Bill Fort, Glenn
Quigley

Deacons:

Ken Smith, Brent Stevens,
Rusty Windle.

News, Notes, and 'Noucements

- We are truly thankful to God for the wonderful new Lord's day that he has given us today to worship him in Spirit and in Truth!
- Let us remain constant in prayer for the following individuals: Brian Guess, Donna Henderson, Chris Pinkley.
- Remember our shut-ins in your prayers: Curtis and Opal Hull, Edith Mischler, Mary Patterson, Art Roberts.
- Our youth devotional is tonight here at the church building. Please bring drinks, chips, and chocolate for Rusty.
- Next Sunday afternoon, the church has been invited to Rex and Helen Gentry's golden anniversary. They have now been married for 50 years. What a great accomplishment. The reception is at the church building starting at 2:00 PM. Let's all go and congratulate them.
- Seems like we just had questions and answers a week ago, but they are coming up again. Next week will be our regular question and answer time. Please get those question in the box this week.
- There will be a sweetheart's banquet in Joplin on the 19th. If you wish to go, please tell Kevin before the 9th.
- The month has five Sundays. Please make your plans to sing at the nursing home on the 5th Sunday of this, yes this month.
- The pantry item for this week is Green Beans.



Welcome!

To the Berryville church of Christ.

Family Times for Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:..... 9:30 AM
 Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM
 Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00 PM
 Ladies Bible Class: 10:30 AM
 Wed. Evening Bible Class: 7:00 PM

Serving Each Other

	February 1st, 2004	February 8th, 2004
Sunday Morning		
Songs:	Ken Smith	Brent Stevens
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Leon Duncan	Bruce Foster
Scripture Reading:	Perry Foster	Ray Duncan
Lord's Table	Clay Bozarth	Bill Fort
	Brent Stevens	Ken Smith
(assist)	Jack Gentry	Brandon Foster
	Matt Bassing	John Gass
Closing Prayer	Glenn Quigley	Dan Hand
Sunday Evening		
Songs:	Rusty Windle	Bruce Foster
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Bob Moore	Dale Pinkley
Scripture Reading:	Bruce Foster	Matt Bassing
Lord's Table	Brandon Foster	Rusty Windle
	Ray Duncan	Sandy Nieves
Closing Prayer	Dale Pinkley	Perry Foster
Wednesday		
Songs:	Clay Bozarth	Hugh Atchley
Opening Prayer:	Kevin Cauley	Clay Bozarth
Invitation:	Rusty Windle	Bill Fort
Closing Prayer:	Bill Fort	Glenn Quigley