

Remember in Prayer:

The Sick:

Jean Tanksley is at home recovering from rotator cuff surgery.

Billy Creek, Dorothy Shaver's brother, is in serious condition at Skyline Medical Center's Intensive Care Unit.

Julie Smith is undergoing a series of tests due to some health concerns.

Carolyn Lowder underwent an MRI of her neck due to worsening problems with her hands. She is scheduled to discuss the results with a surgeon this week.

Johnny Adams, Anita Carman's uncle, is awaiting results of a biopsy to determine if cancer has returned.

John Pryor, Clara's Burkett's son, had a stroke and is undergoing rehabilitation.

Continue to remember those recovering from sickness, surgery and those dealing with cancer or chronic illness, including **Brownie Spicer, Karen Shelton, Xenna Gooch, Burton Brown (Betty's brother), Cecelia O'Brien, Lucille Hall (Ethel's mother) and James Tanksley.**

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." Hebrews 13:16

News & Notes:

--**Group 3** will meet today in the Library after the morning service.

--Remember the **bridal shower** for Amy is this afternoon from 2:00 - 4:00 at the Driver's home.

--**Congratulations** to the Felker family on the arrival of **Lola Claire**, born on February 26 to David & Emily. Lola weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces, and was 19 inches long.

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The foreman of a wrecking crew, when asked why he had such a small crew of workers to tear down a huge building, said "It takes fewer men to tear down than it does to build." HmMMMM! (from "That's Life" column by Dee Bowman, *Christianity Magazine*)

ELDERS: Doug Driver
Johnny Felker
DEACONS: Ralph Brown
Mark Claypool

 **Service Times**
SUNDAY
Bible Study—9:00 am
Worship—9:55 am & 6:00 pm
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study 7:00 pm

Perry Heights Weekly Bulletin

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Nashville, TN 37214
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"...let us consider how we may encourage one another"
Heb. 10:24

March 8, 2009

How Do I Study the Bible?

"If you don't know where you are going, how are you going to know when you get there?"

That statement emphasizes well the need to plan in any field of endeavor. It is especially true in Bible study. Knowledge of the Scriptures does not result from sporadic, haphazard Bible reading. It comes from diligent, planned effort. You can know the Scriptures but you must work at it. There are several elements involved in effective Bible study. We will briefly discuss some of them in this article. I pray you will realize that being a faithful Christian begins with being a diligent Bible student.

Believe the Bible is Understandable

The men who recorded the Bible sure thought they were writing so that people could understand (Luke 1:1-4; Ephesians 3:3-4; 1 John 5:13). You are beginning a study of a book authored by your Creator. If anyone can communicate with you, He can.

Be Committed

Successful Bible study must always begin with commitment. To understand God's word, you must truly desire His teachings (John 7:17). That means an unflinching commitment to Bible study. Wanting to study is as important as the actual study itself. A lot of people read the Bible. Not many study it.

Prepare for Bible Study

In many ways, effective Bible study is like effective study of any other book. We must approach it logically and systematically. Good Bible students plan their study. They have a regular time and place to study. They set definite goals, including how long to spend on a certain book or topic and what they hope to accomplish from a particular study. Goal

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Preacher's Pen points

Getting Rooted by Daily Bible Reading & Study, #2



*If we are to bear fruit for the Lord, we must get our roots down deep into the word.
Reading and studying God's word each day provides the strength
we need to become more fruitful.*

Daily personal Bible reading and study fulfills our deepest _____ needs.

It will _____ the inner person.

But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live on _____ alone, but on every _____ that proceeds out of the mouth of God.'" (Mt. 4:4)

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are _____ and are _____. (Jn. 6:63)

It will _____ us from the lure of temptation.

Thy word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not _____ against Thee. (Ps. 119:11)

It will give us _____ in times of uncertainty.

Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the _____ of life." (Jn. 8:12)

Thy testimonies also are my delight; they are my _____. (Ps. 119:24)

It will give us _____ in times of complacency.

Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our _____, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. Therefore let him who thinks he stands _____ lest he fall. (1 Cor. 10:11-12)

Moreover, by them Thy servant is _____; in keeping them there is great reward. (Ps. 19:11)

Get rooted by daily Bible reading and study! Do it because it will enable you to tap into the life-changing power of God's revelation.

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setting is very important. Preparation also involves the added element of praying for wisdom from above (James 1:5). Ask God's help in your study. He will help those who truly want to know and do His will.

Follow Through

Once you have prepared to study and have set your goals, then follow through with your plan. Realize you are undertaking a lifelong project. Good Bible knowledge is not accomplished in a few weeks or months. People who are "mighty in Scriptures" spent years in diligent, prayerful Bible study.

Seek Help in Your Study

Good Bible students seek the input of others, especially in the beginning and on particularly difficult books or topics. Fellow Christians are always willing to help others come to a better knowledge of the truth. There are also good basic Bible study helps available that will be useful for a lifetime. Concordances, Bible dictionaries, introductions to the Bible and Bible atlases are all extremely useful. Be willing to invest in them. You will not regret it.

Practice What You Learn

Perhaps the most important element to successful Bible study is an eagerness to put into practice what one learns. The Scriptures are not truly learned until you are committed to do what it says. Bible study just for the sake of Bible knowledge is pointless. Bible study for the purpose of transforming your life is the most valuable pursuit known to man. Have the courage to change your life to conform to what the will of God says. Then, and only then, will you be truly a good Bible student.

--Steve Patton, Christianity Magazine