

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

# Bible Study

## OUR FAMILY NEWS

**New Sister:** Joanne Kameroff was baptized Thursday evening November 1, 2018. Please welcome her to the family.

**Pray For:** Abby has surgery scheduled for her hip on November 20, 2018, Herb and Jean Watson, Linda Cline, and Peggy.

**Prayers Answered:** Nate's knee is healing well. He should be back to full health soon!

**Pot Luck:** At the Kelly's immediately after AM services on November 11

**Singing:** Singing at the Decker's at 6:00 PM on November 10

**Traveling/Working:** Slope workers, Dansea is traveling outside. Ben is working on Hurricane recovery. Carla, Weston and Bella are outside visiting family.

**Radio Program:** Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program, Sundays at 9am, on 99.7 FM.

**Today's Scripture:** "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." **2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)**

**Today's Wisdom:** "And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books *there is* no end; and much study *is* a weariness of the flesh." **Ecclesiastes 12:12 (KJV)**

Attendance Last Sunday: 89/65 Record: 101

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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November 4th, 2018 BULLETIN for the



## God's Plan of Salvation

- Hear .....Romans 10:17
- Believe .....Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
- Repent ..... Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
- Confess ..... Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
- Be Baptized..... Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
- Arise & Walk in Newness of Life.....Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

—Romans 1:16 KJV

### MEETING TIMES

#### Sunday:

Bible Classes: 10AM

AM Worship: 11AM

PM Worship: 6PM

#### Wednesday:

Bible Study: 7PM

### OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. 3PM-7PM

### COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

2061 N. Merciful Circle

Wasilla, AK 99654

(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:

[www.churchofchristwasilla.com](http://www.churchofchristwasilla.com)

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

## Bible Study

When I was in college at what was then Arkansas A&M College and now is the University of Arkansas at Monticello studying Forestry, I had to develop some study habits that would allow me to be successful. Just to get a Bachelors of Science in Forestry (BSF) required students to complete 140 credit hours of course work in four years and a required 10 week summer school. This is as many credit hours as most degree programs required for a Masters at the time. The class I graduated with began with 40 students and graduated 8. While several of the students failed many transferred into less difficult programs. The dean of the school was renowned for telling the incoming freshmen to look at your neighbor because one of you will not be here at the end the semester. Forestry there was known to be a difficult degree program and only those who truly studied would graduate. Understanding the difference between simply reading and studying and then developing the ability to study was critical to success.

We are told why we need to study: *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”* **2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)**. And Luke tells us: *“And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”* **Acts 17:10-11 (KJV)**. While most of us know these verses and understand why we should study, how to study often eludes us. A friend of mine at the Elizabeth church of Christ in Elizabeth, Arkansas asked my once how does a person really study the Bible. I thought that everyone knew how to study, but in researching to give him a concise answer I found that perhaps I didn't truly know how to study the Bible either.

Casually reading the Bible once or twice a month, or even a few times a week is NOT studying. We can get an idea of what it means to really study by going back to our school master, the Old Testament. In Deuteronomy 17, there is an interesting section. It is sometimes described as “The election and duty of a king” by the editors of certain Bibles. In this section we read; *“And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites: <sup>19</sup> And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:”* **Deuteronomy 17:18-19 (KJV)**. Then in Joshua we see *“And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessings and cursings, according to all that is written in the book of the law. There was not a word of all that Moses commanded, which Joshua read not before all the congregation of Israel, with the women, and the little ones, and the strangers that were conversant*

By: Bill Beebe

*among them.”* **Joshua 8:34-35 (KJV)**. The future kings of Israel were to write a copy of the law in a book and read it every day of their lives. When Joshua read the law, he read aloud every word, not skipping over some nor leaving any out. But Nehemiah gives us better instructions when he says *“And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with *their* faces to the ground. Also Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, caused the people to understand the law: and the people *stood* in their place. So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused *them* to understand the reading.”* **Nehemiah 8:6-8 (KJV)**. In this passage is the key to truly studying the Bible. Notice, they caused the people to UNDERSTAND the law, not just to listen to it being read. Then in verse 8 we are told that they read the “law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading”. This is the essence of study. Reading distinctly. Finding the sense in the passage and finally understanding what God intends.

So, how do we study to really understand Gods will? There are several sites on the internet that give suggestions on how to study the Bible. Some provide better answers to this than others do, but you can glean some good ideas from most of them. Truly studying entails a few things that I think are important. **First**, set aside time to study. Don't just say I will study sometime, but determine when you will study then stick to the schedule. It does not have to be a long period of time, but it should be more than a few minutes. **Second**, pray. Pray at the beginning of your study and when you finish. Ask God to help you understand, help you get the sense of the passage and help you to understand it. **Third**, read and reread the passage. Use a good study Bible to help you compare verses, the Bible is its best commentator. Use a few good commentaries to see what learned men have to say about that verse. But remember what Solomon says *“And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.”* **Ecclesiastes 12:12 (KJV)**. Using too many books can be a distraction. Remember, only the Bible is inspired by God. So although books by uninspired men can be of help they should be an aid to studying the Bible and not a substitute for it. **Fourth**, plan your study. Don't just pick a verse today and another one tomorrow. You can study a book, a series of books, or a topic. But set a plan and follow it.

Lets all determine to truly study the Bible and not just read it. Sit down with the Word of God and dive deeply into it. Who knows you may like it.