

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Desire the Word

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray: Arnold will have cataract surgery this week, pray that that is a success. Abby St Clair, Terri Douthitt , Peggy Beebe needs our prayers. Pray for Herb and Jean Watson.

Traveling/Working: Slope workers. Joe, Beverly and their family will be traveling. Aubrey and Henly are traveling.

Radio Program: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program.

Women's Study: The next women's study will be Saturday October 26 at 1:00 PM at the Building

Evangelism: There are several bible studies ongoing. Check the website and attend if you can.

Today's Scripture: "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:" **1 Peter 2:2 (KJV)**

Wisdom for Today: "Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him." **Proverbs 30:5 (KJV)**

Attendance Last Sunday 79/59: Our Record: 107
For more detail, please go to the web site.

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October 20th, 2019 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..."

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEETING TIMES

Sunday:

Bible Classes: 10AM
AM Worship: 11AM
PM Worship: 5PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study: 7PM

OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

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Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:

www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

Desire the Word

There are a lot of things that we desire in this world. In fact there is an entire industry that is designed to get us to desire certain things. The advertising industry exists to influence what each of us desires. Throughout the year advertisements are changed to influence what we buy. At Christmas the industry goes all out to influence our children to desire the latest toy or game. During the fall, we see the ads change to things relating to Halloween, then Thanksgiving. In mid winter they usually show warm seas, sandy beaches and people enjoying themselves instead of suffering through cold, dark days working in an office somewhere. It could be argued that this industry is what drives our economy by creating desires for things that we really do not need and never wanted until we were convinced otherwise by their efforts.

There is one thing that we should desire more than anything else in this world. Peter tells us what this is; "Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:" **1 Peter 2:1-2 (KJV)** Peter wrote this letter to "... to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:..." **1 Peter 1:1-2 in part (KJV)** Peter wants these Christians to grow, and they can only do that through the word of God. That is why he tells them to "desire the sincere milk of the word". In his second letter, Peter clarifies what this growth should be. There Peter states "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen." **2 Peter 3:18 (KJV)** When we truly desire the word, we will study it sincerely and that will cause us to grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. When we grow in the knowledge of Jesus we will come to learn more about him and his sacrifice on our behalf. The word tells us that Jesus existed before the world began as the Word and as that being He was God and it was Him who made all things that have been made. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men." **John 1:1-4 (KJV)** We are also told by the writer of the book of Hebrews that God calls Him God. **Hebrews 1:6-8 (KJV)** "And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him. And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom."

Peter tells us in more detail how we need to grow. In **2 Peter 1:5-11 (KJV)** Peter tells us this; "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue;

By: Bill Beebe

and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." When we grow as Christians we will begin with faith and, through growth in our understanding of what Christianity is we will finally truly understand love. The person who doesn't grow will forget that his sins were forgiven. On the other hand, the Christian who studies and grows will eventually recognize the depth of the love that God has for us, the cost of the love that caused Jesus to leave His home in Heaven and die for us and the extent of the love that we need to have for both our brothers and sisters, and the lost. In so doing we will secure our calling and election and prevent our falling back into the world.

But Peter is not the only apostle who encouraged growth in the Christian. Paul also encouraged us to grow. In **Ephesians 4:14-15 (KJV)** Paul tells us this; "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:" Paul writes that we should not continue to be children who can be led in many directions by those who would deceive us. He encourages us to grow up by speaking the truth in love. We can only speak the truth in love if we know what the truth is, and we can only understand truth by studying the word of God with an open mind, not holding onto preconceived ideas but allowing the word to guide us to "all truth" (John 16:13) The writer of Hebrews also told us that growth was essential to the Christian. In **Hebrews 6:1-3 (KJV)** we are told; "Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this will we do, if God permit."

We can not sit back and be satisfied that we have been saved through hearing the word of God, believing that message taught about Jesus, confessing our belief in Jesus, repenting of our sins and being immersed for the forgiveness of our sins. We need to grow! God's creation teaches us that things are growing or dying. That choice is ours, grow by studying or die on the vine and be cut off and thrown in to the fire (John 15:1-8).