



NSD

NEWSLETTER

Sunday, October 5, 2008

BIBLE STUDY..... 10 a.m.
“Gospel of Luke”

MORNING WORSHIP..... 11 a.m.
Speaker: Dan Austin

EVENING SERVICE.... 6 p.m.
Speaker: Dan Austin

WEDNESDAY MEETING..... 7 p.m.
“The Parables of Jesus”

... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Col 3:16

There are many who say,
“Who will show us any good?”
LORD, lift up the light
of Your countenance upon us.

You have put gladness in my heart,
More than in the season
that their grain
and wine increased.

I will both lie down in peace,
and sleep;
For You alone, O LORD,
make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 4:6-8

News & Notes

Welcome Visitors. If you are a visitor in our congregation today we would like to welcome you and hope you will stay for a while after service so we can get to know you.

Please continue to pray for our military personnel overseas--**Sam Barton**--and for his family. Sam is due to return to San Diego this Wednesday.

Vicki Barton is visiting in Las Vegas this weekend and is due back on Monday. Pray that she will have safe travels.

Mark Harris is in South Carolina for Drill Instructor training. Please keep Mark and his family in your prayers.

Please continue to keep **Dema Franklin, Ken** and **Martha Holloway** in your prayers.

To love the Lord with heart and soul
To love Him with the mind
Fulfill the first and great command
In Him true peace I find.

To love my neighbor as myself
To love Him fervently
Fulfills the royal law of love
And sets my spirit free

To love my neighbor and my Lord
With all my heart and soul
Fulfills the prophets and the law
And makes my spirit whole

I love the Lord with heart and soul,
I love Him with my mind.
In Him I'll live while ages roll
In Him true peace I find

Robert Fudge/R. J. Stevens

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where the Bible is the source of faith, where Jesus is Lord, where Christianity is a way of life!



Romans 7: 21-25

I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Galatians 5: 16-18

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

1 Kings 3:5-10

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask! What shall I give you?" And Solomon said: "You have shown great mercy to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted. Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?" The speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

Decoding the Mysteries of Life

To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven.(Matthew 13:11)

The experience of many Christians is that when they are new to the faith they are eager to learn more about the good news of God. They voraciously devour the Bible seeking out its truths. But after a while, some Christians become less enthused about Bible study. It's human nature. The very thing that gets us excited one week can become boring drudgery the next week. When it comes to Bible study we often get bogged down in the obligation of doing it. We know we **should** do it but somehow the rest of life's demands close in on us, leaving fewer and fewer hours for us to open the Bible. This is not surprising. Consider what Paul says in Romans 7:21: "*So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand.*" Satan will use any means to keep us away from God and His Word. So how do we guard against those times when we find our enthusiasm for Bible study is fading?

For one thing, we must realize that living a spiritual life means that we have to fight against our human nature. Paul puts it this way, "*For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.*"(Gal 5:17) When we feel the tug of TV, family obligations, physical conditions or other demands we must not let them pull us away from beginning or finishing our study. We must make a commitment to study and fight to keep that commitment. Remember, that we have been given the Spirit for just these occasions--to fight against the things that will take us away from God. Paul tells us that "*we are more than conquerors through Him who saves us.*"(Rom 8:37) So, we know that we can overcome those urges that compel us to abandon our study of God's Word.

Also, we must be like Solomon. That is, we must pray for wisdom and approach the Word with an open heart. (See 1Kings 3:5-10) If we pray for wisdom, God will give it to us. Like Solomon we must meditate on God's Word allowing it to permeate our hearts. If we accept His wisdom with an open heart we will find that our life will change. When we pray for wisdom we receive not only wisdom but peace, contentment and an unflagging need to know more and more about God.

Most importantly we must change the way we **think** about God's Word. Rather than thinking of his Word as something that we have to learn, we need to think of it as the key to decoding life's mysteries. Human beings have a fundamental need to lengthen their lives. We all wish we could live forever don't we? Jesus died so that we **can** live forever. But we must allow God's Word to transform us. The transformation is not immediate, and the process is not the same for everyone, but it will happen if we allow the Word to drench past the outer layer of our skin and into our souls.

Jesus told the apostles they would know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven. God wants us to know the mysteries of His Kingdom. He has given us the key. His Word is the key. We just need to use the key to open the door to Heaven and to eternal life.