

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1280

August 18, 2019

Isaiah 34:16, “*Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read...*”

School is back in session. Assignments are being given and home work is being done. Many books will be referenced and read from. Almost everyday students will need to reference a book or search for information online.

As one gets into college and beyond, it’s not uncommon for a book to be unavailable. It might be sold out at the bookstore and not available in the library. If you go for very long without access to the information in a particular book you need, it can cause you to quickly fall behind in your class.

It is infinitely more serious not to have access to the Bible. Unlike books needed for school, the Bible is freely available to all. It’s available in basically every library, most stores that sell books, and is freely available on every smart phone, tablet, or computer. The lack of studying the Bible is not because it’s not available. It’s because of not seeking it.

When we lose something of value, we seek it until we find it. We want to once again have that which we had lost.

Seeking out the word of the LORD is the most important thing we can look for. It’s freely available to almost everyone on Earth, but yet many never even take one look. Even among those who are striving to follow the LORD, often seeking and reading is rarely done.

Bible study needs to be part of every day. We need much more exposure to the Bible than what we have at worship services. Certainly schools expect students to spend more time in study than just for the few minutes in class. Likewise, we need to spend many hours outside of worship seeking and reading the book of the LORD.

We are fortunate to have free access to the word of God the way we do. This has not always been the case. Amos wrote in Amos 8:11-12, “¹¹*Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:* ¹²*And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find [it].*”

What if a time comes when we do not have such easy access to the word of God? It’s hard to imagine not having access to the Bible, but times change. Authority and social pressure might limit access to the Bible so it’s not as open and free as it is today. Even if that doesn’t happen, other things can prevent us from freely studying the word of the LORD. Our eyesight fades or perhaps, with time, our mind diminishes to the point that we can no longer read and comprehend.

We need to read and study and learn everything possible about the word of God while we can. We will be judged in the last day by those words. Jesus said in John 12:48, “. . . *the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.*”

—Marty Edwards❖

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Alice Thrasher, Steve Seaton, Shirley Parson, Brad Terry,** and **Denise Miller** (the sister of Sharon Franklin). **Enola Zigler**, the aunt of Mike Burd, is recovering from a second surgery for a broken hip and also has heart issues.

She is 97 years old.

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Philippians 3:13, *“Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but [this] one thing [I do], forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before.”*

It’s easy to get lost in the past. Sometimes people live in the past because things were so good for them. Perhaps health was better, family members were still alive, they were young and felt good, etc. It’s easy to look back and talk about the good ol’ days. We are actually told not to do this. Ecclesiastes 7:10, *“Say not thou, What is [the cause] that the former days were better than these? for thou dost not enquire wisely concerning this.”*

Why would the LORD not want us to look back? We do have memories and are able to recall, but we are not to look back and say those days were better. For those who are living in the LORD, the best days are to come. The perfect day will come after this life. Proverbs 4:18, *“But the path of the just [is] as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.”*

Knowing that a perfect day is coming, we need to embrace that and look ahead. We can’t properly serve by looking back. Luke 9:62, *“And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”*

There is a difference between having fond memories and living in the past. We are to look forward. As Paul wrote, we need to forget those
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Sunday, August 11, 2019		
Classes	22	James 5:7-12
Preaching	34	Revelation 10:1-11
Contribution	\$646.52	
Evening	17	Matthew 21:28-46
Wednesday, August 14, 2019		
Classes	12	II Chronicles 26:1-23

Visitors— Aug 11 (AM) Matthew Franklin (Lexington, KY);
Andy, Marsha, Hannah, & Clay
Wagoner (Bowling Green, KY)

Bible Quiz

What was made in Jerusalem invented by cunning men?

Last Week’s Answer— Salt (II Chronicles 25:11)

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things which are behind and reach forth unto the things that are before. The best is yet to come, and will ever be, for those who live and die in the LORD.

—Marty Edwards❖

—God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)