



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.org

August 24, 2010

HOW DO YOU USE YOUR BIBLE? By Riley Nelson

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

Psalms 119:105

People use their Bibles in different ways. Some like a Bible on their coffee table because it looks good. To them it is a piece of furniture. Others have been known to use it to balance their couch if a leg was missing. To them it is a prop. Hopefully you are not using your Bible in any such way.

The Bible is a tool, just like tools we use in all other aspects of life. A carpenter needs a hammer, a cook needs pans, a painter needs brushes, and a Christian needs the Bible. The carpenter, cook, and painter need to know how to use the tools of their profession. Likewise, the Christian needs to know how to use the Bible. Lets look at some ways we can use this most important tool, the Bible.

The Bible needs to be used as a lamp. The Psalmist recorded in Psalm 119: 105,130 the following. “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.” If we will let the word of God light our path we will find life easier to bear. Look about us at how those of the world spend their time worrying about tomorrow, looking for peace and never finding it. Many end up never truly being happy. The one who is wise enough to allow his path to be lit by the word of God will come to know true peace and happiness, and will not spend hours and days worrying about things. The light of God’s word will bring one to salvation. It shows brightly upon the love God has for mankind (John 3:16). It illuminates the Savior who came to give himself for man; It enables man to break the darkness of sin and worldliness and to see clearly the way to a better life. It tells of God’s plan for man’s redemption through Christ. The book of Acts tells how the people developed faith by God’s word (Rom. 10:17). They then repented of their sins, willing to confess the name of Christ as the Son of God, and were

immersed in water for the forgiveness of their sins (Acts 2:22-47, 8: 36-39). This great lamp shines on the path to be taken by the Christian. (Colossians 3: 1-17).

The Bible should be used as spiritual food. Over the years there have been many things written concerning just what is the “milk of the word” (I Peter 2:1-3). Whatever your view may be about that subject, all must agree that the word is needed for growth. Peter also wrote, “But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (II Peter 3:18).” We know that when a new baby comes into the world, he must have the proper food and it must be given in the right amounts. There must be a balance, enough to keep him, else he will become sick. This is true of the Christian too. The new child of God needs a constant diet of spiritual food. As he studies and learns the Book, he begins to grow.

This spiritual food will help them to realize their responsibilities as Christians. It will help them fulfill the great commission, to go and teach others. It is such a shame when it is said of Christians, as the Hebrew writer described in Hebrews 5: 12-14, “For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God...”

We all need to use the Bible to help us understand and obey God, and then to grow as a Christian.

“ As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.”
I Peter 2:2

Are You Plugged In? by Tom Lucas

There is an old story about a man from a small, remote mountain village who visited a large, modern city for the first time. What amazed him most were all the electric lights which lit up the city at night. Being poor, he had little money to bring home a souvenir from his journey. So, using the few dollars he had, the man bought a sack full of light bulbs, sockets, and wall switches. Arriving back in his village, many were curious about these strange items he had brought back to share. "Just you wait," he told them. "When night comes, you will be amazed." He spent the afternoon hanging the light bulbs and sockets from the trees in the center of the village and as it grew dark the villagers gathered to see what would happen. With great anticipation, the man flicked the electric switch...but nothing happened. The village remained shrouded in darkness. The man had the hardware, but no one had told him about electricity. The bulbs and switches were of no use without their source of power.

For many in the world today, this story is an illustration of their life. Many try to serve God in their own way. They come up with their own way of salvation by just praying to God. They worship God whenever and however they choose, rather than the way Jesus instructs. They live their lives away from worship service in a manner that does not reflect the life of Christ. One cannot contact the blessings of God without going through Jesus. Jesus is the power source for the blessings of God. Jesus told His disciples that, "*I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me*" (John 14:6). How do we go through Christ? We "go through" or contact the blood of Christ when we are baptized. "*Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?*" (Rom.6:3). Without going through Christ, you are like the man trying to light up the city without the main ingredient... power. But with Christ, you can do all things (Phil. 4:13).

TELL THE GOSPEL TO A FRIEND

My friend I stand in judgment now,
And feel that you're part to blame some how.
On earth I walked with you day by day,
And never did you show me the way.
You knew the Lord in truth and glory,
But never did you tell the story.
My knowledge then was very dim,
You could have led me safe to Him.
Though we lived together here on earth,
You never told me of the second birth.
And I know I stand this day condemned,
To me you failed to mention Him.
You taught me many things, that's true,
I called you friend and trusted you.
But I learned, now that it's too late,
That you could have helped me from this fate.
You let me live and love and die,
Knowing that I'd never live on high.
Yes, I called you friend in life,
And trusted you through joy and strife.
But coming to this dreadful end,
I cannot now call you my friend.
(Matthew 28: 18-20; Mark 16: 15-16)
~copied

YOUTH NEWS

- Our young men of the congregation will be in charge of our afternoon service this Sunday, August 29, at 1:15pm. Let's all encourage them!
- Jr. Bible Bowl will begin Saturday September 25, at the Verona church of Christ.
- Sr. Bible Bowl will begin Sunday, September 26, at the East Main church of Christ.

"THAT'S WHEN"

When a farmer stops plowing his land, stops planting seed, and stops harvesting, he has stopped doing those things that identify him as a farmer.

When a Christian stops attending the assembly, stops studying the Bible, stops singing and praying, stops teaching others, and stops giving as he has been prospered, he has stopped doing those things that identify him as a Christian.

Are you still a Christian in God's sight? Take an inventory of your life, right now! -Handley Herald
~via Nettleton church of Christ bulletin

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Arkie Grimmatt, sister-in-law of Jerry & Eleta Grimmatt has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Catelyn Smithey, received a good report from her test.

Bill Lyon, is suffering from arthritic spurs in his neck. The doctors plan to treat him with medication .

Bill DePriest, has not been feeling well. He has had some tests run and is waiting on the results. He was able to be back in services Sunday.

Udell Wilson, brother-in-law of Perry Jones is in the last stages of prostate cancer.

Continual Prayer List

Jared Ward, Blake Ables, Betty Adams, Glen Hill, Bill King, Donna Weeden, Sylvia Plunk, J.D. Stroud, Terry Young

Shut-Ins

Jean Drummond, Lessie Bryant, Billy Joe Garner, Laura Mae Harris, Belle Cross, Pauline Smith, Raymond & Amy Vest

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Marie Wells, Sue Collins, Shane Hutton, Corrine Hall, Eunice Mabry, Faye Owen , Anna Davis, J.A. Thornton

Military List:

David Wilhite-Navy-Florida **Barry Wilhite**-Marine-Navy –Virginia, **Jimmie Stutts**-Air Force—California, **Tiffany Erwin**– Army-Camp Rooker, AL; **Aaron Raines**-Army, Afghanistan; **Jamie Vansandt**, Alaska; **Michelle Montgomery**, Fort Leonard, Missouri, **Jim Vest**-Afghanistan

ALL DAY SERVICE

This Sunday we will have an all day service. We will have regular morning services with a meal following at the fellowship building. Our afternoon service will be at 1:15pm, which will be conducted by the young men of the congregation. Please come and enjoy the day with us and encourage our young people.

REJOICE!

On Wednesday night, August 10, Gary and Linda Turner came forward confessing faults and asking for the prayers of the church on their behalf. They wanted to rededicate their lives in service to the Lord. Please keep the Turner's in your prayers as they strive to live for Christ.

We are happy to report that on Sunday afternoon, August 15, Bailey & Ruston Adams were baptized into Christ by their dad, Richard. We commend them on their decision to devote their lives to Christ and become members of the Lord's church. Let's all be an encouragement to them.

“SECRET BUDDIES”

If you are 65 and older and would like to be apart of “Secret Buddies”, please fill out one of the forms that are on the table in the foyer and turn it in as soon as possible. You may give your form to Nicki Weaver or Kathy Jennings.

RED BIRDS GAME

Those planning to attend the baseball game in Memphis, this Saturday need to meet at the building at 2:30. Several are planning to meet at Rendezvous at 4:00pm and have a meal before the game.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

August 24.....Pauline Smith
August 26.....Gary Turner
August 30.....Richard Adams
August 30.....Troy Robertson
August 31.....Rachel Peeler
September 01.....Michael Crotts
September 01.....Eli Reed
September 01.....Novene Robertson
September 03.....Bill DePriest

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

August 29.....Larry & Janet Drummond

Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.org>

OUR RECORD

Sunday School	NA
Sunday A.M	131
Sunday P.M.	92
Wednesday	97
Contribution.....	2,751.21
Budget	\$3,305.70

TO SERVE

Scripture	Bill Botts
A.M. Prayer	Harold Russell
Closing Prayer	Phil Young
P.M. Prayer.....	Randy Wall
Closing.....	Bobby White
Wed. 8/25.	Andy Clemmer
Wed. 8/25.....	Roger Clayton
Usher & Lock	Greg Clayton
Greeters.....	B & A Pounders

PANTRY ITEM: Instant Potatoes

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....	9:30
Morning Worship	10:30
Evening Worship.....	6:00
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00

Elders

Richard Jennings	534-6671
Troy Robertson.....	534-3491

Deacons

Bill Botts	316-2422
Greg Clayton	538-0791
Roger Clayton	534-5240
Andy Clemmer	816-5887
Harold Russell.....	534-4648
Randy Wall.....	316-9255

Minister

Mike King.....	904-705-4206
(as of September 12th)	
Office.....	534-4649

PARABLE OF WHEAT & TARES (MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43)

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD:

- "...The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good (THREAD, SEED) in his field."
MATTHEW 13:24
TRUE OR FALSE:
- "...but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way."
MATTHEW 13:25
TRUE OR FALSE:
- But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, only the wheat appeared. MATTHEW 13:26
TRUE OR FALSE:
- "...The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?' " MATTHEW 13:28
TRUE OR FALSE:
CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORDS:
- "But he said, '(YES, NO), lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them.' "
MATTHEW 13:29
- "Let both grow together until the (WEEKEND, HARVEST)..." MATTHEW 13:30
TRUE OR FALSE:
- "...at the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, 'First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.' " MATTHEW 13:30
TRUE OR FALSE:
- "...He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man." MATTHEW 13:37
TRUE OR FALSE:
CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORDS:
- "The enemy who sowed them is the (FARMER, DEVIL), the (WEEKEND, HARVEST) is the end of the age, and the reapers are the (ANGELS, WORKERS)." MATTHEW 13:39
- "Therefore as the (TARES, WHEAT) are gathered and burned in the fire, so it **will be at the end** of this age." MATTHEW 13:40
- "Then the righteous will (SHINE, SET) forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father..." MATTHEW 13:43

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