

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

5 Day Chronological Bible Reading Program

Week 6: February 3-9

- Day 1: Exodus 16-18; Eph 4
- Day 2: Exodus 19-21; Psalm 33; Eph 5
- Day 3: Exodus 22-24; Psalm 109; Eph 6
- Day 4: Exodus 25-27; Psalm 90; Philippians 1
- Day 5: Exodus 28-31; Phil 2

Week 8: February 17-23

- Day 1: Leviticus 8-11; Ps 110; Hebrews 4
- Day 2: Lev 12-14; Psalm 111; Heb 5
- Day 3: Lev 15-18; Psalm 31; Heb 6
- Day 4: Lev 19-20; Heb 7
- Day 5: Lev 21-23; Heb 8

Week 7: February 10-16

- Day 1: Exodus 32-34; Philippians 3
- Day 2: Exodus 35-37; Psalm 26; Phil 4
- Day 3: Exodus 38-40; Hebrews 1
- Day 4: Leviticus 1-3; Psalm 27; Heb 2
- Day 5: Lev 4-7; Heb 3

Week 9: February 24-March 2

- Day 1: Leviticus 24-25; Psalm 81; Hebrews 9
- Day 2: Lev 26-27; Psalm 112; Heb 10
- Day 3: Numbers 1-2; Psalm 64; Heb 11
- Day 4: Num 3-5; Heb 12
- Day 5: Num 6-7; Heb 13

The Word of God can be in the mind without being in the heart; but it cannot be in the heart without first being in the mind.—R.C. Sproul

Charles Spurgeon's Testimony

“Through the Lord’s restraining grace, and the holy influence of my early home life, both at my father’s and my grandfather’s, I was kept from certain outward forms of sin in which others indulged; and, sometimes, when I began to take stock of myself, I really thought I was quite a respectable lad, and might have been half inclined to boast that I was not like other boys, untruthful, dishonest, disobedient, swearing, Sabbath breaking, and so on. But, all of a sudden, I met Moses, carrying in his hand the law of God; and as he looked at me, he seemed to search me through and through with his eyes of fire. He bade me read ‘God’s Ten Words’,—the ten commandments—and as I read them, and remembered what I had been taught about their spiritual meaning as interpreted by the Lord Jesus Christ, they all seemed to join in accusing and condemning me in the sight of the thrice-holy Jehovah. Then, like Daniel, “my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength;” and I understood what Paul meant when he wrote, “Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.”

For years he remained under deep conviction of sin until one Sunday morning in January 1850 a snow storm forced him to cut short his intended journey and turn in to a Primitive Methodist chapel in Colchester. “The minister did not come that morning; he was snowed up, I suppose. At last, a very thin looking man, a shoemaker, or tailor, or something of that sort, went up into the pulpit to preach. . . . He was obliged to stick to his text, for the simple reason that he had little else to say. The text was, “Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth.”

When he had managed to spin out ten minutes or so, he was at the end of his tether. Then he looked at me under the gallery, and I daresay, with so few present, he knew me to be a stranger. Just fixing his eyes on me, as if he knew all my heart, he said, “Young man, you look very miserable.” Well, I did, but I had not been accustomed to have remarks made from the pulpit on my personal appearance before. However, it was a good blow, struck right home.

He continued, “and you always will be miserable—miserable in life, and miserable in death—if you don’t obey my text; but if you obey now, this moment, you will be saved.” Then, lifting up his hands, he shouted, as only a Primitive Methodist could do, “Young man, look to Jesus Christ. Look! Look! Look! You have nothin’ to do but to look and live.” I saw at once the way of salvation . . . I had been waiting to do fifty things, but when I heard that word, “Look!” What a charming word it seemed to me! Oh! I looked until I could almost have looked my eyes away. There and then the cloud was gone, the darkness had rolled away, and that moment I saw the sun; and I could have risen that instant, and sung with the most enthusiastic of them, of the precious blood of Christ, and the simple faith which looks alone to HIM . . .

Taken from the biography of Spurgeon by Arnold Dallimore (Moody Press, 1984), pages 18-20

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THE BROADCASTER

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF FIRST BAPTIST MENA

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Bro. Vernon Payne

**Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided —
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

Hymn by Thomas Obediah Chisholm

We preach Christ, and Him Crucified.

familylife’s art of
parenting™
aiming your child’s heart toward God

Art of Parenting Conference

March 1st 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
March 2nd 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
First Baptist Mena
Fellowship Hall

*All parents are encouraged to attend.
(Details inside this issue)*



What a difference a couple of days can make. As I write this column I am looking back on a week in which we have seen the pendulum swing as it relates to our fight for life concerning abortion. On Sunday, January 20th we celebrated Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. We heard about the atrocities of abortion in our nation and around the world, but we also celebrated the progress that has been made in the fight to save babies. Our church gave generously to the Fresh Start Pregnancy Resource Center ministry, which is the local organization we believe to be doing the most in the fight against abortion. Then, we saw within 48 hours a bill pass the New York legislature

that made it very easy to murder a baby right up until birth. There is now a very similar bill that is working its way through the halls of

“**Believe the Gospel! Live the Gospel! Preach the Gospel! Share the Gospel!**”

Vermont’s state government. I was personally left speechless for some time after learning this news, and then very angry once the shock began to subside. As I prayed about this I was convicted that I was being a moral relativist. Even though I believe that all abortion is murder, somehow the idea of late term abortion seemed worse to me.

The truth is that we live in a state that is considered pro-life but there are babies murdered everyday in Little Rock. Yes, there has been much progress made but why are we

angrier now? Humanity is made in the image of God. That imbues every life with value. If we are going to be consistent in our biblical worldview we cannot pick and choose when human life is valuable. It is valuable from conception to death and should be defended at all cost. It is my belief that the complete abolition of abortion is possible if the people of God will all live as they say they believe, but my solution may not be what you are thinking. We should be engaging with organizations that fight for life in practical ways. I believe local pro-life pregnancy centers are the best avenue for ministering to women that need to be encouraged to choose life and then supported after they make that decision. The reason I particularly love our local pregnancy center here in Mena is

because they emphasize the sharing of the Gospel. That is the answer. There can be no political resolution to a spiritual issue. We as Christians fight abortion the best when we share the Gospel with people. People that truly repent and believe unto salvation will not only live lives that reflect a biblical understanding of the value of life, but they will influence their children and others to do so as well. Sinners will sin. The enemy will try to kill, steal, and destroy. However, the Gospel will always reign victorious. Do you want to fight for life? Yes, support your local pregnancy center with your time, talent, and treasure. Yes, lobby politicians. Yes, go to the places where abortions are performed and pray and protest. But, if we want to truly fight for life we must point people to Christ who is the giver of true and eternal life. Believe the Gospel! Live



Bro. Russell and wife Sarah with children William Paul, Jack and Luke

the Gospel! Preach the Gospel! Share the Gospel! The spread of the Gospel will do more than any other efforts we can come up with "for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith.""

Til He Comes, Bro. Russell

may be friendships, working relationships or family members. These are the people we see and spend time around on a daily basis. We care for them and know them, so why don't we share the Gospel message with them? And what about your Sunday school class roll? Or the families of the nearly 100 children and youth that attend our church weekly? Now, I'm not advocating that we all flood these homes in the next few weeks and overwhelm them, or that we should all visit all one hundred. What I am saying is that it is entirely doable to find one of those families that lives near you (one that you may already know) and to begin to reach out to them in simple ways and to pray for them with the hopes that you can share the Gospel and that they'll respond in repentance and faith.

3. Place yourself in a position of evangelism. By this, I mean that as you and I have prayed, asking God to open doors of opportunity and we are looking at those doors that are around us, we should also be actively prepared to share the Gospel message. Do you know a good Gospel presentation that includes Bible verses? Do you have a tract to give if you find yourself in a situation where there is not

enough time to verbally share the message? You see, if we pray that God gives us opportunities and are not prepared to take them then we are going to war with no weapon. There's a story of a woman who asked a famous preacher what method of evangelism he used. After he answered and explained his method the woman replied that she did not like that method. The preacher asked her what method she used and the woman said she didn't have one. To this the preacher

Continued below right



1. Begin each day praying that God would lead you to open doors to share the Gospel. In Colossians 4:3, Paul asks the church in Colossae to pray that God might open doors of opportunity for the Gospel to be shared. We too, need to be a people that cry to the Father for favor with the lost and opportunities to speak the life giving message of Jesus. One thing I've noticed about prayer in my life is that more times than not, it changes my heart. So when we pray daily for opportunities to share the Gospel we will be more alert for those opportunities and more sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit. So let us pray each day that God would make divine appointments for us to share His message of salvation.

2. Knock on the doors that are already around you. These doors

Continued on next page

Music Notes

The Westminster Shorter Catechism asks, "What is the chief end of man?" The answer—"To glorify God and enjoy Him forever." A primary means of glorifying God is through singing or making music. We learn in scripture that all of creation sings to the glory of God. Read Psalm 98, and you will find that all the earth "bursts into jubilant song with music" (v. 4), "the seas resound," (v. 7), "the rivers clap" (v. 8a), "the mountains sing" (v. 8b).

When we sing and make music, we join all the rest of creation in bringing glory to our God. As the Gettys write in their book, Sing, "Don't sing primarily because you love singing, or keep quiet because you do not. Sing because you love who made you, and formed you, and enables you to sing.

When we sing together, we minister to each other. I watched a young man sing with the Master's Singers choir this week. He had a huge smile on his face. His arms were extended much of the time with his face turned upward as though looking into the very face of the Creator and Savior as he sang with all his might and emotion in adoration and worship. I was blessed, moved, and inspired to worship our King with him.

Will you let God use you to minister to others in the congregation? You must be present in the service to do so. You must let others hear you raise your voice in praise. If able, take your place in the choir to be a minister of worship to those present as the young man was to me. SING! SING! SING!

- Bro. Vernon

Thank You to FBC

Thank you!

Thanks for the fruit tray & loving us!

The Bob Piarcey Family

Attendance & Giving January 2019

Worship Services	
(SUN AM/PM/WED)	147/44/140
Sunday School	119
Budget Giving	\$25,787.50
Designated Giving	\$2,655.00

Greater Obedience

Hello church, I want to share with you one area of my walk as a child of God that the Lord has really been challenging me in over the last few weeks. That is the area of evangelism. I carry the message of eternal life through Jesus Christ and when I stop to think about how little I share that in my personal life it is actually really shameful. And then, if you're anything like me, what tends to happen is that the shame drives us away from obedience and boldness in sharing the Gospel. But thanks, in large part, to the love and accountability of brothers in Christ I have been giving serious thought to how I can be more faithful in this area. So in this article I want to share these few practical things that I pray will make us more faithful to share the Gospel message.

FBC Mena History Tidbit—In 1958, the church started planning the construction of a new sanctuary. The church purchased property from the City of Mena where the Mena Central School was located. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held on May 5, 1963, and construction was underway by May 15. The building was occupied in October 1964 and was dedicated on November 1, 1964 "To the glory of God, the worship of God, and the development of the Christian life".



Members' Corner

Each month we will be featuring our members in the monthly issue of the Broadcaster. This is a great way for church family to get to know one another. Longtime members, new members and in between, we all have a story to share about how God has worked in our lives. You may be asked to be featured and have your picture made—so be ready! Couples will be featured together. We invite anyone who would like to be included to visit the church office and pick up a Member Fact Sheet and return it to the office.

New Members for 2019

Paul & Sandy Pipher - Joined 1/6

New Members for 2018

Sam & Kaye Heath - Joined 2/4

Erica Snider - Joined 3/4

Nancy Patterson - Joined 3/25

Leilani Day - Joined 4/4

Bob & Denie Mullings - Joined 4/16

Samuel Jobe - Joined 4/29

Gabi Jobe - Joined 6/10

Jack Threet - Joined 6/24

Austin Adams - Joined 7/15

Billy & Dawn Lea - Joined 7/29

Wyatt Barfield - Joined 8/19

Sheila Busch - Joined 9/9

Glen Busch - Joined 9/16

Ernie & Susan Atkins - Joined 9/23

Judith Callery - Joined 12/23

Continued from Greater Obedience

replied, "Well then, I like mine better" Make sure that you know a solid, Biblical based, Gospel presentation.

As I close, let me say that I don't write this as someone who is excelling in this aspect of my Christian walk. I write it as one who is failing, but who by the grace of God does not want to fail anymore. I pray that these simple points will encourage your heart to be a messenger of the Good News here in Mena, Arkansas.

Your fellow servant,

Bro. Kevin