

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

5 Day Chronological Bible Reading Program

Week Thirty-Six: September 5 - 11

Day 1: 2 Chr 29-31; 1 Cor 8
Day 2: 2 Kings 18-19; 2 Chr 32; Ps 67; 1 Cor 9
Day 3: Isa 36-37; Psalm 123; 1 Cor 10
Day 4: 2 Kings 20; Isa 38-40; Ps 68; 1 Cor 11
Day 5: Isa 41-44; 1 Cor 12

Week Thirty-Seven: September 12 - 18

Day 1: Isa 45-48; 1 Cor 13
Day 2: Isa 49-52; Psalm 69; 1 Cor 14
Day 3: Isa 53-55; Psalm 128; 1 Cor 15
Day 4: Isa 56-59; Psalm 70; 1 Cor 16
Day 5: Is 60-63; 2 Cor 1

Week Thirty-Eight: September 19 - 25

Day 1: Isa 64-66; 2 Cor 2
Day 2: 2 Kings 21; 2 Chr 33; Ps 71; 2 Cor 3
Day 3: Nahum; Psalm 149; 2 Cor 4
Day 4: 2 Kings 22-23; Psalm 73; 2 Cor 5
Day 5: 2 Chr 34-35; 2 Cor 6

Week Thirty-Nine: Sept 26 - Oct 2

Day 1: Habakkuk; 2 Cor 7
Day 2: Zephaniah; Psalm 74; 2 Cor 8
Day 3: Jeremiah 1-4; Psalm 130; 2 Cor 9
Day 4: Jer 5-7; Psalm 75; 2 Cor 10
Day 5: Jer 8-10; 2 Cor 11

Continued from McCourtney Missionary Update

We found a vehicle that we would only have to pay a couple of thousand dollars for after our trade-in, it had fairly low miles for the year it was, and the Carfax history report looked great. The 2004 Buick Envoy even test drove great. Since getting that vehicle on Monday, the air conditioning has went out, the battery light is on, the thermostat gauge has peaked out, there is a Bad rattle noise, and the power steering does not work very well.

On top of this, Emily's car is already supposed to go in the shop next week as well due to some problems, so we will be needing to rent a car for a couple of days potentially. I'm asking that you would pray for us as we walk through the difficult circumstances. I'm also asking that you would pray for us to have wisdom as we try to figure out the best car situation. We chose this option so that I (Logan) would have reliable transportation for work and ministry until we could we save up and by a little bit newer and lower mile car.

We know God is still good and we trust that He will provide, but it feels like a lot at the moment. Thank you for your prayers.

Thank You to FBC

Dear Brothers and Sisters at First Baptist Mena,

We would like to extend our appreciation and gratitude to you all for allowing us to use your facility this Summer for our girls camps. FBC Mena is the best place for us to host our camps—all equipped with showers, a great kitchen and room for the girls to run in the gym during our Beauty Boot Camp challenge! We had 29 pre-teen and teen campers and a staff of over 25 women and young ladies who served in our program this year. Girls learned from God's Word and how to live a life that honors the Lord. Thank you so much!
- Created in His Image Ministries and the Beauty Boot Camp Team

Dear First Baptist Mena & VBS Children, We at Masterpiece Ministries of Arkansas would like to extend a Huge Thank You, for all the money you all raised for each woman who comes into our Christ Centered Transformation Home for Women to have a new Bible! Jesus is recorded in Matthew 23:35 as saying "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words by no means will pass away." God's Word is the only thing that once all is gone as we know it will be the only thing that lasts through eternity! His word is eternal and all the universe was formed by His Word! So for you to give us the ability to give God's Eternal Word to these women is Amazing. And just as God formed the known universe and Earth out of His word. He will also transform these women by it. So we at Masterpiece Ministries of Arkansas can't thank you enough. Thank you again and God bless.

Sincerely Brother Brent Furr, President of MMOA

Continued from Members' Corner

Do you have a favorite verse and song or hymn? *Bible verse: John 14:1-7 .“ Let not you heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know. And the way you know...*

Jesus said I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Hymn: Sweet Hour of Prayer.

What is your favorite treat? *Chocolate cake.*
Do you have any hobbies or interesting facts or other things to share? *I guess playing piano is my main hobby. I have been playing in church since I was nine years old. I play the keyboard for Canaanland Vocal Band. I have been teaching piano to children and adults since 1975. I have held several recitals and have had the privilege to hear some of my students play at church. Since retiring I have enjoyed spending more time with my grand-daughters.*

Do you have any thing else you would like to share? *My brother, E.Wayne McDaniel and I were so blessed to be raised in a Christian home. Our mom was our rock.*

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THE BROADCASTER

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They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor. – Isaiah 61:3

**DIXIE
JACKSON
ARKANSAS
MISSIONS
OFFERING
2021**

**CHURCH
GOAL: \$2,000**

DJ

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From the Pastor's Desk

Recently, in a conversation with friends surrounding the many controversies in the Southern Baptist Convention, a fellow pastor pointed out an interesting parallel between this time in the SBC and historical controversy in the church of England. The Church of England in the 16th century was what some might call “Roman Catholic light”. The influence of Catholic doctrine was pervasive and there was a large percentage of leaders in the Church of England that began to call for reform.

A division arose between the proper process or strategy to bring about this reform. The two main ideologies are historically remembered as Puritans and Separatists. We remember Puritans in some ways because of their calls for proper Christian conduct.

However, the reason they were called Puritans is because they believed that the best strategy for reform was to stay in the Church of England and to work for reform within the current framework. They wanted to purify the church, hence the name Puritan.

The Separatists, on the other hand, believed that the best way to bring about reform and to live right before God was to remove themselves from any connection to the Church of England. Both groups wanted to see a more robust, biblical Christianity take root in their land but they were soundly divided on how to go about it. This where we find ourselves in Southern Baptist life. Many churches, pastors, and other leaders are wrestling with these hard questions. Our church has been having these conversations for

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close to a year. As of right now, we have take more of a Puritan stance. We are hoping to prayerfully make our voices heard within our denomination and to see reform come about. Others are making the decision to leave because it is what they believe is right for their congregations. I believe both of these strategies have their place in this fight and many churches that are Puritan minded now may be Separatist minded in the future. I bring this up to point out that whatever happens in our denomination, God can use it all for His glory. The English Separatists included groups like the Pilgrims that helped bring the Gospel witness as they left England for the American Colonies.

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Attendance July 2021	
Month	
Tithes & Offerings	\$26,800.42
Expenses	\$34,917.66
Net Balance	(\$8,117.24)
Year to Date	
Tithes & Offerings	\$218,225.66
Expenses	\$233,193.49
Net Balance	(\$14,919.17)
Attendance August 2021	
Worship Services (SUN AM/PM & WED)	110/43/67
Sunday School	85
Month	
Tithes & Offerings	\$4,097.93
Expenses	\$33,731.97
Net Balance	(\$6,365.96)
Year to Date	
Tithes & Offerings	\$258,323.59
Expenses	\$266,925.46
Net Balance	(\$8,553.21)

Growing Deeper

Dear church,

It's hard to believe that summer is behind us and September is here! Our youth ministry has been back to its regular schedule now for a couple weeks and Vine After School Ministry will ramp back up on the 8th of this month.

In the midst of the crazy times we're living in it can almost come across as dissonant or disconnected for us to press on with these and other ministries. It's not hard for questions like, "Is this really worth it?" to form in our minds and try to steal the joy of service from us.

So I would like to emphatically remind us all that the answer to that question is a resounding, "YES!" It is always worth it when our service is to the Lord out of loving obedience! It is always worth it when our service is centered on the supremacy of the Word of God! It is always worth it when our service is focused on leading others in learning and maturing in the Word!

And the beauty of service is that you don't have to be the one teaching in order for those things to be true of your service. If you drive a van, those statements can be true of you as you bring people to church so that they may hear the Word! If you cook or help in the kitchen, those statements can be true of you as you take the burden of a meal off of those who serve in other areas that focus on the Word! If you help in a class, those statements can be true of you as you help keep the focus on the Word that is being taught!

No matter what you do, if it is out of loving obedience to the Lord, centered on His Word, and to bring others into greater relationship with God, it is worth it! So be encouraged and press on! And if you aren't plugged in serving anywhere, come join in the fun!

Your fellow servant,

Bro. Kevin

Delighting in the Covenant

C.H. Spurgeon, revised and updated
by Alistair Begg

He has commanded his covenant forever.
Psalm 111:9

The Lord's people delight in the covenant itself. It is an unfailing source of comfort to them as often as the Holy Spirit leads them into the banqueting house and waves the banner of love. They delight to contemplate the antiquity of that covenant, remembering that before the daystar knew its place or planets ran their course, the interests of the saints were made secure in Christ Jesus. It is peculiarly pleasing to them to remember the certainty of the covenant while meditating upon God's "steadfast, sure love David." (Isaiah 55:3) They delight to celebrate it as signed, sealed, and delivered! Their hearts often overflow with joy to think of its immutability, as a covenant that neither time nor eternity, life nor death will ever be able to break—a covenant as old as eternity and as everlasting as the Rock of Ages.

They rejoice also to dine upon the fullness of this covenant, for in it they see all things provided for them. God is their portion, Christ their companion, the Spirit their Comforter, earth their lodge, and heaven their home. They see in it an inheritance that is reserved for every soul possessing an interest in its ancient and eternal gift. Their eyes sparkled when they saw it as a treasure-trove in the Bible; but how their souls were gladdened when they saw in the last will and testament of their Christ that it was bequeathed to them!

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The Puritan movement and its descendants brought were used by God to spawn the two Great Awakenings in America and countless other revivals elsewhere. Each of these movements count faithful, Bible believing denominations in their lineage. Our job is to pay attention, be prayerful, and make the best decisions we can as a congregation going forward. God will be in charge of the results.

In Christ, *Bro. Russell*

Continued from *Delighting in the Covenant*

More especially it is the pleasure of God's people to contemplate the graciousness of this covenant. They see that the law was made void because it was a covenant of works and depended upon merit, but they perceive this to be enduring because grace is the basis, grace the condition, grace the bulwark, grace the foundation, grace the capstone. The covenant is a treasury of wealth, a granary of food, a fountain of life, a storehouse of salvation, a charter of peace, and a haven of joy.

Music Notes

As I write this article, there is much happening in our world that is disconcerting. We have seen the devastation in Haiti cause by the earthquake. The situation in Afghanistan is extremely troubling. Conditions on the southern border of our country causes great concern. The rampant rise of crime in our cities gives evidence of the moral decline that has gripped our culture. Listening to these reports, we might become fearful, but I recalled the words of Jesus to His disciples, "See that you are not frightened, for these things must take place (Matthew 24:6). You and I must remember that we live in a decaying, dying world. John reminds us in I John 2:17,



McCourtney Missionary Update:

Please Pray With Us

Even though yesterday we shared how God is at work, we also feel spiritual attacks at the same time and we value your prayers. We are grateful that those who receive this email are continually praying for us!

Sometimes the enemy can attack us in various ways. It may be our finances, our family, our health, or in our case, our vehicles. Over the last couple of months we had a 2004 Camry that we put almost \$2000 in to keep it running and it just never seemed to work. Over the last couple of weeks it started to break down on me more consistently. During this time we have been looking for used vehicles that we could trade the Camry in for, vehicles that would get us back-and-forth where we needed to go.

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"The world is passing away, and also its lusts, but the one who does the will of God abides forever." We have the confidence that God is in control of all the world events. He will guide events to the preplanned conclusion as He wraps up all things in Christ Jesus.

Peter admonishes us in 2 Peter 3:11, 12: "Since all these things are to be destroyed ..., what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God."

As we witness the death throes of our dying world, "Straighten up and lift up your heads, because you redemption is drawing near" (Luke 21:28).

Blessed to serve, *Bro. Vernon*

Members' Corner



Donna Hendricks

Joined FBC on March 14, 1999

Where were you born and where did you grow up? *I was born in Mena and grew up in Hatfield. Mena has been my home for most of my adult life..*

Who makes up your family? *I have two amazing children. Jason, my son lives in Mena. My daughter, Miranda is married to James Maestri and they live in Greenwood. They have my two beautiful grand-daughters, Lydia and Clara Grace.*

How did you come to faith in Christ? *I was saved when I was 9 years old. I don't have an exciting story to tell but I was blessed to have been in church all of my life.*

Tell us about your education and occupation? *I worked at the local pants factory for 19 years before excepting a job at the Polk County Housing Authority where I stayed for 25 years. In January of this year, I began the most wonderful job of all at the Fresh Start Pregnancy Resource Center as the Director of Client Services.*

What areas have you served in ministry? *I have taught Mission Friends, GA's and Children's Choir. I along with some great volunteers have conducted several plays with the children who attend FBC's Vine Afterschool program.*

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