BIBLE READING SCHEDULE 5 Day Chronological Bible Reading Program www.fivedaybiblereading.com Week Thirty six: September 1-7 Week Thirty seven: September 8-14 Day 1: 2 Chronicles 29-31; 1 Corinthians 8 Day 1: Isaiah 45-48; 1 Corinthians 13 Day 2: 2 Kings 18-19; 2 Chron 32; Psalm 67; 1 Cor 9 Day 2: Isaiah 49-52; Psalm 69; 1 Corinthians 14 Day 3: Isaiah 36-37; Psalm 123; 1 Corinthians 10 Day 3: Isaiah 53-55; Psalm 128; 1 Corinthians 15 Day 4: 2 Kings 20; Isaiah 38-40; Psalm 68; 1 Cor 11 Day 4: Isaiah 56-59; Psalm 70; 1 Corinthians 16 Day 5: Isaiah 41-44; 1 Corinthians 12 Day 5: Isaiah 60-63; 2 Corinthians 1 Week Thirty eight: September 15-21 Week Thirty nine: September 22-28 Day 1: Isaiah 64-66; 2 Corinthians 2 Day 1: Habakkuk 1-3; 2 Corinthians 7 Day 2: 2 Kings 21; 2 Chronicles 33; Psalm 71; 2 Cor 3 Day 2: Zephaniah 1-3; Psalm 74; 2 Corinthians 8 Day 3: Nahum 1-3; Psalm149; 2 Corinthians 4 Day 3: Jeremiah 1-4; Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians 9 Day 4: 2 Kings 22-23; Psalm 73; 2 Corinthians 5 Day 4: Jeremiah 5-7; Psalm 75; 2 Corinthians 10 Day 5: 2 Chronicles 34-35; 2 Corinthians 6 Day 5: Jeremiah 8-10; 2 Corinthians 11 Week Forty: September 29– October 5 Day 1: Jeremiah 11-13; 2 Corinthians 12

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The sexual revolution of the twentieth century has not only affected what we are able to observe in the open, it has infected the hearts and minds of men throughout the world who have been seduced in the darkness of their dens by the voiceless images on their personal computers. It is a cultural wave of seduction that has swept the world and will continue to destroy everyone in its path unless the people of God take their stand and live *coram Deo*, before the face of God. For we can be sure that by God's grace we will overcome the world, and for His glory we will transform the world as the Gospel of Christ is lived out in us.

Day 2: Jeremiah 14-16; Psalm 76; 2 Corinthians 13

Day 4: Jeremiah 22,23,26; Psalm 77; James 2 Day 5: Jeremiah 25,35,36,45; Psalm 133; James 3

Day 3: Jeremiah 17-20; James 1

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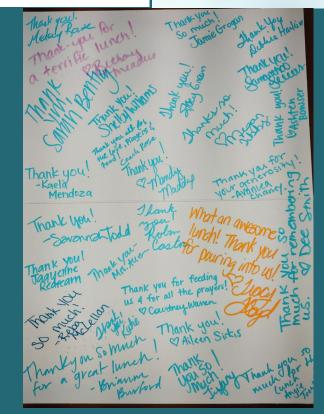


EPIC! Wednesdays Start again September 4th 5pm-7pm

Family dinner at 5:15
Adult Bible Study at 6pm
Join Us!

This is the lovely card
We received from the
teachers and staff at
Louise Durham
Elementary after the
Teacher Appreciation
Luncheon







To my FBC Family,

SEPTEMBER 2024

What is a mentor?
According to the Funk &
Wagnalls Dictionary, the word
is a noun and describes a wise
and faithful teacher, guide, and
friend. It includes the idea of an
elderly monitor or advisor. You
may wonder why I bring this up.
The word "mentor" isn't exactly
found in the Bible, but it is a
vital part of what we see there.
Consider the passage below
from the Apostle Paul as he
writes to Titus:

But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working

at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

Titus 2:1-8

Still no mention of a mentor but the concept is certainly there. Paul lays out God's plan for disciplining the next generation in the church. Older men need to be teaching the young men how to be fully committed followers of Christ.

At the same time, older women need to do the same for young women. Both must be the example of good works, integrity, dignity and sound speech. These are not suggestions but commands from our Lord. Obviously, parents are to lead in their children's

Christian upbringing, but Paul makes it abundantly clear that the church has a role to play as well. Those who have years of mature wisdom and knowledge gained from days of learning from life and from others have something to pass on to the next generation. With that in mind, here's the reason I bring the subject to the forefront of our minds. Study after study tells of an epidemic facing the church. Children who were raised in the church are leaving in droves as they become adults.

In fact, a recent study from Pew Research found that 61% of young adults who had at some point been churched are now described as spiritually disengaged. That means they do not actively attend church, read a Bible or pray. That is effectively two-thirds of our young people walking out of the church never to return. This cannot continue.

Continued on next page

Morning & Evening Charles Spurgeon

Morning: "Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory."

Psalm 73:24 The Psalmist felt his need of divine quidance. He had just been discovering the foolishness of his own heart, and lest he should be constantly led astray by it, he resolved that God's counsel should henceforth guide him. A sense of our own folly is a great step towards being wise, when it leads us to rely on the wisdom of the Lord. The blind man leans on his friend's arm and reaches home in safety, and so would we give ourselves up implicitly to divine guidance, nothing doubting; assured that though we cannot see, it is always safe to trust the all-seeing God. "Thou shalt," is a blessed expression of confidence. He was sure that the Lord would not decline the condescending task. There is a word for thee, O believer; rest thou in it. Be assured that thy God will be thy counsellor and friend; he shall guide thee; he will direct all thy ways. In his written Word thou hast this assurance in part fulfilled, for holy Scripture is his counsel to thee. Happy are we to have God's Word always to guide us! What were the mariner without his compass? And what were the Christian without the Bible? This is the unerring chart, the map in which every shoal is described, and all the channels from the quicksands of destruction to the haven of salvation mapped and marked by one who knows all the way. Blessed be thou, O God, that we may trust thee to guide us now, and guide us even to the end! After this guidance through life, the Psalmist anticipates a divine reception at last--"and afterward receive me to glory." What a thought for thee, believer! God himself will receive thee to glory--thee! Wandering, erring, straying, yet he will bring thee safe at last to glory! This is thy portion; live on it this day, and if perplexities should surround thee, go in the strength of this text straight to the throne.

Evening: "Trust in him at all times."

Psalm 62:8

Faith is as much the rule of temporal as of spiritual life; we ought to have faith in God for our earthly affairs as well as for our heavenly business. It is only as we learn to trust in God for the supply of all our daily need that we shall live above the world. We are not to be idle, that would show we did not trust in God, who worketh hitherto, but in the devil, who is the father of idleness. We are not to be imprudent or rash; that were to trust chance, and not the living God, who is a God of economy and order. Acting in all prudence and uprightness, we are to rely simply and entirely upon the Lord at all times. Let me commend to you a life of trust in God in temporal things. Trusting in God, you will not be compelled to mourn because vou have used sinful means to grow rich. Serve God with integrity, and if you achieve no success, at least no sin will lie upon your conscience. Trusting God, you will not be guilty of self-contradiction. He who trusts in craft, sails this way today, and that way the next, like a vessel tossed about by the fickle wind; but he that trusteth in the Lord is like a vessel propelled by steam, she cuts through the waves, defies the wind, and makes one bright silvery straightforward track to her destined haven. Be you a man with living principles within; never bow to the varying customs of worldly wisdom. Walk in your path of integrity with steadfast steps, and show that you are invincibly strong in the strength which confidence in God alone can confer. Thus you will be delivered from anxious care, you will not be troubled with evil tidings, your heart will be fixed, trusting in the Lord. How pleasant to float along the stream of providence! There is no more blessed way of living than a life of dependence upon a covenant-keeping God. We have no care, for he careth for us; we have no troubles, because we cast our burdens upon the Lord.

Continued from Pastor's Desk

The reasons they give for leaving are numerous, but in my view they all come from a lack of a solid biblical foundation in their young formative years. When the world attacks them as adults with a worldview that is foreign to what the church teaches, most do not have the tools necessary to combat it and fall into the trap.

In fact, a recent study from Pew Research found that 61% of young adults who had at some point been churched are now described as spiritually disengaged.

If you look at the children and teenagers we have in the church today, the statistics tell us that more than half will be gone within the next decade. I am convinced the remedy is to have mature godly people who will come alongside these children and teach them and lead them in biblical truth from God's Word and prepare them for the world ahead. Please know that everyone who is a believer was blessed by someone older in the church who was willing to invest in a young life. It may have been a Sunday School teacher, Bible study leader, or someone else, but we all have to be grateful to God for sending those people to us. Please consider being that person to someone else. Be the willing Christian who will graciously give from the abundance that was given to you.

Many blessings,

Bro. Jim Tennery

Grand Delusions

A couple of years ago I met the pastor of an "evangelical" church in our area. As he told me about the church where he served, he became overwhelmingly excited when he explained that as a matter of principle, his church did not discriminate against anyone. He went on to explain what steps he was taking to ensure that the members of the church were following the church's nondiscriminatory principle. At that point in our conversation, I was in complete agreement with him, but absolutely nothing could have prepared me for what he said next. With great enthusiasm, he let me in on a little secret. Without informing the congregation or the other staff members of the church, he invited a practicing lesbian to greet Sunday morning worshipers and hand out service bulletins. As far as he was concerned, inviting a homosexual to greet his congregation was the supreme example of nondiscrimination. And while it was his desire to help the church become more tolerant of the culture, the church indeed, was seduced by the culture. For instead of teaching his congregation not to discriminate, he taught them not to discern.

For His glory we will transform the world as the Gospel of Christ is lived out in us.

In our culture, we are bombarded on every side The cultural war is raging against the church, and at times it seems that we are losing. The homosexual army is marching down main street U. S. A., and instead of standing our ground and defending the church with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, many have allowed that army to break down the walls of the church and set up camp. Churches that once preached boldly the sacred Word of God now preach boldly the quaint meditations of their homosexual ministers. On another front, that same army is trying to convince us that we should be more open-minded about the definition of marriage between man and woman.

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Music Notes



There is a concept that has been fostered in our churches that runs contrary to what we find in scripture. It is the idea of "volunteers" needed to carry on the ministries of the church. I get that the term, "volunteer" designates unpaid workers as opposed to paid staff. But, it does create a mindset that service in the ministries of the church is optional. I can serve if I want to, if I have time, if I have the energy. We should ask, "What do the scriptures say about our service in the church?

Consider, first, that the scriptures describe followers of Jesus as a body.

I Corinthians 12:27 states,

"Now you are Christ's body, and individually, members of it."

Verse 7 of that chapter states that each member is gifted by the Spirit with some capacity to serve the body "for the common good." The chapter goes on to describe how every members gift is needed in order for the body to function properly.

Ephesians 4:15, 16 further emphasizes the importance of each member faithfully utilizing his/her gifts within the body. Listen to the apostle Paul as he writes there:

...we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love. Paul had stated just a few verses earlier, in 4:11 and 12:

He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ.

We each have a part to play in the life of our church. We are not volunteers in the sense that we can serve or not serve at our choosing. We each are gifted and placed within the body to perform a vital function so that the body is strong and growing. Let's each commit our gifts and talents to serve in the ministries and programs of our church.

Blessed to serve,

Bro. Vernon