

WISE WORDS are like DEEP WATERS; wisdom flows from the wise like a...

Bubbling Brook Ministries

Proverbs 18:4

RIPPLES

BIBLES GIFTED	602
BOOKS GIFTED	556
DISCIPLING VISITS	940

And with great ability and power the apostles were continuously testifying to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace [God's remarkable lovingkindness and favor and goodwill] rested richly upon them all. Acts 4:33

BUBBLES

"Thank you for the beautiful Bibles. We appreciate them and we will cherish them for a long time. You guys are truly a God-send." From all the inmates at the Butte-Silverbow Detention Center

"Thank you for the Bible. I carry and read it every day now. I know what it means to take solace in God now. "

"I really admire the generosity and kindness of Bubbling Brook Ministries, especially helping us less fortunate during times of turmoil and hardship. It's really nice to know that human-kind doesn't all shame us sinners or those who fall short of the glory. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. God bless your kind souls. "



To Give You Life

To give you life, Jesus died and the Father raised Him from the grave! Will you live that life for Him?

For in Him we live and move and exist [that is, in Him we actually have our being], as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.' Acts 17:28

Jesus, who came to us as a tiny and perfect baby, born to a carpenter, lived a human life and worked as a carpenter with his earthly father before His preaching ministry began. In the short time of his ministry, Jesus expressed three offices: prophet, priest, and king. To us, important characteristics of His ministry included speaking and acting in truth at all times, valuing people of all social and economic stations, being motivated always by love and compassion, and offering Himself as complete forgiveness for all of humanity's sin once and forever.

Take a moment to compare your trials and hardships against what Jesus endured, for you. Flogging, beating, burnings, being hit with stones, and mutilation all occurred prior to Roman crucifixion. Soldiers forced with great pressure a twisted crown of thorns that were somewhere around 4"-6" long into the head. They used a whip known as the Cat o'Nine Tails, a rod wrapped in leather, with long strips of braided leather hanging from one end, each strip riddled through with various types of material placed with the intent of shredding flesh with each connection to a convict's body.

With ropes and nails driven through hands and feet, a convict was bound to a wooden post, their arms spread wide out at each side. The result was almost always death by asphyxiation. As the blood and bile from internal wounds slowly leaked into a convict's body cavity, the lungs would become submerged. With each passing moment of complete and utter exhaustion and overwhelming physical pain, a convict's ability to raise himself up a few inches to gasp for air became more and more impossible. They nearly always drowned in their own blood, and those that hung on for long periods of time suffered the added crippling of their legs being broken by the hammer of a soldier, a process used to accelerate death. Roman crucifixion was the most horrendous form of execution known to exist at the time Jesus sacrificed Himself for you.

The perfect Son of God endured excruciating pain and unbelievable suffering. Jesus, the Messiah who's coming was foretold by the prophets of the Old Testament, hung on the cross for around six hours. Soldiers cast lots somewhere nearby for His clothing while the women who knew Him the most, Mary Magdalene, His own mother, wailed and wept at the foot of the cross in a level of misery and grief that is very hard to comprehend. Others who were present shouted at and ridiculed Him. Eventually, darkness covered the land.

He personally carried our sins in His body on the cross [willingly offering Himself on it, as on an

altar of sacrifice], so that we might die to sin [becoming immune from the penalty and power of sin] and live for righteousness; for by His wounds you [who believe] have been healed. | Peter 2:24

Jesus cried out in a piercing, agonized voice and gave up His spirit from His body in submission to His Father's plan. Before sunset and the start of Passover, Joseph of Arimathea, an important member of the Sanhedrin (Jewish High Council), removed His body from the cross and laid it in Joseph's tomb. By decree from Pilate, the Roman governor over Judea at the time, a Roman seal was placed over the tomb in the form of an enormous stone that could only be moved by several strong men. Then, the most difficult wait in all of history began. On the third day, at the very breaking of dawn, Mary Magdalene returned to the tomb to honor her Lord, her friend, her Rabbi, and to anoint and care for His body in the traditional Jewish custom. She, in what we can assume to be a continued state of complete desolation and angst, discovered the tomb open, the stone rolled away. Inside, she encountered two angels who asked why she was crying. Turning away, Mary, continuing to weep, encountered a man that she supposed to be the gardener, not recognizing him to be the Risen Lord Jesus. But when He said to her, "Mary!", when He spoke her name, she immediately recognized Him, turned to Him, and said, "Rabboni" (which in Hebrew means Teacher).

First, Mary listened. Jesus knew Mary by her name, and He spoke directly to her, called to her, by it. He knows your name, and He will call to you by it specifically. From this part of the resurrection story, we learn that we must be intentional in waiting for His voice, His leading and guiding, in order for our lives to be smooth and enjoyable. Imagine walking on a beautiful white sandy beach, a comfortable temperature enveloping your body and senses, and the waves of the ocean delivering His love and joy with each crash upon the shore. Tune your heart to hear the melody of such an atmosphere, then wait quietly, consider Him, and listen to Him with your heart. We must strive to be listening for His voice in every circumstance.

Second, Mary turned. Our life is full of twists and turns. Some of the choices we make in these moments take us down paths that lead us further away from God. We have to be trained by the continual presence and correction of Holy Spirit to recognize these detours, and with His help, immediately redirect our focus. We have to choose to turn back toward Him. Walking with Holy Spirit on the path He desires will always deliver us, for our good, to the right place at the right time. Staying on His path is critical so that we arrive to the best life He has for us, the life that he died to give us.

Third, she said, "Teacher." She acknowledged His authority in her life and immediately surrendered to it. This was also an example of her casting all

of her care and anxiety on him in the loss she initially perceived (1 Peter 5:6-7). In the moment of her realization, she was most likely overcome with unrestrained joy. Imagine yourself in Mary's shoes as she walked out the last days of Jesus' life, His crucifixion, and the reunion with Him. Being present for the horrible event of His crucifixion would have affected one in a deep, incomprehensible way. Discovering the empty tomb and the absence of His body probably invoked panic, fear and confusion. Now, imagine yourself in the presence of Jesus after such trials, and after His resurrection. He stands directly in front of you, speaking to you, loving you, desiring that you enjoy the life only He can provide.

He was born and lived a human life, walked a path of ministry that was riddled with rejection and hostility, was crucified by the very children that His Father sent Him to save, died an extraordinarily gruesome and heinous death, all for you to live. He did all the work! Now, will you decide to live for Him?

"I am the Resurrection and the Life. Whoever believes in (adheres to, trusts in, relies on) Me [as Savior] will live even if he dies; and everyone who lives and believes in Me [as Savior] will never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26

For from Him [all things originate] and through Him [all things live and exist] and to Him are all things [directed]. To Him be glory and honor forever! Amen. Romans 11:36 🌀

FEW PEOPLE SEEM TO REALIZE THAT THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS IS THE CORNERSTONE TO A WORLDVIEW THAT PROVIDES THE PERSPECTIVE TO ALL OF LIFE.

- JOSH MCDOWELL -

**"A little while, and you will no longer see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me."
John 16:16**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR PHONE NUMBER HAS CHANGED: (888) 580-7701

We are blessing Beloveds in 4 states and 21 locations, now including the MT State Prison in Deer Lodge, MT!

Anniversary Drawing: To celebrate our fourth year in ministry, on 3/14/22 we drew the names of one lady and one gentleman from our mailing lists and blessed them with a new Bible! Those gifts have been shipped—congratulations to our winners!

It is always an honor to receive your artwork—send in your pieces with permission to use, and it may be published in an upcoming newsletter!

Please note:

- **We ship BIBLES 2x/month, on or about the 15th and last day. We are no longer providing devotional books.**
- **Remember: an annual reading plan can be found on the inside cover of every Bible we ship.**
- **If you have recently been transferred to a State prison, remember to send a letter requesting our services, so that you can continue receiving our monthly devo packets!**

GIVING


Glorify God with all your wealth, honoring him with your firstfruits, with every increase that comes to you. Proverbs 3:9

All giving is wrapped in love!

CONNECT WITH US

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 Bubbling Brook Ministries

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