

GREETINGS FROM GREENVINE



2 Timothy 2: 15 says, “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the Word of truth.” The King James Version says “Study to show yourself approved by God...” and, “rightly dividing the Word of Truth.” The importance of knowing God’s truth is only as we

study the Bible.

Psalm 1 begins with, “Blessed is the one...whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on His law day and night.”

David also said, **“Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against God.”**

Jesus said, “Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

2 Timothy 3: 16 says, “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for treating, rebuking, correcting and trining in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

James 1: 25 says, “But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it — not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it — they will be blessed in what they do.

I cannot adequately tell you how much we need to study God’s Word.

One of Karen’s favorite sections of Scripture is in 2 Peter 1: 3 - 8, “His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness. Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness; knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Long ago when I was in Sunday school at Prospect Avenue Bible Chapel, we were required to learn the books of the Bible, in order. I'm not sure how many kids these days have any idea of the names of the books, much less their order. I don't know how many times I have said, "Turn in your Bibles to....." Only to watch people flounder at trying to find the particular Scriptures. We need to be familiar with the Word of God.

I recently attended a meeting where mostly pastors from local churches here in Washington County and a few deacons from various churches as well. Along with all the conversation about the truth of knowing the Word of God, one of the pastors said, "I know, I have told my congregation once to turn to Hezekiah chapter two. Most everyone laughed, however, one of the pastors said, "Ha ha! Everyone knows Hezekiah only has one chapter."

There is no book of Hezekiah! Much less how many chapters. This was from one of the pastors here in Washington County. I can only imagine what their congregation knows about the books of the Bible. It often scares me as I visit with many pastors.

1 Timothy 4: 1 says, "For the Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits." He goes on to say in verse 6, "IF you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished by the truths of faith and of the good teaching that you have followed."

At that same event, most of the pastors were bragging on how many salvations they had racked up during the COVID year, and then how many baptisms they had participated in. I thought that it was an exaggerated number, being that most churches here in Washington County are falling in attendance.

My direction, I believe from the Spirit of God, is to teach the Word. Most of all who attend Greenvine Baptist are already followers of Jesus and desire to know more about Him and His work here on the earth. I am reminded by Paul to Timothy in 2 Timothy 2: 1 - 5, "In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, Who will judge the living and the dead, and in the view of His appearing and kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage — with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears ant to hear. They will turn their ears away form the truth, and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

This is a stern warning for us to continue to study God's Word and grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen.

We have so many really good devotionals to read, including, "Our Daily Bread" that we have available in the foyer that gives us a verse and a thought for every day.

I still have several "Military Sticks" that have the Bible on audio that we can listen to at most any time.

Christian radio stations. Christian blogs. Christian books. We even have an extensive library both in the Fellowship Hall and in the office that you can borrow and learn more about the Holy Scriptures.

In 1 Peter 1: 23 & 24 says, "For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring Word of God. For, all people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fail, but the Word of the Lord endures forever."

Once again, we cannot know the difference between truth and lies without being grounded in the Word. That is how we know the truth is. So many people now say that truth is relative and you cannot know absolute truth. If there is no absolute truth, there is nothing worth reading and studying while we live on this earth. But, Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No man comes to the Father except by me."

Finally, 1 John 2: 28 says, "And now, dear children, continue in Him, so that when He appears we may be confident and unashamed before Him at His coming."

One of my favorite sayings is, "Keep on trusting." In order to know how to trust Him we must continue to read, understand and apply the Word of God that He has given to us.

I am so thankful that a part of the work of the Holy Spirit is the preservation of the Word. He has through the ages, kept copies of what was recorded in the Old Testament and from Jesus and His disciples. What a wonderful time to live in where we can adequately and efficiently know what our Heavenly Father has for us in the writings that the Holy Spirit has kept in tact for us to have at our disposal.

Read the Word. Study the Word. Understand the Word. Apply the Word. Use it daily for growth and learning. Blessings upon all y'all. Jack & Karen

Announcements

- Wednesday Night Bible Study -Wednesday nights @ 6pm
- Greenvine's Girls of Grace - Tuesday September 14, 2021@ 6pm
- Men's Prayer Breakfast - Wednesday August 25, @ 7am
- Greater Things Gala - Friday October 22, 2021 benefiting Adult and Teen Challenge



JOIN US FOR THE
Going Beyond
SIMULCAST
PRISCILLA SHIRER

WORSHIP WITH ANTHONY EVANS

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 8:45AM-4:00PM
COST: \$20 INCLUDING LUNCH
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
WOMEN AND TEENS 14 AND UP
REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/3BxK4MD>
CONTACT: wendybethany16@gmail.com

 **Champion Fellowship**
championfellowship.org

Prayer Requests

Byron Rutland - Recovering from surgery

Carol Witte -Beginning to feel better.

Debbie Reed - Recovery on her wrist

Gerri Smart's daughter Terri is beginning to feel better. She received news that her tumor is shrinking

Denny's Sister is in need of a Kidney Transplant

Becky's granddaughter Taylor who has Cystic Fibrosis and is having health issues

Ray and Bev Morris - Bev and been diagnosed with Alzheimers

Sandra Carson's daughter Candace is having some mental health issues

Bob & Sadie Easley - Health issues

Ed Ehring's sister Julie Robison is suffering from Alzheimer's.

Vicky Hoffman - legally blind but her eyes are getting worse

Children and teachers and the new school year begins.

Prayers for those working in health related jobs, for protection. Especially those from our own families:
Karen at St Joseph - Susan - State School - Zella Johnson