

The Parkview Banner

January 18, 2024 Issue

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The Word of God is the ultimate authority for us to understand who God is and what He does. This statement strongly presents the truth about how God has decided to reveal Himself to us as human beings. As I have mentioned before, without God choosing to reveal Himself to us, we would have very little knowledge about God, and would have great difficulty understanding how He works. Our tiny little minds could never grasp the true infinite nature of the God of the Bible. Therefore, God chose to reveal Himself to us more deeply through His inspired Word, so that we would have a written account of all that we need to know about God to guide our lives and theology.

Since this is true, we have a great responsibility as Christians to study the Word of God, in order to know, in depth, exactly what it says and does not say. This is why Paul exhorts us in 2 Timothy 2:15, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” The phrase here at the end of this verse, “rightly dividing the word of truth,” keys in on the main idea of personal Bible study. “Rightly dividing,” in the Greek, means to rightly divide or dissect. The idea here is clear; we want to break down passages of the scripture to get down to the smallest details of what it is saying. Or in other words, we need to be precise.

Another idea to keep in mind when looking at the Bible is also from 2 Timothy. Chapter 3 says, “16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” Paul affirms that **all** scripture is given by inspiration of the Holy Spirit. That means that the Old and New Testaments are inspired by God...every word in them! Therefore, this should give us a more reverent view of the scriptures, so that we look at **every** word as being placed by the Holy Spirit Himself. If every word is from the Holy Spirit, we better dive deep into the study of the scriptures to understand why those words were placed there and even what their original meanings are. Every word has significance and was placed there for a reason.

This even applies to the preaching of the Word of God, too. In Acts 17 we find the people of Berea receiving the preaching of the Word by the Apostle Paul. Here is what Luke noted about the Bereans, “11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.” The Bereans were not content to just hear the preaching of the Word; they wanted to study more in depth to confirm that what they were hearing was true and scriptural. This was not an attitude of skepticism; it was a simple desire to find confirmation of what they were hearing from the Bible.

With all this in mind, we should come to the Word of God with great earnestness, to learn from what God has decided to reveal to us. This means, we need to study more diligently to understand His Word. We also have to rid ourselves of anything that does not match up with the scriptures. So, if there is something we believe that is not supported by the Bible, it is wrong, and we must discard that belief. If there is something that our hearts say is right, but the Bible does not actually teach; we must discard that belief. It does not matter what we feel is true, or what our parents said, or even what traditions we have from our church. The only authority that we must submit to in theological matters, is God and His Word. Therefore, we have to try to throw away our presuppositions to come to the Bible with an open heart to see what it truly says, and not what we believe it says.

This is hard, but very possible for anyone with the right heart.

-Tom



Valentine Dinner for Couples * Saturday, February 17th 6-8pm * We'll Sign Up Soon



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2/1 Jolene Singleterry
- 2/2 Caleb Plemons
- 2/5 Galen McLaughlin
- 2/10 Kaylee Cassmeyer
- 2/11 Rebecca Owens
- 2/12 James Tarbox
- 2/15 Hazel Woods
- 2/15 Clay Elrod
- 2/19 Shirlene Cozzitorto
- 2/23 Amanda Nickels
- 2/23 Lashonda Cassmeyer
- 2/27 Adalyn Tarbox
- 2/27 Lincoln Nickels
- 2/27 Melissa Sanders



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 2/2 Bruce & Dawna Dorough
- 2/2 Aden & Meili Baxter
- 2/4 James & Rachel Tarbox
- 2/6 Ryan & Anne Stubblefield
- 2/17 Danny & Deneva Chaney
- 2/20 Matt & Sara Dean

Sunday, February 25th

All Church **NOON** Potluck

Bring food, we'll share.

ALL Visitors
Welcome!

We'd like to
get to know
you.



FOR THE MEN

Men's Discipleship Class is back
at 6:30pm on Mondays beginning
Feb. 5th

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++

FEBRUARY
Leadership
Meeting —
after morning
service
February 11, 2024





Amazingly (and somewhat unfortunately), a presidential election year is upon us. The candidates will make their promises, assuring us that the future of our country will be brighter with them at the helm, all while tearing down their opponents as they yell over the top of each another in ugly displays of argument that we call debates. The people will hop on social media and mimic much of what they've seen from these politicians. Our country will become more divided. Yet millions, literally millions, of people will put their hope in these people for a better way forward.

Their only hope is the church.

LGBTQIA2S+. Pro-choice. Patrons of the fifteen (according to Google) dispensaries in Chickasha.

Their only hope is the church.

The lost and broken in your families, schools, workplaces, neighborhoods, communities.

Their only hope is the church.

“Their only hope is the church? I think you're confusing the church with Jesus”, someone might object. And of course, that's true. Jesus is their actual hope. Only Jesus can change lives. But a closer look at Acts 1:1 might help us to think about this more clearly. Luke, writes, “In the first book (The Gospel of Luke), O Theophilus (The recipient of Luke's Gospel and Acts), I dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach.” One of the most important words here is began. The gospel of Luke is the telling of what Jesus began to do and teach in his ministry. The implication then is that this second book, Acts, is the story of what Jesus is continuing to do in his ministry. Yet, 11 verses in Jesus is gone! At least as an on-the-earth, living, breathing human. There's 28 chapters to go.

That's because the message of Acts is that the ministry of Jesus is continued through his apostles, but also his church. The ministry of Jesus only began in the gospels. It is continued in the church. You and I are the continuation of the ministry of Jesus Christ on earth. So yes, all hope is found in Jesus, but that hope is spread through the work of Jesus in and through his church.

So again, I say, for a lost, broken, hurting world, **their only hope is the church.**

—Joseph

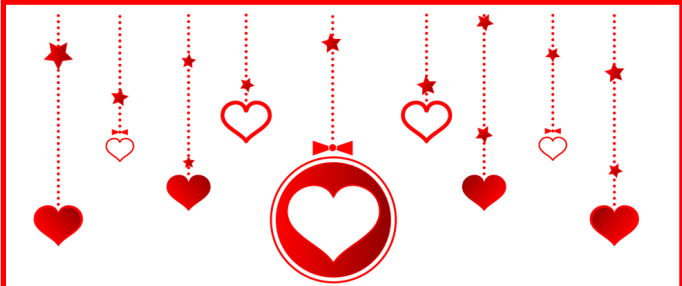
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Sunday School 9:30am for all ages
 SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10:30am (also live online)
 Sunday Night Youth 6-7:30pm

Monday at 6:30pm Men’s Discipleship Class

Wednesdays
 11a-Noon Ladies Bible Study
 4:30pm Prayer, 5:30pm Meal, 6pm Youth, 6:30-7:30pm

Other Prayer Opportunities
 Tu, Th 7:30-8:30pm; Fri 11a-Noon Prayer & Devo
 Youtube parkview christian church chickasha oklahoma



For the Ladies

**Wednesdays from 11am-Noon
 Ladies Bible Study - Lu Stowe,
 Leading**

We are starting a new study entitled
Cultivating a Life of Character
 on Judges and Ruth

If you’d like to get a book, Janie Harris has
 some. They’re \$7.25 each.

Anytime is a great time to study God’s
 word, and doing it with this group of
 ladies has been and will continue to be
 a real blessing.



Saturday, February 24th

at 10am

Ladies Fellowship

at Parkview



We plan to start Wednesday night meals back up on
 February 7th at 5:30pm **IF** we have volunteers to sign
 up to provide a meal and volunteers to clean up the
 Fellowship Hall after the meal.

A **sign up sheet** is in the South Foyer along with
 details about providing a meal.

We are so thankful to those who have provided
 these meals since they started several years ago. It is
 a time of great fellowship prior to our **Wednesday**
 night activities for all ages.

4:30pm Prayer, 5:30pm MEAL (Donations Taken),
 6pm Youth, 6:30pm Adults, Children