



MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

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BIBLE READING TIPS

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*Psalm 119:99-100
I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation. 100 I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.*

Most of us are convinced that we should be reading our Bible more. Unfortunately, that knowledge has not resulted in any improvement in our Bible reading. I wish there was some quick and easy way to get you to read your Bible more, but, alas, there is no such short cut. We just have to commit to Bible reading whether we like it or not, and over time we will find ourselves craving it more and more. You will be amazed at how much wiser you become as you meditate on the Scriptures and strive to practice them. So why not pray and ask the Lord to help you develop an appetite for His Word? And in anticipation of God answering your prayers, I want to share a few tips with you that should help you glean more out of your Bible reading time.

- 1. Set a specific time to read your Bible.**
The time of day doesn't really matter. Choose a time that works best for you. Pick a time when you are mentally alert and free from distractions. Stick to that time every day until it becomes a part of your routine.
- 2. Pick a specific book or topic to read (about).**
You will profit more if you do not just read random passages. The Bible was written in cohesive, coherent blocks. Reading complete thoughts – sequential if necessary – enhances understanding and protects you from forming faulty conclusions.
- 3. Pray before you read.**
The Bible is God's book and His ideas are far beyond our thinking. But God wants us to understand Him. Ask Him to provide insight into His Word through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- 4. Think about what you are reading.**
Pay careful attention when you read. These words are life. Don't just let your eyes pour over the page. Focus. Make sure you grasp what you are reading.
- 5. Highlight or mark verses that stand out to you.**
Some people are afraid to mark their Bibles. But

marking helps solidify the truths you uncover and makes them easier to find again. Go ahead. Mark your Bible. God doesn't mind.

6. Make notes about what you understand the passage to be saying.
Keep a notebook at hand in which you summarize what you understand from the passage. As time (and study) goes by you may find yourself refining and clarifying your initial understandings. This is good. It means you are growing.

7. Plan ways to act on what you have discovered.
This step is crucial! If you read without acting on what you read, you will reap no benefit from your efforts. You may end up with a lot of head knowledge with little life change. The Bible is practical. It aims to affect how you live right here, right now. So read it. But, even more importantly, obey it.

So there you have it. Seven quick tips that will make your Bible reading better. God bless you as you embark upon this journey employing the tips you just learned.

God bless you,
Pastor James

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CORPORATE PRAYER
TUE @ 7 PM
NOV 7
Join us via Zoom video
Please contact Pastor James for log on information at rcantio@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP
FRI @ 6:45 PM
NOV 10
In-person at church.
For teens ages 13 and over

EVENING SERVICE
1st & 3rd
SUN @ 6 PM
NOV 19
Join us in-person at church

KIDZONE & NURSERY
SUN @ 11 AM
NOV 12
These ministries are available every Sunday during the morning service
Kidzone for ages 6-12 yrs. old.

GROWTH GROUPS
THU & FRI @ 7 PM
NOV 9 & NOV 10
Restarting soon.
In-person at church.

WORSHIP SERVICE
SUN @ 11 AM
NOV 12
In-person service and Livestreaming on Facebook, Youtube and our webpage.

- Our Thanksgiving Potluck Luncheon will be November 19 immediately following the morning service. Please sign up at the Information Counter to bring a dish.
- Explore Mountain Stream classes for those interested in becoming members or just finding out more about our church begin on November 12 @ 10 am. Please sign up at the Information Counter to attend.
- Growth Groups continue this Thursday and Friday at 7pm at church. Sign up at the Information Counter or online to attend one convenient to you. Preparation questions are available at the Information Counter or on our website.
- Help Needed: If you'd be willing to bring refreshments on a Sunday, speak to Becky or Lori.
- Join us on 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 3:15 at the Garden at Stroud as we sing and share the gospel with the residents. Contact Tom for more information.
- Bible Reading plans for 2023 are available at the Information Center. Also, read Pastor Jimmie's daily blog on the readings via the link on our website.



QUICK TIPS ON WAYS TO GIVE YOUR OFFERING
Traditional during the Sunday morning service, with a check by mail or through our secured website. Please remember to hit "SAVE" after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!