

SUNDAY MORNING 9:00 AM

SONG LEADER . . . . . David Stearsman  
BIBLE READING . . . . . Jim Powell  
OPENING PRAYER . . . . . Frank DeBord  
LORDS SUPPER . . . . . Isaac McLaurin  
CLOSING PRAYER . . . . . Greg Littleton

SUNDAY MORNING 10:30 AM

SONG LEADER . . . . . Jay Roberts  
BIBLE READING . . . . . Phil Howell  
OPENING PRAYER . . . . . Kyle Smith  
LORDS SUPPER . . . . . Jim Hall  
CLOSING PRAYER . . . . . Mike Thompson

SUNDAY'S SERMONS

AM: God's Plea and Pattern for Unity  
(Ephesians 4:1-6)  
ALSO LIVE STREAM  
On our Facebook Page at 10:30

LST WK      STATISTICS      LAST YR

NA . . . . . SUN CLASSES . . . . . NA  
93 . . . . . SUN AM . . . . . 109  
NA . . . . . SUN PM . . . . . NA  
NA . . . . . WED CLASSES . . . . . NA  
\$5,349.10 . . . CONTRIBUTION . . . \$4,572.00

WEDNESDAY EVENING

LIVE STREAM  
ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

SERVE LORD'S SUPPER IN SEPTEMBER

9:00 am . . . . .  
10:30 am . . . . .

PREPARE LORD'S SUPPER  
NA

SERVING IN SEPTEMBER

ANNOUNCEMENTS: . . . . . NA  
PICK-UP CUPS: . . . . . NA  
OPEN BUILDING: . . . . . Frank DeBord  
CLOSE BUILDING: . . . . . Bob Bauer/Jim Hall

Orange Street Church of Christ  
310 Orange St.  
Auburndale, FL 33823


To:

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven..."  
(Matt 5:43-45)



BREAD  
&  
SWEETS

We will continue getting bread & sweets. Please feel free to pick up whatever you can use or share with your friends & neighbors. We have veggies on occasion.



Preacher's Corner  
THERE IS GOOD NEWS IN THE GOSPEL

Our God Is a Rock

I've been whitewater rafting several times. Once, my dad and I were rafting in a duckie, which is an inflatable, two-person canoe. We were approaching the most treacherous stretch of this particular route on the Colorado river known as "the needle's eye" because of its narrowness. In this narrow stretch is a rock known as "Mary's wall." The large rock face was known to be deadly because, if you fell in, the current was liable to pin you against Mary's wall and cause you to drown—it has happened several times before. As my dad and I were approaching Mary's wall, our duckie flipped. We would have been in the water floating toward Mary's wall if it wasn't for a seemingly random, medium-sized rock jutting out of the water. We were able to get on the rock, hang on to our duckie, and eventually keep rafting unscathed. I am thankful for that rock!

The experience gave me a different understanding when I read passages about God being a rock (see Duet. 32:4; 2 Sam. 22:2, 32). David described God this way: "my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold" (Ps. 18:2). In ancient times, a rock symbolized safety, stability, refuge, and protection. A rock was a place to flee for safety from your enemies. A rock was a source of strength when one was beset by weakness. In many ways, God is like that rock that my dad and I were able to cling to as the current passed us by. God is always there when and where we need Him. God provides refuge from danger, rest from the weariness of the world, and protects us from seemingly impending doom. "On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God" (Ps. 62:7). When life is closing in, cling to your rock—cling to God.

Orange Street  
CHURCH OF CHRIST  
SEEKING TO FOLLOW CHRIST WHEREVER HE LEADS

310 Orange Street | Auburndale, Florida 33823 | 863-967-1757

Sunday September 20, 2020

Volume 1 Number 38

We Invite You To  
Attend Any Or All Of  
Our Services!

SCHEDULE

Sunday:  
Bible Class . . . 9:30am  
AM Worship . . 10:30am  
PM Worship . . 5:00pm  
1st Sunday of the Month:  
PM Worship . . 1:00pm

Wednesday:  
Bible Class . . . 7:00pm

ELDERS  
Bob Bauer  
Matt Faneuf  
Jim Hall

DEACONS  
Frank DeBord  
Marvin Frazier  
Frank Nabors  
Chad Tagtow

MINISTERS  
Forest Antemesaris  
Bob Bauer

Visit us online at:  
www.orangestreetcofc.com

5 Tips for Improving the  
Way You Study the Bible  
Wes McAdams

When we study the Bible, we often think that means asking a question that begins, "What does the Bible say about..." Then, we proceed to ask a question that might be foreign to Scripture, a question neither the original audience nor the original authors had in their minds. It isn't that these questions are wrong or should never be asked, but we must learn to take our Bible study beyond asking these types of questions. If you want to become a better Bible student, here are five tips for improving the way you study the Bible:

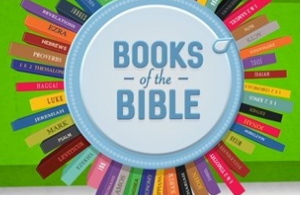
1. Pray

Scripture was written by prophets who "spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:21). The Bible is, in the truest sense of the word, "spiritual." Meaning, Scripture is from — and empowered by — the Spirit of God. In 2 Timothy, Paul used a very unique word to describe Scripture. He said all Scripture is "theopneustos" (2 Timothy 3:16). This means that all Scripture has God's "breath" in it.

2. Read Whole Books of the Bible

If you know me at all, you know this is my soapbox. I even wrote a book about how reading one book of the Bible at a time changed my life. I emphasize reading everything in context for one simple reason, the Bible wasn't written to be read in verses (or even chapters), but as whole books.

Modern Christians have a tendency to look for "Bible verses" to prove our points or answer our questions. The problem is, we are often taking those verses completely out of context. A Bible verse can seem to have an obvious meaning, but that meaning often shifts completely when read it in the context of the entire book.





If you want to be a better Bible student, don't use a verse to prove a point unless the entire book supports that point.

3. Ask Better Questions

As we discussed briefly in the introduction, much of our Bible study begins with a question, "What does the Bible say about..." We try to answer that question by searching the Bible for verses that seem (at least on the surface) to address the question we are asking. Then, we attempt to harmonize all of those verses into a cohesive answer to our question.

This approach to Scripture isn't inherently wrong and even has its place in Bible study. However, this is what we call "deductive Bible study." The goal of deductive Bible study is to seek out the answer to questions that came from our own mind. The problem with deductive Bible study is that we are beginning with a huge assumption, that the Bible actually addresses the question we are asking. Contrary to popular belief, the answer to the question, "What does the Bible say about..." is often, "Nothing. The Bible doesn't specifically address that question."

The form of Bible study that is superior, in many ways, to deductive Bible study is inductive Bible study. With inductive Bible study, you do not begin with your own question, you begin with the text and let the text inform you as to what your questions should be. Inductive Bible study has three steps:



Observation (What does it say?)

Interpretation (What does it mean?)

Application (What does it mean for my life?)

The best types of questions come directly from the text. Questions like these:

Who is saying this?

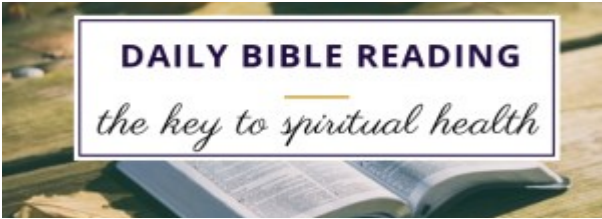
To whom is this being said?

What does the author mean by this?

Why did he say that?

What does this word mean?

Why does he keep using this word/phrase over and over again?



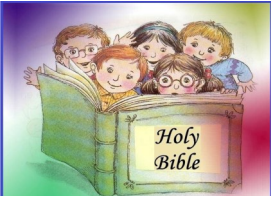
- Sept 20 Hag 1-2
- Sept 21 Zech 1-7
- Sept 22 Zech 8-14
- Sept 23 Est 1-5
- Sept 24 Est 6-10
- Sept 25 Ezra 7-10
- Sept 26 Neh 1-5

Chronological Bible Reading Plan for 2020



Carl Chambers  
Admitted to:  
Adventhealth of Zephyrhills  
7050 Gall Blvd Room #2142  
Zephyrhills, FL 33541

Bible Study  
Here is the online class schedule for our young people:



2-5 years of age - Thurs at 6:30pm

3rd-5th grade - Mon 7:30pm

Middle school/ high school - Wed 6:00pm.

We anticipate all of our parents encouraging their children to be part of their respective class.

When we begin with the text, rather than with our own questions, we minimize the possibility of reading our own thoughts into the text. When we begin with the text, we allow Scripture to inform us about what questions are actually relevant. Along the way, we may discover that many of our original questions were simply not relevant.

4. Seek Understanding Before Application

As I mentioned in the previous point, inductive Bible study has three steps: Observation, Interpretation, and Application. I believe we often have a tendency to jump too quickly (or even immediately) to "application." We act as if Scripture is always speaking directly to us, when it isn't.

This is a silly example, but Genesis 6:14 says, "Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch." However, most of us don't go around saying, "Everyone needs to build an ark, the Bible says so!" We understand that, in context, God is speaking to Noah and not commanding everyone to build an ark.



The same is true with countless passages of the Bible, God is instructing a specific people at a specific time about how to do something. We must not automatically assume every verse of the Bible is equally applicable to everyone today. This is why we have to prioritize understanding what a passage means (what it meant in its original context) before we try to apply it to our own lives.

I believe every passage of Scripture has value for our lives, but I don't believe any passage of Scripture is applicable without understanding it in its original and proper context.

5. Listen to Other Views

Finally, I have to mention the value of listening to others when it comes to reading, studying, and understanding the Bible. It is only within the last 500 years or so that individual Christians have had access to their own private copies of the Scriptures. For the first 1,500 years of Christian history, the Scriptures were read together within the church family.

I'm certainly happy the Bible is so readily available to people today, but we need each other's help reading and understanding the Bible.



We not only need the teachers, evangelists, and elders within our own church family (see Ephesians 4:11-14), we can also benefit from those who have written books and commentaries, exposing us to even more information that can help us understand the Bible. Neither the Old Testament nor the New Testament Scriptures were meant to be read in isolation. The Scriptures were always intended to be read in community and fellowship.

Just consider the fact that unless you can read ancient Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek, you need the help of translators just to read the Bible. Furthermore, just because the meaning of a passage seems obvious, doesn't mean you have all the facts. By listening to others, you have the opportunity to gain insight that might truly unlock the meaning of a passage for you.

I hope and pray these suggestions are a blessing to you as you continue to study the greatest collection of books on earth!

