

THE REMINDER

BELLAIRE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 23 APRIL 2017

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Fran Spencer is in her final hours.** She has requested that we pray that she passes quickly and peacefully. No visitors or calls at this time, we will update everyone as we know more.
- Continue to pray for **Pat Butler's** complete healing, she will meet with the doctors in 3 months.
- Pray for **Anna Mickle**, doctors have told her she does have a super bug. She is very weak and misses being with her Bellaire family.
- **Dora Martinez** had Septoplasty surgery. Let's continue to pray for her recovery.
- Pray for **Holly Ann, Sharon's daughter** as she continues treatment for her cancer.
- **Terry Kornfeld's dad** is in ICU, but she says he is doing better.
- Continue praying for those with on-going health issues. **Bob Stark, Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn, Don Hurd, Fran Spencer, and Johnny Martinez.**
- **Sermon Title: Nicodemus: The Struggle of Coming Into The Light**
- **Reminder: Today all the youth** are invited over to Steve and Muffy Garrett's for lunch and devotional!

WHO ARE WE?

A group of God's children, striving to maintain the organization, doctrine and worship as taught in the New Testament

ELDERS

Brian Haley
Mark Mann
Mike Pharris

DEACONS

Scott Clanton
David Davila
Dan Kimbrough
Jesse Knapp
Alex Morolez
Gregory Williams

EVANGELISTS

Daniel Broadwell
Steve Garrett

CONTACT US

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DIRECTORY UPDATES

Email:
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SCHEDULE

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Bible Study

SERVICE

Welcome - A. Morolez
Song Leader - G. Williams
Opening Prayer - J. Seale
Lesson - D. Broadwell
Announcements - M. Pharris
Closing Prayer - R. Black

BIBLE CLASSES

Old Testament Survey

- Brian Haley
- Auditorium

Gospel of Mark

- Daniel Broadwell
- Back Classroom

Classes for children

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4 Tips to Help You Better Understand the Bible (Part 1 of 2) By: Wes McAdams

Editors Note: This article is taken from a website called Radically Christian (www.radicallychristian.com). Because of its length, I have broken it up into two parts. The first tip is found here, and the other three will be in next week's bulletin. I hope you find this article as helpful for your bible reading and study.

There are three basic parts to bible study: observation, interpretation, and application. In other words, when we read a passage, we should ask: What does it say (observation)? What does it mean (interpretation)? What difference does it make in my life (application)? Understanding what the Bible means and how it applies to our lives is often not as simple as it sounds, so here are four tips to help you as you strive to better understand the Bible.

1. Clothe Yourself in Humility

If someone comes up to me and says, "Wes, I need to tell you about something your son did," I'm already biased about whatever they are going to say. I cannot be completely objective when it comes to my sons. But in humility, I can recognize my bias and determine that I will not let my bias get in the way of hearing and understanding what is being said.

We need to do the same when it comes to reading the Bible. We need to recognize that we are all biased. None of us are completely objective. We must determine, therefore, not to let our biases cloud our judgement. We need to be aware of things like these:

- ▶ **Cultural Baggage:** When I read the text, I need to admit to myself that my culture often clouds my judgement. I need to strive to put my cultural biases aside and try to read the text like the original audience, rather than a twenty-first century American. It is going to take a lot of humility to say, "My way of seeing the world is not the only way to see the world." And ask, "Am I limiting what this text can mean because I'm viewing it through modern eyes?"
- ▶ **Familiarity and Pre-Understanding:** When we read the Bible, most of us are already familiar with many of the biblical characters, themes, concepts, words, and ideas. This can be great and it can also present a challenge. If we are going to grow in our understanding, we must admit that we might have the wrong understanding about certain things in the Bible. We have to try to approach the Bible, each time, with fresh eyes. We have to ask, "If this was the first time I was reading this, what would I think this means?"
- ▶ **Agenda:** We often have an agenda when we approach Scripture. We are trying to prove a point or answer a question. The problem is, we may not be asking the same questions the original audience was asking. We need to be aware of our agenda. We need to ask ourselves, "Is this passage really addressing the issue I have or the question I am asking? Am I really being fair with this passage?"