

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

- Week of April 24, 2022 -

Sunday Morning Service -----	38
Sunday Evening Service -----	24
Wednesday Eve., 04/27/22 Service -----	21

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of April 24, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 685.10
Church Gas Line Repair Fund -----	\$ 210.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 04/24/22:	\$ 895.10

- Week of April 17, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,184.00
Love Offering -----	\$ 50.00
Benevolence Offering -----	\$ 50.00
Church Gas Line Repair Fund -----	\$ 50.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 04/17/22:	\$ 1,334.00

- Week of April 10, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,166.00
Love Offering, Dr. Phil Stringer -----	\$ 1,758.00
Church Gas Line Repair Fund -----	\$ 381.50
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 04/10/22:	\$ 3,305.50

- Week of April 3, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 3,009.98
Love Offering -----	\$ 100.00
Church Gas Line Repair Fund -----	\$ 267.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 04/03/22:	\$ 3,376.98

- Week of March 27, 2022 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 844.97
Love Offering -----	\$ 50.00
Church Gas Line Repair Fund -----	\$ 413.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 03/27/22:	\$ 1,187.00

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed to operate the church EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00

- CHURCH NATURAL GAS LINE REPAIR FUND -

Total Cost Of Repairs -----	\$10,365.78
Amount Received Thusfar -----	\$ 7,818.50
Amount Still Needed:	\$ 2,547.28

Thank You For Your Help With This Need!

LISTEN TO -



ABIDINGRADIO.COM

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. **Admit that you are a sinner.**
2. **Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.**
3. **Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.**
4. **You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).**
5. **By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, Who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.**



THANK YOU For Your Continued Faithfulness In Giving!

During the early part this pandemic, we were unable to meet in the church-house. But - that did not mean that the expenses of having a church-house were suspended. We still had bills to pay - electricity, gas, water, trash pickup, phone, internet, facility insurance, copier lease, office supplies, etc., and, praise the Lord, His people kept praying, watching online, & supporting their church with their giving.

Sadly, some people only give when they are in attendance at church - sort of like paying for "services rendered" - but the truth is that they are robbing **THEMSELVES** of God's blessings when they withhold their tithes and offerings and only give when they are here (see Malachi 3:10). Thankfully, most of our people have remained faithful, in so many ways, during this crisis, including financially.

WE HAVE 3 WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:

1. **By mail** - 23 East Wells Blvd., Sapulpa, OK 74066
2. **Drop it off** - call the Church Office to arrange it. 224-1924
3. **Online** - Go to the link below and give electronically:

<https://tithe.ly/give?c=433047>

**WE ARE GLAD WE CAN NOW GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD & STUDY HIS WORD TOGETHER IN THE CHURCH-HOUSE!
YOUR FAITHFUL AND GENEROUS GIFTS WILL HELP US KEEP UP WITH THE BILLS AND CONTINUE OUR RENEWED OUTREACH EFFORTS!**

Church Directory

Todd W. White -----	Pastor
Lois Mae Floyd -----	Pianist/ Organist
Mickie Shatwell -----	Evening Pianist
Derek Quinnelly -----	Greeter
Larry & Mary Byars -----	Outreach
Bertha Segebarr -----	Custodian
GinaMarie Shufelt -----	Flowers
Seth White -----	Sound/Video

REMINDER



WHY SHOULD WE READ THE BIBLE?

by Ryan Rench, Associate Pastor
Calvary Baptist Church - Temecula, California

Not only is reading and studying the Bible a GOOD idea, it's GOD'S idea.

If you can read the Scripture with an open heart, God will reveal SO much to you, including Himself, His will, His Son, His goodness, and so much more. Reading the Bible should not be approached as something you MUST do, but as something you're privileged to do.

Think of false religions. They serve gods that they don't even know—gods that are fickle, feeble, or selfish. Worshipers are never quite sure how they can appease their gods, so they offer a sacrifice and hope it is enough. When the weather changes, for example, they don't know why, and it causes fear.

Why?

Because they do not know their gods.

But our God—THE God—has revealed Himself to us through His Word.

Some object, "But what about other religious books?" Their books are simple collections of *man's* sayings. They are filled with errors and confusion. They do not even claim to be the full revelation of the gods, like the Bible claims to be about God.

When we read the Bible, it's as if we are taking a look into Jesus Himself, who is God: "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth*" (John 1:1, 14).

We read what we want to know. It makes sense as Christians to want to know God fully; therefore, any devoted Christian will be a student of God's Word.

Why read the Bible?

IT'S GOD'S IDEA

IT IS COMMANDED -

While this is not technically a direct command to you and me, in the mind of God, one of his ideals for seeing God's people return to Him was to seek His Word:

- **Isaiah 34:16** - "Seek ye out the book of the Lord and read..."
- God told the king to write his own copy out and read it:

"And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites: And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them: That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, to the right hand, or to the left: to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel" (Deut. 17:18-20).

Studying God's Word is the natural response of a sincere Christian:

- "*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth*" (II Timothy 2:15).

(continued inside)

IT BRINGS SPIRITUAL GROWTH -

It grows YOU as a Christian. Saturating your life with God’s Word will allow the Spirit to change you from the inside out in ways that you never thought possible and in ways you could never have changed by yourself. The Bible is the agent by which spiritual growth happens:

☛ *“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious (I Peter 2:2-3).*

☛ *“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper” (Psalm 1:1-3).*

It grows IN you as you grow. Not only does it change you, but it multiplies itself from something small to something great:

☛ *“Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God” (Luke 8:11).*

IT GUIDES YOU WITH SUPERNATURAL WISDOM -

This not only affects our day-to-day lives, but the overall direction of our lives.

☛ *“I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye” (Psalm 32:8).*

☛ *“I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation: (Psalm 119:99).*

☛ *“To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings (Proverbs 1:6).*

☛ *“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path” (Psalm 119:105).*

☛ *“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me” (John 10:27).*

IT MAKES SENSE -

Reading your Bible is a rational choice. Want “your best life now”? It’s only accomplished through one means: knowing God. It’s logical. If you’re calling yourself a Christian and DON’T want to read the Bible, something is wrong with your understand of these points:

It’s God’s Word. If you believe in God... well... um... why wouldn’t you want Him to talk to you? Our Bible is “God-breathed,” as if God wrote a love letter just for you:

☛ *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” (II Corinthians 3:16).*

If you say you love Him...

☛ *“Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me,*

he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father’s which sent me” (John 14:23-24).

IT’S ETERNAL -

Something that will be around forever is pretty special. No... diamonds aren’t forever (sorry!), but God’s Word is!

☛ *“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away” (Matthew 24:35).*

☛ *“For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven” (Psalm 119:89).*

☛ *“Thou art near, O Lord; and all thy commandments are truth. Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever. Consider mine affliction, and deliver me: for I do not forget thy law” (Psalm 119:151-153).*

IT TELLS US MORE ABOUT GOD -

If you want to know God, get to know Him through His Word. Sure, nature can tell us about God, but the Word of God is knowing God himself.

☛ *“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God “ (Romans 10:17).*

IT TELLS US MORE ABOUT JESUS -

God is revealed through creation, through His Word, and through His Son. Paul desired to see “Christ in you,” when he wrote to the Colossian believers. The Bible helps us know Jesus:

☛ *“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).*

☛ *“And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not. Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life. I receive not honour from men” (John 5:38-41)*

☛ *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men” (John 1:1-4).*

☛ *“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:” (I Corinthians 15:1-4).*

GOD’S WORD IS TRUTH -

Anyone seeking truth should dive into the book that claims to be the source of truth itself. We have no right to demand “truthfulness” from people without first being connected to the

objective source of truth: God’s Word.

☛ *“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” (John 17:17).*

IT SHOWS GOD’S WILL -

You don’t have to search too much for God’s will. You’re in God’s will when you obey God’s Word:

☛ *“Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart” (Psalm 40:7-8).*

IT’S SPENDING TIME WITH GOD -

I mean, come on, right? Hanging out with the Creator? He who knows me best yet loves me most? Amazing.

☛ *“For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly” (Proverbs 2:6-7).*

IT’S A GOOD IDEA

IT’S SPIRITUALLY ENRICHING -

Not only does God grow us and change us as we read and study the Word, He makes everything better in the process.

IT’S ENCOURAGING -

Want to be encouraged? Read the Bible. It gives hope and life:

☛ *“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope” (Romans 5:14).*

☛ *“This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me” (Psalm 119:50).*

IT’S THE SOURCE OF THE FULLEST LIFE -

God’s Word enriches your life from top to bottom, inside out.

☛ *“But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4).*

☛ *“Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock” (Matthew 7:24-25).*

☛ *“This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success: (Joshua 1:8).*

☛ *“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life” (John 6:63).*

It makes you free. Many people feel trapped in life. God’s Word makes us free:

☛ *“Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:31-32).*

It helps you stay in love with God.

Getting bored with Christianity? Then read the Word!

☛ *“Bless the Lord, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word. Bless ye the Lord, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure” (Psalm 103:20-21).*

☛ *“In God will I praise his word: in the Lord will I praise his word. In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me” (Psalm 56:10-11).*

☛ *“Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord? who can shew forth all his praise?” (Psalm 106:1-2)*

IT HELPS OUR EVERYDAY LIVES -

Some of the Bible is just plain common sense. It hits us here we live—in our day-to-day choices. The hidden man of the heart is crucial, but it always flows out into life. The Bible affects not only the unseen changes, but the everyday ones, too.

It is good discipline -

Anything worth doing will take work. Reading the Bible is simple, but it isn’t easy. Even in the daily discipline, though, there’s value. Things that feel bad can many times be good:

☛ *“Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby” (Hebrews 12:11).*

☛ *“But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway” (I Corinthians 9:27).*

IGNORING IT IS DUMB -

I don’t have a reference on this one. It’s just a fine statement.

IT HELPS YOU SEE SATAN’S TRAPS -

Spiritual eyes are required to see the potholes in the road. The Bible gives us God’s vision for our lives:

☛ *“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand*

therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints” (Ephesians 6:10-18).

IT KEEPS US FROM “SETTLING” FOR SECOND-BEST -

Daily Bible reading refocuses your mind on the most important things—those critical to eternity.

God warned about letting life “settle” too much:

☛ *“And it shall come to pass at that time, that I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees: that say in their heart, The LORD will not do good, neither will he do evil” (Zephaniah 1:12).*

☛ *“Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love” (Revelation 2:4).*

☛ *“Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord” (Romans 12:11).*

☛ *“He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination” (Proverbs 28:9).*

IT HELPS YOU SPOT FALSE TEACHING -

We should read and study the Bible because there is so much false teaching.

☛ *“Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil” (I Thessalonians 5:20–22).*

IT CONFRONTS US OF SIN -

God’s Word confronts our sin and helps us get rid of it:

☛ *“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. Blessed art thou, O Lord: teach me thy statutes” (Psalm 119:9-12).*

IT’S MORE POWERFUL THAN ANYTHING YOU’LL EVER DO (COLLEGE EDUCATION, JOB, MONEY...)

☛ *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart” (Hebrews 4:12).*

IT’S MORE VALUABLE THAN ANYTHING YOU’LL EVER OWN (PHONE, HOUSE, COMPANY...)

☛ *“More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward” (Psalm 19:10-11).*

There are 168 hours in a week. A SLOW reader can get through the Bible in a year and still have plenty of time for everything else in life. Commit to reading every day!

Here are a few closing thoughts from my dad, Pastor W. M. Rench:

- ☛ The Bible is alive and will talk with you.
- ☛ Your comprehension changes with life experience.
- ☛ Meanings change over time. In health, a text will mean something different to you in sickness, for example.
- ☛ The Bible becomes more comprehensible over the years of rereading it.
- ☛ The Bible takes on more significance if you hear it taught or preached later.
- ☛ The Bible is for ALL of us.
- ☛ The Bible is effectual when mixed with faith in the reader.
- ☛ Read even when you don’t understand what you’re reading.
- ☛ Read looking for God to speak to you personally.
- ☛ Read looking for biblical principles.
- ☛ Read with intent to respond.

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

☐ **DUKE DIVINITY SCHOOL BLASPHEMOUSLY WORSHIPS “THE GREAT QUEER ONE”** - Duke Divinity School, a bastion of apostasy, is one of 13 seminaries associated with the United Methodist Church. It was founded in 1924 with an endowment by tobacco magnate James Duke. The following is excerpted from “Duke Divinity School,” The College Fix, Apr. 20, 2022:

“A recent worship service co-hosted by Duke Divinity School and the Duke Divinity Pride student organization invited students to praise the ‘great queer one.’” “We want to affirm everyone to be who they truly are,” second year Master of Divinity student Caroline Camp began. “To step into the holy one’s fire that burns away all that says we are not good enough and refines us by the Pentecostal fire to be who exactly the great queer one calls us to be. Let the spirit move you today, lift your hands and voices and dance in whatever way is most freeing to you.” The one-hour March 22 ‘service of word’ took place in Goodson Chapel, described as the center of worship life at Duke Divinity School. A video of the event on YouTube shows several dozen in

attendance.

... Camp, in her opening prayer, praised a God she described as ‘strange one, fabulous one, fluid and ever becoming one.’ ‘Do not allow us to make our ideas of you into an idol,’ Camp said. ‘You are as close to us as our own breath, and yet your essence transcends all that we can imagine. You are mother, father, and parent. You are sister, brother, and sibling. You are drag queen and trans man and genderfluid, incapable of limiting your vast expressions of beauty, embodied in us, your creation.’ We recognize our flesh, in all its forms, is made holy in you. With thanksgiving, we celebrate your manifestation in all its glorious forms.’

... Third-year Master of Divinity student Tirzah Villegas told the audience that ending her relationship with the ‘white male god’ of her childhood allowed her to begin another ‘with a deliciously queer god who loved in scandalous ways and created us for pleasure and wholeness.’

... Event co-sponsor and student group Divinity Pride, which describes its main purpose as affirming the ‘dignity, faithfulness, and strength of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, and gender/sexuality non-conforming Christians,’ is part of a broader push that seeks to redefine orthodox Christianity--and to redefine God.”

The apostle Peter prophesied of these things: *“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. ... God spared not the angels that sinned ... And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness ... And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly” (II Peter 2:1-2, 4-6).*

☐ **NEW JERSEY TO BRAINWASH PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN IN HOMOSEXUAL/TRANSSEXUAL FILTH** - The following is excerpted from “N.J. to Require 2nd Graders,” Christian Headlines, Apr. 21, 2022:

“New sex-education standards that are set to go into effect in New Jersey this year have sparked a nationwide controversy ... The standards, approved in 2020, are scheduled to be implemented this fall and will expand what students across all grades will learn about several issues, including LGBTQ+ matters.

... A state-approved lesson plan and activity for first graders teaches kids that gender identity is how they ‘feel.’ A child can look like a boy on the outside but be a girl on the inside, according to the lesson. ... the

lesson plan, called ‘Pink Blue Purple,’ says in sample dialogue for the teacher. ‘You might feel like you are a boy, you might feel like you are a girl.

... And you might not feel like you’re a boy or a girl, but you’re a little bit of both. No matter how you feel, you’re perfectly normal!’

... By the end of grade 12, students should be ‘advocate[s]’ for ‘school and community policies and programs’ that promote ‘dignity and respect for people of all genders, gender expressions, gender identities, and sexual orientations.’ Controversy over the new standards grew when state Rep. Holly Schepisi spoke out against them on her Facebook page.

... Teachers, she said, are instructed to promote a website and its YouTube channel to children as young as nine that calls porn ‘something everyone watches.’”

WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM GOD’S WORD TODAY?

