

## For Our Information

Make sure you check the foyer board for announcements regarding opportunities in the region to study God's Word. Also remember to check the projector screen for such opportunities and notices regarding those who are in need of our prayers.

With summertime coming up I am sure there will be travelers among us. We need to keep one another informed of such travel so that we are aware of why you are missing and keep you in our prayers.

Keep your brothers & sisters in mind

## Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about our work in the Lord's Kingdom.

### Church of Christ

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We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

## This Caught My Eye

Over the years we have offered much encouragement regarding the regular reading of Scripture. If we are to live in accordance with God's Will there is certainly a need for us to read and study from the inspired writings that have been preserved for our instruction. As our 'center verse' speaks of a need to treasure the Word we understand regular reading is the only way to preserve it in our heart.

While there are any number of Bible Reading Plans available to us today, I want to point you toward a resource that I have found useful and interesting in my daily reading. Zondervan Publishing has available a book titled "The Books of The Bible." This is the complete Bible presented without the chapter and verse divisions and in a more chronological order than your present Bible uses. It uses the NIV and is very readable. While I would not recommend this as your only copy, it has been helpful in getting a better grasp of the whole story. The copy I have was inexpensive and it is also available as a kindle ebook.

If you would like more information, please ask.

## Seeking His Righteousness

Tanner St Bulletin Volume 5 Number 19

May 2016

## Am I Seeking?

In his "Do Busy Better" post on [focusmagazine.org](http://focusmagazine.org) Tim Jennings writes regarding **Matthew 6:33**...

Jesus calls us to a life of "seeking," which is a "wear-you-out" kind of busy. But busy with what?

**God's Right Way...** We are to be busy with "His righteousness." We are constantly faced with choices, and Jesus says, "Pursue what God says is right for you." Ah, all of a sudden my schedule isn't filled with my pleasures, but with God's values!

In the context of the Sermon on the Mount, in which Jesus speaks



*"But seek first  
the kingdom of  
God and His  
righteousness,  
and all these  
things shall be  
added to you."*

*Matthew 6:33 NKJV*



## Meet With Us

### Worship Services

Sunday 10:20 am & 5:00 pm

### Bible Classes

Sunday 9:30 AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

1512 Tanner St. Malvern, AR

[TannerSt.com](http://TannerSt.com)

these words, righteousness is all about loving your neighbor and God. Jesus told His disciples, “Unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 5:19). Then Jesus illustrates that righteousness is expressed in your love for other people (Matt. 5:20-48, even when they don’t deserve it!), and in your genuine devotion to God (Matt. 6:1-32).

Now, look at your schedule. Is it full of love for others and devotion to God?

**Ruling My Life...** Now, this standard of righteousness is not just something I can treat lightly. It issues forth from my King, and I seek “the kingdom of God” to be the rule of my life.

I find this to be very helpful! When I hear a hundred voices shouting at me – “Do this! Go there! Buy that!” Everything seeks to jump into the driver’s seat of my life. I can hush all the noise by asking, “What does my King want me to do?” How liberating! How healthy! I can listen to the One who knows me, loves me, and can guide me better than anyone else.

**Is My Main Concern...** Many of us are willing to accept the Kingship of God on occasion, but then Jesus ratchets up the intensity with the word “first.” “Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness” (Matt. 6:33). Disciples do not have several priorities, of which God is one. We have one single ambition – to make God’s way the rule of my life.

## Store In My Heart

### Psalm 119:11

*Your word I have treasured in my heart,  
That I may not sin against You.*

Do you treasure the Word of God? Is there room in your heart for it’s teaching? The Psalmist shows both high regard and purpose for God’s Word. Should we do less?

This simple, short verse is a reminder a need for both attitudes in our own life. God’s Word is the most valuable resource we can ever hold. It puts us in contact with the Creator. It also is the only source available to help us know how to please God.

Make certain that you keep the Word of God close in your mind. It will help you deal with life and get ready for eternity!

The word “first” makes you face the reason behind your busyness. It compels you to consider why you are buying that thing, signing up for that activity, going to that place, or attracted to that person. It causes you to ask, “Does this reflect that my main concern is that God’s ways govern my life?”

**Which I Passionately Pursue!** This is not always a pleasant examination, so Jesus adds a word to ratchet up the importance once more, “seek.” The word “seek” describes your ambition, what you are passionate about. Jesus is recommending that you make God’s way your first concern in every decision because that is what you are passionate about. In other words, your schedule reflects your joy. What does yours say?

Disciples of Jesus are not “crazy busy,” we are “kingdom busy!” We evaluate each activity by asking, “Does this show that my main concern which I passionately pursue is God’s right way ruling in my life?” That’s a filter that will help you do busy better.

Brother Jennings words can help if we truly desire to put God and His work first in our life. If we are not filtering everything we do through this verse, we are fooling ourselves when we speak of our devotion to serving God. How does complaining about the “issue of the day” help you passionately pursue your concern for God’s right to way rule in your life? Maybe we should focus on issues of God’s concern rather than the concerns of the world around us. (Full article at [FocusMagazine.org](http://FocusMagazine.org) DLH)