

For Our Information

Ricky Ragsdale will have a bone marrow test then is looking at going home toward the end of the week.

Thelma Echols is having some breathing problems and continues to have good days and bad days.

Paula Laubach has been having some coughing problems this past week.

John Jackson's mother, Nettie, is doing about the same.

We received word that Bee Soma, known by many in this congregation, passed away on Friday.

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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tannerst.com

We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

A Few Study Helps

A few weeks back I pointed you toward the references that can be found in most Bibles. Of course the reason for mentioning them was to help with your study of God's Word. This week I want to mention a few other things that can be helpful in study. In fact a couple of these are almost necessary to help us understand what God desires of us.

I suspect that at some point during your study you will find a word that is unfamiliar to you. This is why a dictionary is almost necessary to study. A dictionary will clarify the meaning of any words we might find.

Another help is a concordance. This is very similar to the references in your Bible, but much more complete. A related help is a topical bible. Where a concordance lists the many scriptures where a particular word is found, a topical bible lists scriptures where a particular topic is considered. Both are useful in understand all the Word says about a particular idea or teaching.

Take advantage of these and similar study helps as you need them.

Seeking His Righteousness

Tanner St Bulletin Volume 5 Number 23

June 2016

Believe the Word

There are certainly many times in life when we are asked to believe. From an early age we learn to believe our parents. This belief comes from the things we learn from our relationship to them from the time we were born. Very early a baby begins to believe that someone will answer their cries. It does not take long for that same baby to develop the belief that mom or dad are the ones most eager to see to their needs. While the thought process might not be fully developed at such an early age, we can certainly observe the results of that growing belief. No matter when a need may arise, children learn early that parents are ready to help. This is one reason it is so sad to see a parent



And Jesus cried out and said, "He who believes in Me, does not believe in Me but in Him who sent Me."

John 12:44



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Sunday 10:20 am & 5:00 pm

Bible Classes

Sunday 9:30 AM

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1512 Tanner St. Malvern, AR

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that does not give attention to the needs of a child. That child will lose their belief in the parent if it continues.

We also see belief develop as children grow and begin to learn about the world around them. Generally adults are believed by children to be helpful and caring. They begin to learn that adults are looking out for their best interest. In a general sense children will give attention to the direction of an adult, because they believe in their protectiveness. When children are near danger a quick “Stop! Move away!” from any adult can be all that is needed to save them from harm.

We Need to Believe God

In a similar manner we need to develop a belief in God. As with a child, this belief must be based upon evidence.

*However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our report?” So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ. **Romans 10:16-17***

Hearing the Word is necessary if we are to Believe the Word. In fact the preserved Scripture is for the very purpose of producing belief.

*Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name. **John 20:30-31***

Store In My Heart

2John 9

*Anyone who does not remain in Christ's teaching but goes beyond it, does not have God. The one who remains in that teaching, this one has both the Father and the Son. **HCSB***

It would seem that such a plain statement as what we find in this verse would be so easy for anyone to understand. Somehow though, there are those who think we can add or subtract bits and pieces of the teachings of Christ as we see fit and still remain in good favor with God.

This verse, no matter which version you read, tells us that if we want to be in a relationship with God and Christ, we must live by the teachings Christ has given. It is a WAY OF LIFE that we MUST LIVE!

When we take the time to read and hear the message that has been delivered to us from God, we can develop the belief needed to bring us to the salvation that is only found in Jesus the Christ.

First we will see a belief in God as Creator and the one in dominion over the world. From that our continued study will bring about a belief in God's love and care for His creation. If we continue to give attention to the revelation of God found in Scripture a belief in His superior knowledge and ability will cause us to give attention to His instructions.

The Word Strengthens Belief

The more time we spend in the Word of God, the stronger our belief in His existence and His desire to help us will become. Just as continued exposure to the love and care of a parent brings a stronger and more developed trust within a child, our ongoing exposure to how God has cared for His people in the past and His continued expression of care for us today will cause our belief in Him and His Word to grow. The Word will draw an honest heart closer to God.

Once the Word has developed our belief in God and His plan to bring us back to Him, that belief will begin to pull us toward obedience. The stronger our belief, the greater will be our desire to submit to His Will. We will answer His call and give attention to His Word. Belief, brought about by the Word will lead to obedience and salvation.

*But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, **John 1:12***