

Bible Reading vs Bible Study

This week I intended to teach Matthew 16:18-20. As I labored and wrestled with the text, it became more and more evident that there was no way that was going to be possible. So, this Sunday I will be teaching Matthew 16:18, and truth be told, I will only be preaching on the first half of verse eighteen. I am often asked, "Why do you preach so few verses at a time?"

The answer is three-fold. First, it really depends on the text I'm preaching. I can sometimes cover a lot of verses, depending on the depth of the verses. For instance, the sermon on the mount in Matthew 5-7 teachings are so deep that one cannot teach a lot of verses at one time unless they preach for hours, which the congregation will not tolerate, or unless they do not fully explain what the text means, which a good teacher will not tolerate.

An instance where I might teach a lot of verses all at once is in the Book of Acts. Much of Acts has great narrative passages about the Apostle Paul's travels. There are lessons to learn, but the depth is nothing like the sermon on the mount. For example, Acts 14 has twenty-eight verses and it is only in the reading of the entire chapter that we can see that the chapter demonstrates the qualities of an effective servant of Jesus. On the other hand, the Beatitudes of Matthew 5 can easily be taught one verse at a time because every verse, and often every word, have so many implications and so much truth that to comprehend it, it must be carefully and slowly examined.

The second reason I teach so few verses at a time has to do with time. I have a set window of time to preach within. I don't know if that's a good thing or a bad thing, but I think it's both. In my experience, I've observed that some people can listen for long periods of time while others cannot. I try to hit a happy medium to not disappoint the long-listeners or the short-listeners.

The third reason I teach so few verses is that I want to know God as well as is possible. The best way to know God is →

through His Word. It is through the lens of the Bible that life is interpreted and understood. I want to see as clearly as possible and I want you to be able to do the same.

I say all of that so that I can share with you an unpopular opinion that I hold. My unpopular opinion is that I think Bible study is far and away more important than Bible reading. Now, allow me to defend myself. I think that there is a place for Bible reading. I think that there is some limited value in, say, reading through the Bible in a year.

The value is that when you read the whole Bible, you get a good feel for the completeness of God's plan, and that gives a great confidence. The Bible begins with tragedy and ends in triumph. If you haven't read it straight through, you should. The other value is that you get a good idea of where things are located, and it's nice to know where things are. Beyond those reasons though, I don't see much worth in simply reading through the Bible.

Why do I think this way? Let me answer by asking you a question. What good does it do to know what something says but have no idea what it means? So why do I favor reading slowly and studying slowly and teaching and preaching slowly? Because I want to know what every verse means. I don't want to miss anything or misunderstand anything. That doesn't mean that I understand everything, but I'm determined that if I don't understand it will not be for lack of trying.

Thanks for your continued love and support!

Wes LeFlore (918) 607-8489 or huskerwes1@gmail.com

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

*If God is all you have,
You have all you need!*

John 14:8

PRAYER LIST

Kevin Hunt—son of Carol Norris, continues to have health issues and has been moved to ICU at St. Joseph Hospital in Wichita. Please keep Kevin as well as Carol in your prayers.

Roger Brownlee—is home. You can send him cards of encouragement to his address is 245 W. 10th Ave. N., Wellington, KS 67152

Kendall Brundage—is improving and doing well. His address is 1372 W. 20th Ave. N., Argonia, KS 67004

Brad Stocking—nephew of Sherry Kline and brother-in-law of Linda Wartick, is dealing with cancer. Send cards of encouragement to 1723 Melody Lane, Wellington, KS 67152

Hailee Moyer—daughter of Maria Moyer and granddaughter of Marsha Dugan, was in a bad car accident and needs prayers for healing. She will need many surgeries to repair a lot of damage. Hailee attended our youth group on and off over the last several years. She graduated this year.

Melinda Miller—wife of Chris Miller, was diagnosed with breast cancer. She sees her surgeon this Tuesday for the results of her biopsy's and to discuss the next course of treatment. She would appreciate prayers on her behalf. Her address is Melinda Miller, 14 LaCrumbre Close, Tauranga 3110, New Zealand. Remember there is extra postage for cards sent out of the US.

EXPRESSION OF SYMPAHTY

We express our deepest sympathy to David & Rita Carroll on the death of Rita's cousin, David Berry. David passed away Tuesday. Please keep his family in your prayers.

HELP FOR SHERRY KLINE

The Elders will continue to collect funds through next Sunday, to help Sherry Kline. If you wish to give a donation please hand it to one of them. Checks should be made payable to the Church of Christ. Continue prayers for her at this difficult time.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Pat Brundage—27th

Konnor Clark—30th

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mike Kelley—8th

Richard Wartick—8th

Ell Mae Watson—11th

Lila Francisco—14th

Craig Bradbury—15th

Aaron Hines—15th

Bobbi Newberry—16th

John Rayl—17th

Victoria Sandoval—17th

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are in **NEED** of volunteers for Children's Church. If you can volunteer, see Darlene Cooney.

WE NEED YOU!!!

**Royal Revelations, Part II: Jesus Reveals the
Foundation of the Church**
Matthew 16:18-20

Why do we teach that the church is built upon Jesus and not Peter?

Reason #1)

Reason #2)

Reason #3)

*The _____ foundation of the _____ is that

_____ is the _____ of the _____

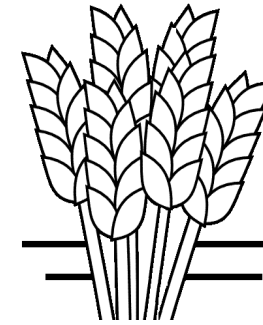
Notes:

THOSE WHO SERVE

SUNDAY A.M.	1-Nov	8-Nov	15-Nov
Elder in Charge	E. Newberry	E. Newberry	E. Newberry
Opening Prayer	B. Turney	J. DeJarnett	L. Lewis
Song Leader	A. Shields	A. Shields	A. Shields
Communion Prayer	R. Harris	M. Kline	E. Newberry
Contribution Prayer & Collection	W. Pierce D. Pierce	W. Pierce D. Pierce	W. Pierce D. Pierce
Ushers	A. Hines T. Kirkwood	A. Hines T. Kirkwood	A. Hines T. Kirkwood
Closing Prayer	E. Newberry	E. Newberry	E. Newberry
Deacon in Charge	D. Pierce	D. Pierce	D. Pierce
SUNDAY A.M.	22-Nov	29-Nov	
Elder in Charge	E. Newberry	E. Newberry	
Opening Prayer	B. Turney	J. DeJarnett	
Song Leader	A. Shields	A. Shields	
Communion Prayer	T. Norris	R. Harris	
Contribution Prayer & Collection	W. Pierce D. Pierce	W. Pierce D. Pierce	
Ushers	A. Hines T. Kirkwood	A. Hines T. Kirkwood	
Closing Prayer	E. Newberry	E. Newberry	
Deacon in Charge	D. Pierce	D. Pierce	

Note concerning COVID-19: During this month we are asking all public non-speaking participants to wear a face covering while performing their duties. This applies to ushers and to the men collecting our contribution. If you are unable to fulfill your assignment for any reason, please call the Deacon in Charge.

ELDERS	DEACONS		
Rex Harris	Marvin Kline	Kevin Dodds	Aaron Hines
Ed Newberry	Tom Norris	Leroy Lewis	Mike Neal
		David Pierce	Alan Shields
MINISTER			
Wes LeFlore			



*“Reaching Inward, Outward
Upward, Downward”*

Wellington Church of Christ

217 W. 13th St. Wellington, KS 67152 620-326-7511

ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 22, 2020

Call to Worship

Prayer

Song #719 “Love One Another”

Song #483 “Is It for Me?”

Song #315 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Communion Prayers

Contribution Prayer

Contribution Collection

Lesson

Song #882 “No Tears in Heaven”

Closing Prayer

Every Sunday during the sermon we offer Children’s Church to boys and girls ages 3 years through 2nd grade. They will meet in the study for stories, crafts and learning about Jesus.