

FROM FAITH TO FAITH

GRANBURY STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

2018 Granbury Street Summer Series

“What Every Congregation Needs”

June 6	A Common Faith (2 Pet. 1:1) Mike Batot, Gordon, TX
June 13	A Heart for the Lost (Acts 8:4) Tim Burroughs, North Main, Weatherford, TX
June 20	Heartfelt Prayer (Psalms, Acts 4) Phil McIntosh, Briar, TX
June 27	A Servant's Mentality (Mark 10:45) Jeremy Sprouse, Dublin, TX
July 4	The Desire to Grow (1 Peter 2:2) Ernie Albrecht, West, TX
July 11	Reverent Communion (1 Cor. 11:23-26) Dewayne Bryant, Arlington, TX
July 18	Zeal for the Work (Titus 2:14) John Haffner, TX
July 25	A Love of God's Word (Psa. 119) Wade Webster, College Station, TX
Aug. 1	A Sense of Community (Rom. 12:9-13) Todd Crayton, Frisco, TX
Aug. 8	Joyful Giving (2 Cor. 9:6-7) Johnny McCaghren, Brownwood, TX
Aug. 15	Soul-stirring Sermons (2 Tim. 4:2) Robert Moss, Fort Worth, TX
Aug. 22	Singing with Meaning (Col. 3:16) Joe Slater, Justin, TX
Aug. 29	Singing

Shepherds

Sid Carruth
Jeff Day
Kenneth Helm
Clark Lehtinen
Tim Norman

Deacons

Gary Barger
Ryan Cowan
Vince Grinnell
Justin Hewlett
Bill Hughes

Minister

Kevin Rhodes

Associate

Pat McIntosh
D.J. Stucky

Sunday

Bible Study
9:00 am
AM Worship
10:00 am
PM Worship
5:00 pm

Wednesday

Ladies Class
10:00 am
Bible Study
7:00 pm

Cleburne,
Texas

Volume 15,
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July 22,
2018

The Purpose of Bible Study

Kevin W. Rhodes

Nowhere in scripture will you find more attention and greater praise for the written word of God than in Psalm 119. While those familiar with Bible trivia immediately recognize it as the longest chapter in the Bible, totaling one hundred seventy-six verses, the power and beauty of this psalm lie in its detailed insight into the value of God's word. Divided into twenty-two sections of eight verses a piece following the Hebrew alphabet and basing every line within each section on the corresponding letter, the psalm displays a brilliant aspect of ancient poetry. However, without any doubt, its content more than its style cause the godly heart to sing. Most assume that David penned this ode to written revelation; however, the focus, placement among the psalms, and limited situational references all point to the time following Judah's return from Babylonian captivity when the rebuilding of the temple coincided with renewed attention to the Law amidst adversity and controversy. If so, the scriptures still offer a hint regarding its potential authorship: "For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel" (Ezra 7:10). The same verbs emphasized in this one verse—seek, do, and teach—demonstrate the same themes that recur throughout this powerful poem, which I encourage you to read in its entirety before continuing. Regardless of the authorship, the content deserves great attention and appreciation for its sublime description of the purpose of studying God's word.

While various descriptions of God's word dominate this psalm, its purpose lies not in emphasizing spiritual learning but spiritual living. The psalmist interweaves his love for the word of God, his learning the word of God, and his living the word of God throughout the psalm, all in the process of seeking God, honoring God, and obeying God. Thus, these concepts do not exist independently of one another but rather coalesce to present a unified whole. This should affect how God's people see God's word and the role it should play in their lives. For the psalmist, seeking God and living according to what God revealed are part

of the same process. The word deserves the utmost attention, respect, admiration, care, and love we can muster precisely because of Who gave it to us. While God introduces the extent of His power and providential care through creation, He reveals His mind, His purpose, and His heart through His word. It serves as the gateway to knowing Him and then also knowing how to please Him. God's word guides us through life, away from sin, and to the LORD. The word of God opens a window into wisdom far above our own experience that provides insight into the nature of life and into our own soul. It offers a perspective for our existence that lifts us up when we are down, humbles us when we forget our place, and gives strength in times of weakness—not due to offering clichés and feel good stories, but by drawing man closer to His Creator. However, all of inspiration benefits us none whatsoever unless we are willing to spend time, thought, and energy contemplating not only the meaning and wisdom of divine precepts but also considering the God who gave them. Our God does not call on His people to understand His will in some academic fashion; He gave us His word to affect our will so that we submit to His will.

Every aspect of studying God's word should ultimately focus on living in a way that brings us closer to God. And yet, in today's world, people seem unaware that obeying what God has revealed is the pathway to that closer relationship. In fact, some speak as if the Bible is an impediment to people's love for God, as if doctrinal faithfulness and precise obedience—both direct responses to God's will—somehow diminish joy, hope, and love. We should all adopt the psalmist's point of view. For him, the word of God was not an impersonal document loaded with burdensome regulations and restrictions. Instead, he allowed himself to embrace its content as though feeling the breath of God as He spoke. Thus, the word was not an impersonal barrier but an essential bridge, making it possible for God's heart and wisdom to affect our own and so change our lives completely through our obedience. If this is not the end in mind when we study God's word, we are doing it wrong.



News and Notes

Prayer request...

- Pauline Bishop has been released from the hospital.
- Andrew Collins is doing better with his back with different medication.
- Janie Duffield has a staph infection on her head. She is in room 12 isolation at Ridgeview Rehab.
- Amy Hackler is in room 208 at Harris Hospital downtown for tests.
- Tom Jackson, Barbara Burnett's father, is having tests. Melissa Burnett has asked for prayers for her family.
- Blakelea Ledingham had an examination on her tear ducts at Cook Children's Hospital on Thursday.
- Charles Melton didn't have a good experience with the shots in his neck. The needle hit a nerve, and the pain extends down his arm. Also, Diane's knee is hurting, and she is having shots.
- Mary Reynolds is in Baylor Surgical Center in Ft. Worth after having surgery on her wrist due to an infection.
- Don Walker had heart surgery on Wednesday to receive two permanent LVADs. Please pray for a full and swift recovery. Don & Jackie Walker 113 Carrington Dr., Buda, TX 78610.

Sympathy is extended to...

The family of Clara Mae Fish who passed away Saturday, July 14th. A memorial service will be held at 10:00, Saturday, August 4th, here at the building. We will have a luncheon following the service in the annex.

Congratulations

Marilyn Birchfield is proud to announce the arrival of her twin grandsons born on Thursday, July 19th. Luther was born at 7:54 AM weighing 6 lbs, 3 ozs. Leo was born 8:03 AM weighing 5 lbs, 4 ozs. Leo had to spend a little time in NICU. Proud parents are Brad and Jessica. Proud siblings are Levi, Luke, Lydia and Lincoln. Congratulations to the family.

Address changes

Mary McPherson (254-396-9854) has moved to 3104 Meadows Drive, Texarkana, TX 75501.

Please note...

- The Wednesday night summer series speaker for July 25th will be Wade Webster from College Station. The lesson will be: *A Love of God's Word*.
- Family Summer Series will be Thursday, July 26th, at the Colleyville church of Christ. The speaker will be Daren Schroeder, and the lesson will be *Serve Like Mary*.
- Sunday, July 29th, will be our next fifth Sunday. We will have our regular morning worship services, lunch in the annex, and at 1:00 PM Pat McIntosh will give a report on his trip to Ukraine.

Those who Serve

Lords' Supper: 7/22

Front South

Bill Hughes
Daniel Hughes
Michael Mora

Front North

Ryan Cowan
Gavin McGilvray
Joshua Haynes

Back South

Weldon York
Dennis Lane
Clint Owens

Back North

James Hunt
Michael Hunt
Gene Threadgill

Leading prayers:

Sunday AM

Will Cammack

Sunday PM

Vince Grinnell

Ryan Cowan

Wednesday PM

Kenneth Helm

Daniel Hughes

Announcements:

Sunday AM-PM:

Andrew Collins

Wednesday

Gavin McGilvray

Song leaders:

Sunday AM

D. J. Stucky

Sunday PM

D. J. Stucky

Wednesday PM

Rob Stidolph

Foyer Personnel:

Sunday & Wednesday

James Hunt

DeWayne Henegar

Collection Counting

Andrew Collins / Joshua Haynes

Beacon of Truth, Pat McIntosh's internet radio program will be on Monday thru Friday at 7:00 AM.

Expositions, Kevin's television program, airs on GBN Monday nights at 7:30 pm, Thursday mornings at 10:30 am, Thursday evenings at 6:00 pm, and Saturday afternoons at 12:30 pm.



Sermons for Sunday

AM

Building Brotherhood Fellowship
Acts 11:19-30

PM

A Bright Future
Zechariah 9:1-17

Calendar of Events



6/6-8/29 Granbury Street Summer Series

7/5-8/9 Family Summer Series

9/7-8 Marriage and Parenting Seminar
with Neal and Kathy Pollard

10/21-24 Gospel Meeting
with Todd Clippard



Our Records

Bible Class.....125

AM Worship.....194

PM Worship.....111

Wednesday Bible Class.....119

Contribution.....\$5,374

Granbury Street Church of Christ

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