

One Reason You Are Bored with the Bible...

Can I be totally honest with you? There have been times in my adult life when I have found reading the Bible... boring. At times I've watched Netflix or scrolled mindlessly through social media because I found these things more enjoyable than Bible study. I probably would have never admitted out loud that I was bored with the Bible, but my actions spoke louder than my words. This is something about which I'm incredibly ashamed, because the problem was not with the Bible, it was with me. *Here is one thing I've discovered about why people are bored with the Bible and how to fix the problem.*

Entertainment is "Junk Food"

First of all, you need to understand that entertainment is like junk food for your heart, soul, and mind. Social media, video games, Netflix, television, and even sports and hobbies are all enjoyable, but they do very little – if anything – to nourish you. In fact, they often spoil your appetite for spiritual things.

My mother used to warn me not to eat junk food before dinner because it would spoil my appetite. She was right. It wasn't just that it filled me up. It was that the more I ate junk food, the less I wanted nourishing food. I craved the junk food. After all, it's hard to eat a carrot after you've eaten a candy bar. The same is true with entertainment. The more of it you "consume," the more it will consume you!

Scripture is a Nourishing Feast

Scripture, on the other hand, is like a nourishing feast. It is like meat and vegetables. It not only tastes good, but it is good for you. But unfortunately, you're not hungry for it because you've ruined your appetite. You've watched college basketball for hours on end, but now you have to force yourself to read the Bible for just a few minutes.

One of the most important things in the whole world is reading God's word, but it shouldn't feel like a chore. In 2Timothy 3:16-17, Paul wrote to Timothy, *All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

Many of us are completely malnourished spiritually. We are not equipped for every good work, because we are too busy entertaining ourselves. We would like to find Scripture as exciting as we know it is, but we simply do not have an appetite left for the feast God has prepared for us.

How to Solve the Problem

The solution is simple, but it requires discipline and self-control. If you find entertainment more enjoyable than reading the "living and active" Word of God (Heb.4:12), then it is time to go on a fast or at least a strict diet. When you come to the realization that your diet is unhealthy, you have to cut out the junk food.

This means it is time to put away the smart phone, turn off Netflix, DVR the college basketball game, and maybe even go on a social media "fast." A little bit of entertainment – like a little bit of junk food – may be no big deal, but when it is affecting your appetite, it is a very big deal!

I can already hear people saying, "But I only watch things that are wholesome and I only use social media to connect with other like-minded Christians." Hey, me too! But that doesn't mean these things are not still negatively affecting your attention span and ruining your spiritual appetite. And remember, even reading a religious blog article does not take the place of actually reading the Bible.

Before long, you will once again see the Word of God in its proper light and say like the Psalmist in Psalm 119:103-104a, *How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through your precepts I get understanding.*

**taken from our 3/20/22 bulletin - (Article by Wes McAdams via Radically Christian)*

On Our Prayer List...		Danny Dotson -reoccurring afib	Casey Smith -having medical issues/tests
		Jimmy Long -hm recovering fr hip surg	Rita Stevens -CA
		Al & Vicki Peek	W. R. Long
			Jimmy Phy
		*Jerry Belles -now home on hospice	*THOSE DEALING/BEING TREATED FOR CANCER
		*Nancy Turner -in Vanderbilt Hosp.	*Mary Davis -(Mike Burns cousin) Melanoma
		*Aspen Anderson -(Nicole Buttrey's niece) bom premature, family requesting prayers	*Jackie Borders - Lauren Stuart's mom
		*Ronnie Pleasant -Hustburg COC-had surg on Friday-requesting prayers	*Kim Marlow -F. Featherstone dght/R. Proctor sister
		*Mike Parrish -(Wesley's son) home recovering from surgery	*Tresa Garber Staggs -Frankie's daughter
		*Ethan McClure -(friend of Buttrey family) mass in stomach	*Wanda Wright —chemo treatments
		*Shirley Proctor - (Robert's mom) in Waverly Rehab	*Jimmy Arnold -Bruce&Roxanne's son's father-in-law
		*Norma Ross -Glenn's mom	*Barry Dean -grandfather of a friend of Rachel Bell's
		*Shane Cobb —complications fr diabetes-toe/foot amputated	*Larry Hayes -(fr Waverly COC) restarted chemo
		*Wayne Hatcher -mass on liver -surg in May	*Maggie Wright -(friend of N. Buttrey) chemo
		*Faye Marshall -Traci Adam's mom	*David Stokes -(Drew Swears) step-dad
		*June Dreaden -S.Rachford's mom	*Stephanie Smith -currently in Horizon
		*Frank Hall -(Roy DeLoach's brother-in-law)-Dialysis	*Sharon Curtis
		*John Henry & Carlene Davis	*Kenna Rickenbrode
		*Ed Gunn	

ASSISTED LIVING & NURSING HOME		MILITARY
AHC Decatur County -726 Kentucky Ave., Parsons, TN 38363- Wyle Marshall (Rm 726)-Traci Adams dad		Dustin Proctor (Navy-Japan) PSC 562 Box 7273, FPO AP 96311-0073
Dickson Health & Rehab —901 North Charlotte, Dickson, TN 37055 — Clayton England -Marvin's brother		Dalton & Hope Palk (Navy-Louisiana) 500 Woodland Dr. Apt 597 New Orleans, LA 70131
Humphreys County -Billy Adams-Rm 712/ Jane Ridings -Rehab-Rm 704/ Bonita Madewell -Rehab-Rm 714 104 Forte Hill Rd, Waverly, TN 37185		
NHC-Jim & Anita -(Rehab) Buckner -both in Rm 102/ Jim & Earline Davis -Rm 103/ Doris Stokes -(Rm 127) 812 N. Charlotte, Dickson, TN 37055		
Horizon Rehab -111 Hwy 70 East, Dickson, TN 37055— Earl Forster —(Rm 100)		

AT HOME	HERBERT CAPPS- 1400 Bradley Rd, McEwen	ELTON SMITH - 7731 Hwy 70 East, McEwen
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ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

<p>We're excited to update you on the arrival of the <u>Jones family</u> (John, Erin, Lydia, Anna & Luke) plan on starting to move in on May 11th & John's first sermon as our new pulpit minister will be on May 19th Let's continue to keep them in our thoughts & prayers & in letting our community know!</p>	<p>YOUTH</p> <p>*Flame –this Wednesday, April 24th @ 5:00 PM</p>	<p>Elders, Deacons, Preachers</p> <p>Meeting</p> <p>Sunday, May 5th @ 5:00 PM</p>
<p>Your invited to a 90th Birthday party for "Ruby England", on Saturday, April 27th @ 6:00 PM @ McEwen Senior Center. RSVP to Connie at 931-209-3577 by April 22nd.</p>		

I.N.F.O.C.U.S. Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

All our school age kids have been hard at work last week as well as this week with TCAP and EOC testing going on. I know whenever these tests roll around, the end of the school year is almost here. Because of testing last week and this week, I have kept the youth activities to a minimum. We did not have any activities last week. However, we will have FLAME this Wednesday night at 5:00. Food will be provided. We will also have a devotional Sunday night after service hosted by Todd and Amy Mullinicks. We look forward to our time together.

Believe it or not, VBS is less than 2 months away. Please begin praying for a successful VBS this year. There will be several opportunities to get involved with all the prep work that goes into VBS. Be on the lookout for VBS workdays in May and early June.

In Christian Love, Keith

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday April 21st 2024

WelcomeWayne Coates
Lead Singing.....Mark Forster
1st Prayer.....Marvin England
Sermon.....Bruce Mayfield
Lord's Table.....Jimmy Suddeath
 John Potter Drew Swearns
 Glenn Ross Robert Proctor
 Chad Vaughn Jim Ridings
Closing Prayer.....Ethan Tummins
Collect Cards.....Collin Swearns
 & Parker Rackford
Greeters..... Not at this time
Nursery..... Not at this time
Collect Cups.....Youth
Security.....Team #5

Sunday 6PM, April 28th 2024

Lead Singing..... Mark Forster
Prayer.....Wade Tummins
Sermon.....Bruce Mayfield
Lord's Table.....Dennis Tester
 Matthew Dotson
Closing Prayer.....Barry Phy

Wednesday 6:30 PM, May 1st 2024

Lead Singing.....Mark Forster
Prayer.....Keith Grigsby
Adult Class.....Bruce Mayfield

If you are unable to serve...please contact
 Wade Tummins, in advance. (cell 931-209-6291)
 If changes need to be made in scheduling please
 contact Jimmy Phy.

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Week of April 21st 2024

A Caring Church Lifting Up The CROSS And CROWN of CHRIST

Love the Lord your God
 with all your heart and
 with all your soul and
 with all your mind and
 with all your strength.

Mark 12:30

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study.....9:00am
 Worship..... 10:00am
 Evening.....6:00pm

Wednesday

Bible Study..... 6:30pm

Elders:

James Buckner Calvin Buckner
 Billy Buttrey Bruce Mayfield
 W.R. Long Mike Robertson

Deacons:

Derek Berryman Mike Burns
 Wayne Coates Mark Forster
 John Hurt Barry Phy
 Robert Proctor James Ridings
 Elton Smith Joe Smith
 Dwight Stuart Drew Swearns
 Dennis Tester Ethan Tummins
 Wade Tummins Ronnie Tyler

Staff:

Ministers ---- Every Member
 Pulpit ----- John Jones
 Youth ----- Keith Grigsby

Secretaries

Terri Tummins/Teresa Fleming

*If you are unable to attend
 any service please tune in to
 our Facebook page or our
 YouTube page to watch the
 services. This is NOT a replacement for the
 command to assemble together as Christ's
 Body, but a tool for those who may be
 homebound/shut-in or sick.

The MESSENGER is online!
 Visit the church website
 to view!



OUR RECORDS for 4/21/2024

Sunday Morning Bible School — — — — — 94
 Sunday Morning Worship — — — — — 166
 Sunday Evening Worship — — — — — 91
 Wed. -Mid-Week Bible Study (4-17)- — — — — 112
 Sunday Contribution — — — — — \$7,411
 Number of Seeds Planted — — — — — 2

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