

## News & Notes

**Sunday, September 17, 2006**

**Remember in Prayer:** Sandra Alberson; Melvin Bennett; Carrol Cherry; Vikie Cobb; Diane Cox; Sally Etta Crawford; Tommy Dawson; Liddy Mae Hunt; Marie Hall; Marylyn Hubbard; Carolyn Jordan; Bill Kelly; Dot Ketchum; James Luna; John and Deliah Mann; Helen Miller; Diane Mize; Howard Moody; Lillie Mae Shelby; Calvin Ursery; James Williams; Charles West; Alvie Williford;

**Sympathy** is extended to the families of Ernest Fortner, John L. Elliot and Fred Taylor.

**Pantry item** for the month of September is Velveeta cheese.

The latest edition of **House to House/heart to heart** has arrived. For those not on the mailing route, copies are available in the foyer.

**Area events:** September 30 beginning@9:30 AM: Ladies day at the Batesville Church of Christ; October 1-5: Gospel meeting at the Theo church of Christ with W. E. Hamblen; October 7: Ladies day at Chapman with Cynthia Guy.

### Sermon In Preview:

AM: What's Wrong With Denominationalism? (Matthew 16:13-20)

PM: The Folly of Following Men (1Corinthians 3-4)

### For the Record (September 10, 2005):

Attendance: 64    Contribution: \$1345.00    Budget: \$1352.00

### *The Ashland Church of Christ*

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#### Sunday:

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30 AM

Worship 6:00 PM

#### Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00 PM

#### Shepherds:

Barney King  
Carrol Street



# ASHLAND ANNOUNCER

"I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14)

## WHY STUDY THE BIBLE

Jacob Campbell

Why should we study the Bible? Why bother opening this book to read it and try to learn its message? Why are preachers and elders always encouraging us to read our Bibles at home and other places on our own? Christians get enough Bible on Sunday and Wednesday, don't they? How important is it to read and study the Bible? If we believe the Bible to be God's word, which it is, then we should see the importance in spending as much time as possible reading it, and try to gain as much knowledge from it as we can. Why study the Bible? Here are twenty simple reasons:

1. God has commanded us to (John 5:39; Ephesians 5:17).
2. The Bible is the inspired word of God (2Timothy 3:16; 2Peter 1:20, 21; 2Samuel 23:2; 1Thessalonians 2:13).
3. It is the only way to know God's thoughts and will for us (Isaiah 55:8, 9; 1 Corinthians 2:9-16).
4. It is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16).

5. It builds us up (edifies), and is able to give us an inheritance (Acts 20:32).
6. It is a lamp unto our feet, and a light unto our path (Psalm 119:105).
7. It saves us (James 1:21).
8. It thoroughly furnishes (equips) us unto all good works (2Timothy 3:15-17).
9. It makes us wise (2Timothy 3:15; Ephesians 5:17).
10. Its words endure forever and will not pass away (1Peter 1:23-25; Matthew 24:35).
11. It is through the Bible that we are called by God (2Thessalonians 2:14).
12. It is what we will be judged by (John 12:48).
13. It is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth (John 17:17; Titus 1:2).
14. Faith comes from it, and nothing else (Romans 10:17).
15. We study so that we will not sin (Psalm 119:11; 1John 2:1; 1Corinthians 10:6-12).
16. Those who search the scriptures are considered by God to be noble (Acts 17:11).
17. It reveals all we know about the church (Ephesians 3:1-11).
18. We will be able to teach it to others (Hebrews 5:12; 2Timothy 2:2).

19. We will then be able to give an answer to every man who asks about the hope in Jesus Christ (1Peter 3:15), contend for the faith (Jude 3), and be set for the defense of the gospel (Philippians 1:17).

20. We love God and His word (Psalm 119:97, 119, 127, 159, 167).

Christians today do not know the Bible like Christians did in the past. In many congregations of the church, preachers and Bible class teachers are more concerned with pleasing the listeners, entertaining the youth, and keeping large crowds. We need elders who will make sure the flock is being fed God's word (Acts 20:28). Sometimes parents neglect their duty to raise their children up "*in the nurture and admonition of the Lord*" (Ephesians 6:4). But, sometimes, we ourselves simply do not put forth enough effort in reading and studying the Bible, God's word, on our own. Hearing it preached once or twice a week, or sitting in two or three Bible classes a week (if we attend them all) is not enough.

If something is getting in the way of our searching the scriptures daily, then we need to get rid of whatever that is in our life, or learn how to manage our time better. A Christian who is too busy to read God's word daily, is too busy. Satan is continually seeking Christians' souls to destroy (1Peter 5:8). When he gets one Christian just to stop growing, that Christian has died. So, let us read, study, and know God's word so that we can "*grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ*" (2Peter 3:18), and "*desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye [we] may grow thereby*" (1Peter 2:2).