

SICK LIST:**HEALTHCARE CENTERS:**

Bertharine Burton, Ruby Harrison, Willie Nelson (Shadescrest, Rm 111)

HOME: Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, Ed & Bettie Barrett, H.C. & Jimmie Nell Brown, Fred & Romaine Elliott, Henry McDonald, Bessie Files, Nellie Windham, Frank Brown

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Kimberly Wilcox, Sonya Parnell, Michelle Howell, Anna Turner, Francis Rushing, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Larry Drummond, Jim Murrell, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Joe Windham, Vera Fike, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Sharon Lawson, Esther Sutton, Wilma Howell, Patsy Tucker, Rhonda Poe, Debbie Odom, Rick McDonald

AM - BEN WRIGHT - HANDLING THE SWORD

PM - BEN WRIGHT - GREAT GIFTS FROM GOD

THERE WILL BE A LADIES ORNAMENT PARTY DEC 13 AT BRANDI RICHARDSON'S. PLEASE BRING FINGER FOODS AND AN ORNAMENT

THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE IN SERVICE TIMES DECEMBER 25

READING FOR THE WEEK: SUN- PHILIPPIANS 1-4; MON- COLOSSIANS 1-4; TUES- 1 THESSALONIANS 1-5; WED- 2 THESSALONIANS 1-3; THUR- 1 TIMOTHY 1-6; FRI- 2 TIMOTHY 1-4; SAT- TITUS & PHILEMON; SUN- HEBREWS 1-3

BIRTHDAYS:

Dec 12: Nelda Windham

13: J.D. Dailey

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HIGHWAY 78
CARBON HILL, AL 35549
(205) 924-9038
westwalkerchurchofchrist.org

TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING

BIBLE CLASS 9:30

WORSHIP 10:20

SUNDAY EVENING 5:00

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00

ELDERS:

Gene McDonald 924-4827
Carlton Myers 221-0637
Neil Myers 924-9289
Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 522-8004

HANDLING THE SWORD

(Ephesians 6:17)

I. Some _____ to handle it.

- A. One way that people handle the word of God is by letting it _____ dust on a table or shelf in their homes.
- B. This method of handling the Bible shows in the life of the _____ of a neglected sword.
 - 1. They still need to be _____ because they are unskillful or unknowledgeable of God's word(Hebrews 5:12-13).
 - 2. They continually _____ into sin because of neglect (Psalm 119:11).
 - 3. They fall into doctrinal error because they don't know when others _____ the word of God (Ephesians 4:14).
- C. There is a large number of biblically _____ members of the Lord's church.

II. Some handle it _____.

- A. Notice 2 _____ 4:1-2.
- B. Earlier he commented that he was not like some who _____ God's word (2:17).
- C. Many handle God's word deceitfully in order to _____ themselves.
- D. Some handle it deceitfully to _____ their own sin or the sins of those they love.
- E. Some handle it deceitfully to avoid clear _____.
- F. Some handle it deceitfully to gain an _____.
- G. Did you notice what Peter said was _____ those who mishandle God's word (2 Peter 3:16)?

III. Some handle it _____.

- A. Notice 2 Timothy 2:15 from the American Standard Version - "Give diligence to present thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, handling _____ the word of truth."
- B. Paul knew that it would take _____ on Timothy's part to handle God's word properly, thus the idea of giving diligence.
- C. In order to handle it correctly, Paul encouraged Timothy to hold tightly to the words he had _____ from Paul (2 Timothy 1:13).
- D. Notice the encouragement to stay _____ in the Lord (2:1-4).
- E. Instead of getting caught up in problems, some things are to be _____ in order to remain faithful (2 Timothy 2:16, 23).
- F. The Sword of the Spirit is to be used to _____ oneself and others and is of great benefit when used properly.

PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY

Jim Wyatt

The Bible is the greatest of all books. To study the Bible is the noblest of all pursuits. To understand it is the highest of all goals. But how can you get the most out of your investment when you study the Bible? I would like to make four suggestions for productive personal Bible study.

First, you must make a personal commitment to use your Bible. This is often the most difficult step in Bible study, to simply open the book and read it. Where should you start reading first? This is not a question with a universal answer. For each person's needs are different. If you have never studied the Bible seriously, you might feel more comfortable reading the book of James. If you want to start with a Gospel, read Mark's fast-moving account of the life of Christ. Later, if you are looking for fast action, try Acts. If you are studying a particular book in your Bible class, you might want to use that book as a basis for your own in-depth study. Whatever book you choose, read it in its entirety before starting another one. Hit-or-miss reading usually misses more than it hits!

Second, read and study wisely. To do this, you may wish to correlate the teaching of the particular section you are studying with other parts of Scripture. For example, you might notice that when you read Matthew 1:19, the inspired writer mentions the subject of divorce. But Matthew does not fully develop the topic of divorce here. You would be wise in this case to look in the index of your Bible in order to locate another reference on divorce. In this case, your Bible reference might send you over to I Corinthians chapter seven for more information on this subject. Also, as you proceed through a book, look back frequently to the entire outline found at the beginning of that book in order to check your bearings.

Thirdly, hopefully your Bible contains helpful study guides that will help you achieve your goal of productive Bible study. Most study Bibles have introductions. These introductions will help lead you into the messages of the books by providing you with important background material. Be sure to look at the notes at the bottom of the pages in your Bible. These notes are designed to illuminate and help you understand the verses you are reading.

Fourthly, write in your Bible! Write in the margins the meanings of words you look up, so the next time you read the passage you will not have to look it up again. Another thing that you can do is to write a summary word or phrase of the contents of different sections. Write a key word or phrase that conveys a principal idea in a particular chapter. I try to memorize these words or phrases. By doing this, I am able to think my way through an entire book. Make sure that you write relevant cross references that you have discovered. Jot down a word or two that will remind you of what each particular cross reference says. And finally, briefly note personal applications of texts in your margins. Later, as you read those texts again, you will be reminded of commitments you made to the Lord.

Congratulations! You are obviously serious about studying the Scriptures if you are already doing these things. But remember, as useful as these helps can be, the most important thing to remember is to simply read the Bible itself. The Bible is God's Word to you. The more you study, the greater reservoir of Bible truth you will build. From this reservoir, you will be able to draw correction, encouragement and guidance as you continue your personal study from the "Book of Books."