

Prayer Requests & Announcements

- The Christians in the Philippines.
- Save the Date: Bobby Graham will be holding a Gospel Meeting for us September 17-22, 2017.

For prayer requests, call or text Chad @ (208) 221-2587

Assignments

Today Bible Study – Tom Mitchell Song Leader – Dave Porter Lord's Table – Chad Mitchell Sermon – Ross Ward	Wednesday Bible Study – Ross Ward Song Leader – Dave Porter Invitation – Ross Ward
Next Sunday Bible Study – Tom Mitchell Song Leader – Tom Mitchell Lord's Table – Dave Porter Sermon – Ross Ward	Next Wednesday Bible Study – Ross Ward Song Leader – Chad Mitchell Invitation – Ross Ward

Blackfoot church of Christ
370 North Shilling Ave.
Blackfoot Idaho, 83221

Meeting Times:

Sunday Morning Classes 10:00AM
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00AM
Wednesday Evening 7:30PM



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Gospel Meeting

By Ross Ward

I am excited that we have such good lesson topics prepared for our gospel meeting. Several of these lessons center upon the root of our beliefs as Christians: that there is Truth, what is Truth, and how we respond to the Truth. With our Gospel Meeting just a short time away, it is good for us to consider the great value in this event.

Lesson Topics

Sunday Morning Bible Class 10:00	What Is Truth?
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00	The Narrowness of Truth.
Sunday Afternoon Worship 2:30	The Truth about Life.
Monday Night 7:30	Are You Searching for Truth?
Tuesday Night 7:30	The Truth about the NT Church.
Wednesday Night 7:30	The Truth about the 1,000 Year Reign and the End of Time.
Thursday Night 7:30	Do You Love the Truth?
Friday Night 7:30	The Truth about Salvation by Grace.

Evangelism:

These are great topics for evangelism. It seems one of the great obstacles in convincing our friends and family about the truth of God's word is their prejudices. Sometimes this prejudice is based on long held family values and beliefs. At times people even respond that they will condemn their entire family if they accept the words of the Bible. Such a sad situation. These lessons are centered upon the truth and will help our friends and neighbors in the community navigate through the prejudices that exist to the truth God has revealed in His word.

Personal Development:

These lessons also help us in our endeavors to rightly divide God's word in keeping with Paul's instruction to Timothy, (II Tim 2:15). Though Timothy was a young preacher and servant of the Gospel, Paul's teaching to Timothy is also important for us to consider. Being a Christian does not shield us from error. It has been said by some that you can prove any doctrine you want from the Bible and I believe this to be a true statement. We are plenty capable of misusing and twisting God's word. Many passages can be misunderstood or misapplied because we do not understand the context of scripture or because we do not study the totality of scripture. These lessons will help remind us of the value of the truth in God's word and the great importance of proper evaluation of them.

Personal Renewal:

I always find Gospel meetings to be a great time of renewal. There is something about taking time out of our schedules and meeting with brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the week. Yes, there are often strains on our time due to commitments. It seems today that our lives are filled with activities from morning to the end of day. Personally I have always found gospel meetings to be reinvigorating and always worthy of the extra effort that is devoted to making each services. It is not that we always learn something new; maybe we are reminded of something we had forgotten or had stored in the back corner of our mind. It is always good to meet together and join in worship of God. In Acts we see the new Christians were very active in assembling and working together. Yes, there was a lot going

on in their lives too. There were many families in Jerusalem for the Passover in (Acts 2:1-47) that became Christians and it appears many remained longer than intended because of the great events that took place. Later we see destitute Christian's, famines, persecutions from Saul, persecutions from Jews; yet we see Christians banding together, working together, and worshipping together. We see the great dispersion in (Acts 8:1), where they left Jerusalem carrying the Gospel with them, converting others and creating more congregations of Christians. From this, we can see the great value in the assembly of Christians. Camaraderie existed between those with the same faith, same persecutions, and same trials in life. This allowed them to share in this, so that no one had to learn in a vacuum, nor face the trials and persecutions alone.

Concluding thoughts:

The bible contains truths from God that transcends any family values or beliefs. When we realize this, we must react like Christ's disciples that we read about in the Bible, (Jn 6:66-68). Christ has the words of eternal life. There is no other place to learn them. Yet, the words He spoke were not acceptable for some and they turned away from Him, (Jn 6:61-66). Peter and the rest of the Apostles realized that if the word is from God, it is truth, it is life, and it is absolutely correct. It stands superior to the prejudice of family history or any human reasoning. Yes, at times the truth causes riffs within families (Mt 10:34-37) and within our hearts (Heb 4:11-12). The solution is not to ignore God and continue in error but to accept the message and work to convert others. How did the rich man in the parable of The Rich Man and Lazarus respond (Lk 16:19-31) as he was in great torment because he had failed to follow God's will? He wanted somebody to warn his family. He wanted somebody to evangelize and convert them so the path of their life did not end as his. Note the response of Abraham in the parable. "They have Moses and the prophets, let them hear them." There is great power in God's word, so much so, it is capable of converting us from error, saving us from eternal punishment, (Jas 5:19-20). With such value in this message, it is of the utmost importance that we work to avoid prejudice that Satan uses to conceal the true message, that we rightly divide the word, and spend a few evenings together reasoning from them.