

Please join us for **'The Virtual Bible Study'** on Thursday evenings at 9pm Eastern / 8pm Central
It's Always Needed!

I heard a story of a man in the mid 1950's entering school to study engineering. A professor told the entering freshmen class to buy the best slide rule they could afford. The reason: "You will be dependent on it all your 'professional life.'" Well, of course, it wasn't too long before the slide rule was replaced by the calculator.

We've seen those same sorts of things in fairly recent years: 8 tracks, cassette tapes (almost), & even VHS tapes!

Things that today we consider essential may quickly become obsolete. Tomorrow they may be discarded as antiques that cannot provide the help we need.

At least one thing from the past, however, will always be needed and never become obsolete. It is the Bible, God's Holy Word. No matter how much technological change and progress takes place, the Book will remain the one sure means for getting the right answers to the complicated questions: our origin, our purpose, our needs, and our final destination.

Psalm 119:105, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Psalm 18:30, "As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the Lord is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him."

Psalm 119:160, "The entirety of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous judgments endures forever."

1 Peter 1:23, "For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God."

Make sure you keep your Bible around and use it! You'll always need it.

- by Shane Williams

Doing Good

The New Testament tells us that Jesus "went about doing good" (Acts 10:38). Jesus spent His life in service to others and helping others.

- Have you ever heard of a "complainer" doing good for others with his complaining?
- Have you ever heard of a "gossip" who helped others with his/her gossip?
- How much good has a liar ever done with his lying?
- How many people have ever been aided by the anger from an angry person?
- How many individuals have had their lives made happier by the slander from one who maligns another's character?
- How well thought of is the disagreeable and negative person who can never find good in anything?

If we want to make a difference in our living, we need to be like the Lord Jesus and "go about doing good."

- by Bill Dillon

Winning Souls

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise." (Proverbs 11:30)

Let us not forget our responsibility to the lost. We have been saved by the gospel of Christ. It is ours to take that gospel to others. Truly we have been saved to serve. Paul felt himself a debtor to all men — not because of what they had done for him but because of what the Christ had done for him. He could pay his debt by preaching the gospel to others. (Rom. 1:15, 16) He said, "Woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!" and was "made all things to all men," that he "might by all means save some." (1 Cor. 9:16, 22). But, what debt did Paul owe that WE do not owe? Did not the same Christ who saved Paul save US? Is not the gospel by which Paul was saved the gospel by which we are saved? Is not the gospel still "the power of God unto salvation"? (Rom. 1:16) And is it not our responsibility to take this gospel to others? (Mark 16:15, 16; 2 Tim. 2:2; 1 Tim. 3:15) What are WE doing about it? What are YOU doing about it?

Yes, "he that winneth souls is wise." He is working with the most valuable material (Matt. 16:26). He is doing a work that is far reaching and lasting — reaching into eternity itself. He is doing his duty — a duty enjoined upon him by the Lord and a duty that love for his fellowmen requires. (Mark 16:15; Matt. 22:39; 7:12) He is working with God. What an honor! What a privilege!

Let each of us give himself to faithfully teaching God's truth to others, taking advantage of every opportunity to speak to our associates of the Christ and His truth, leading them to become obedient to the gospel. Let us work at the job of "winning souls."

- by Paul C. Keller

Is Your Heart Right With God?

We have a very simple question to ask: Is your heart right with God? As you think about your answer to this most important of all questions, we'd like you to consider these observations:

1) You might as well be honest about this, because "if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things" (1 John 3:20). So then, if you have never obeyed the gospel, or if you are unfaithful in your service as a Christian, you ought to own up to the reality of your dangerous spiritual condition -- after all, you can't hide these things from God.

2) Judgment is as certain as life itself. "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Romans 14:12).

3) In light of these facts, perhaps you should begin right now thinking about a good excuse that you can use on the judgment day. A few favorites will surely be: "I was too busy", "I didn't feel well", "I had family obligations", "My work demanded so much of my' time", "The people at church were unfriendly", "I didn't like the preacher, or the elders, or the teachers, or...." Feel free to pick one of these, or perhaps you can come up with one of your own that seems more appropriate to your own particular situation.

4) We must warn you, however, that the excuse you choose, no matter how good it seems, will not be good enough. (Read Matthew 7:21-23 and 25:31-46) The truth of the matter is that "we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (2 Corinthians 5:10).

5) So our best advice then is to get right with God. It is ultimately important, and excuses just won't get the job done - not now, and certainly not in judgment.

- by Greg Gwin