

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Katelynne Howze—sick
- ♦ Kynlie and Finn Lawson—sick
- ♦ Donna Parish—sick

Others in Need

- ♦ Teresa Foster—passed away
- ♦ Mary Lou Joseph—cancer
- ♦ Mariah Hilburn—expecting
- ♦ Michael Hudson—stage 4 cancer
- ♦ Tony Jones—Parkinson's
- ♦ Denver Kitzan—brain surgery
- ♦ Jeff Mashburn—health problems
- ♦ Thad McCall—health problems
- ♦ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ♦ Shane Price—cancer
- ♦ Ashley Rawls—at home
- ♦ Larry Shappley—hospice care
- ♦ Scott Snyder—kidney stone surgery recovery
- ♦ Yoel Urra—surgery recov. issue

Continued in next column...

- ♦ Denise Vincent's daughter and grandchildren—Covid-19
- ♦ Ronnie Wells—health problems
- ♦ Craig Wray—stage 4 cancer
- ♦ Christians overseas
- ♦ Pray for the bereaved, the persecuted, sick/suffering, civil leaders, military, 1st responders, sound Bible schools, the lost, enemies.

Events



Sept. 10
Men's Meeting

Sept. 27
4th Wednesday Singing

Faithful Worship — **1) Praying** to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 11:1-2; John 16:23; Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6); **2) Singing** without mechanical instruments (Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17; Heb. 2:12); **3) Preaching** God's Word (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:42; 20:7); **4) Giving** weekly as prospered, cheerfully (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7); **5) The Lord's Supper** on the first day of every week (Matt. 26:26-28; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20-34; 16:2; Heb. 10:23-31).

To Our Visitors

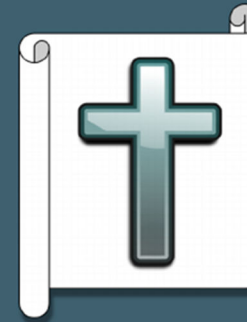


We are happy and honored that you are here! Please fill out a visitor's card and give us a chance to get to know you. If you have any questions about anything said or done in Bible class or worship, please ask. We seek to give a Bible answer for everything we do (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).

Privileged to Serve



Announcements—Mark Howze
Song Leading—Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Caleb Howze
Serving the Lord's Supper
 Head: Leo Derrick; Helpers: Glenn Howze, Josh Lawson, Johnny Moss
Lord's Supper PM
 Head: Justin Derrick
 Helper: Ethan Howze
Scripture Reading—Ezra Howze



THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

September 10, 2023

Meeting Times

Sundays:

10AM Bible Class
 11AM Worship
 6PM Worship

Wednesdays:

7PM Bible Class

Other Information

5761 Hwy. 4
 P.O. Box 285
 Baker, FL 32531 USA
 850-669-9117

Website:

churchofChristatBaker.com

Radio Program:

104.7FM Sundays 8:30AM
 WAAZ1047.com livestream

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Have Ye Not Read?

Jason Patrick Hilburn

Did Jesus emphasize reading God's Word? The following is from Matthew's Gospel account:

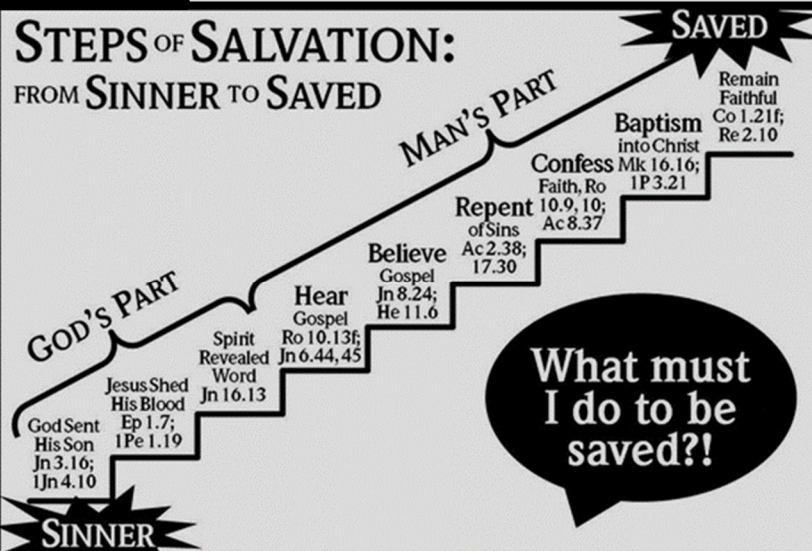
- "Have ye not read...?" (12:3).
- "Or have ye not read...?" (12:5).
- "Have ye not read...?" (19:4).
- "Yea; have ye never read...?" (21:16).
- "Did ye never read in the Scriptures...?" (21:42).
- "...have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God...?" (22:31).

If we do not know the Scriptures well, we will be easily deceived and may even deceive ourselves into thinking we are saved when we are not.

"...Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures..." (Mt. 22:29).

STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED

"...ye were the servants of sin..."
(Romans 6:17).



"...but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Rom. 6:17b-18).

How Long Does It Take to Read the Bible?

Jason Patrick Hilburn

It seems that Satan has done an excellent job convincing people that the Bible is too large and intimidating. Many never begin reading the Bible, because they are intimidated by its size. Is the Bible really an insurmountable obstacle which cannot be conquered? Do Christians today have enough time to devote to reading such a “large” book? If one were to compare time spent engaged in popular forms of entertainment versus the time it takes to read the Bible, what would he find?

There are many who spend countless hours reading secular books. What if the child of God spent as much time reading the Bible as he spent reading other books? Though the *Harry Potter* book series is not necessarily being recommended, “As of February 2023, the books have sold more than 600 million copies worldwide...The last four books consecutively set records as the fastest-selling books in history...” (Wikipedia). The *Harry Potter* book series has a total of 4,100 pages (Answers.com). How does this compare to the Bible? A standard pew Bible examined contained 960 pages of Biblical text, with just 223 pages in the New Testament. Using these page amounts for a rough estimate, in the time spent reading the *Harry Potter* series, a person could have read the entire Bible at least four times, or the entire New Testament eighteen times! It is understood that page and font sizes could slightly affect these numbers, but even with this rough estimate the point is clear. What if over 600 million people alive today could honestly say they had read the entire Bible four times, or the New Testament eighteen times?

What about the time one may spend in other forms of entertainment, such as watching sports? Instead of watching sports most of the day on a Saturday, how many chapters of the Bible could have been read during the duration of just one football game? The average college football game lasts

“about 3 hours” (Answers.com), and the average adult reads between 200 and 300 words per minute (wpm). People who enjoy reading typically read above 400 wpm. Many people read at speeds above 800 wpm and maintain excellent comprehension (freereadingtest.com).

Although there is nothing inherently wrong with watching sports, during the time it would have taken to watch one football game, at an average rate of 250 words per minute, the sports fan could have read Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, First Thessalonians, Second Thessalonians, First Timothy, Second Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, First Peter, Second Peter, First John, Second John, Third John, and Jude, and still have over 35 minutes remaining! (based on total number of words per book). That would be 76 chapters of God’s Word, and he would still have time to include First Corinthians, for a total of 92 chapters in three hours! Granted, many, if not most, will read more slowly, and many may want to spend more time in each book for deeper study, but the point is this— people have time to read God’s Word!

A suggestion is to get the Bible in audio format and listen to it while doing “mundane” tasks like driving, cleaning the house, taking a shower, working outside, etc. Although you can buy copies of the Bible on audio CD, the Bible is available for free in audio format via certain websites or phone apps such as *Bible.is*, *Bible.com*, or *YouVersion*. You may be surprised how much of the Bible you can listen to while doing other things like those mentioned above! This method may not result in as much information being retained as some other methods, but this is surely another way we can fill our minds with God’s Word and make the best use of our time (Eph. 5:15-17).

Much more could be said, but the Bible is not as large and intimidating as many have been persuaded to believe. Let us fill our minds with God’s Word to be more like Him and be closer to Him! (Psa. 119:97; Col. 3:2; Php. 2:5; 4:8; 1 Tim. 4:13; 1 Tim. 4:15-16; 2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Pet. 2:2; 2 Pet. 3:18).