

Pastor's Pen

Have you not read?

"But He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he became hungry, he and his companions," (Matthew 12:7)

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus asks, **"Have you not read?"** five times when talking to the religious leaders.

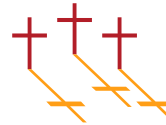
- The first time was when the Pharisees saw Jesus disciples pick the heads of grain and eat. Their response was, **"Look, Your disciples do what is not lawful to do on a Sabbath"**(Mt.12:1-2). Jesus replied, **"Have you not read what David did when he became hungry, he and his companions"**(Mt.12:3).
- The second time, **"some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and saying, 'is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?'"** (Mt.19:3). Jesus replied, **"Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female"**(Mt.19:4).
- The Third time, **"But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the marvelous things which He had done, and the children who were shouting in the temple, saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they became indignant and said to Him, "Do You hear what these children are saying?"**(Mt.21:15-16). **"And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies You have prepared praise for Yourself' (Mt.21:16)?"**
- The fourth time, **"And when He entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to Him while He was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are You doing these things, and who gave You this authority?"** (Mt.21:23). Jesus said to them, **"Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'The stone which the builders rejected, This became the chief corner stone; This came about from the Lord, And it is marvelous in our eyes'?"**(Mt. 21:42).

- The fifth time, **"On that day some Sadducees (who say there is no resurrection) came to Jesus and asked Him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies having no children, his brother as next of kin shall marry his wife and raise up a seed for his brother'"**(Mt.22:23-24). And in his reply, Jesus said **"Have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, "I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob: He is not the God of the dead but of the living."** (Mt. 22:31-32)

It should not be hard for us to understand how it is essential that we read God's Word. God has given us all that we need to live lives that are holy and pleasing to Him. There is no excuse for Christians to be ignorant about what God's Word has to say about living our lives for Him. The reason that there are so many false teachers and believers in the church today is that they fail to read the Bible. Let us diligently study Scripture so we are not like the religious leaders and hear the same chastening, **"Have you not read?"**

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark



Quote of the Week

"In the divine Scriptures, there are shallows and there are deeps. Shallows where the lamb may wade — and deeps where the elephant may swim!"

-John Owen

Grace Gems

A refreshing cordial to a weary traveler!- (J.R. Miller)

"I will meditate on Your precepts, and contemplate Your ways." Psalm 119:15

The habit of laying up a text of Scripture in the morning, to be meditated upon while engaged in the business of this world through the day, is both profitable and delightful. It is as a refreshing cordial to a weary traveler!

Nothing is more helpful and practical in Christian living, than the habit of getting a verse or phrase of Scripture into the mind and heart in the morning. Its influence stays through the day, weaving itself into all the day's thoughts and words and experiences.

Every verse in the Bible is meant to help us to live, and a good devotional book opens up the precious teachings which are folded up in its words.

A devotional book which takes a Scripture text, and so opens it for us in the morning, that all day long it helps us to live, becoming a true lamp to our feet, and a staff to lean upon when the way is rough-is the very best devotional help we can possibly have. What we need in a devotional book which will bless our lives, is the application of the great teachings of Scripture to common, daily, practical life!

"His delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night!" Psalm 1:2

"Oh, how I love Your law! I meditate on it all day long!" Psalm 119:97

Robert Harris:

"We must be careful . . .

to read Scripture,

to embed it in our hearts by meditation,

and to apply it closely to our consciences.

Only then it will be profitable to our hearts!"

Weekly Gatherings

Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes
Ladies Class
Young Adults Young Parents
Youth Surge
Sunday Morning @ 9:00AM



Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays | 6:30PM AWANA



Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM
Please see website for locations



Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and need to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address on the back of this bulletin.



Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study; AWANA & Surge!



Service Times

Sunday Services 10:30AM
Sunday School 9:00AM
Children's Church @11:00AM



Giving from service on 12/01/2024

General Offering	\$9,026.80
Building Fund	\$2,298.00
Uganda Missions	130.00
Benevolence	\$200.00
Christmas SOS	\$351.00

Total.....\$12,005.80
Attendance 204

Christmas SOS goal \$8,000.....so far \$1,351

Build the Body Ministries

- Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
- AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
- Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
- Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
- Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
- Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
- Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
- Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
- Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org
- Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
- Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
- Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org
- Security-security@ghbcva.org



GRACE HARVEST BIBLE CHURCH

GO GATHER GROW GO

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Grace Harvest Bible Church

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