



Week 3 - September 21st

A Searching Faith that Views Life through the Lens of the Bible

The Week's Memory Verse: 2 Timothy 3:14,15

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Did you read the newspaper this week? Have you watched the nightly news on a major network or cable outlet? It is a confusing and confused world out there, isn't it? In the Bible, God reminds us that while we live and move "in" this world, we are not to be worldly in our outlook. Abortion, euthanasia, stem cell research, cohabitation, gay marriage... on and on go the current slate of controversial issues in our world. What do you think about these things? Do you have understanding and a strong opinion? Would your view of life play well with your neighbors?

The Word of God opens our eyes to life principles that apply to any situation we can encounter. As Christians, bought with Jesus' blood for all eternity, our hearts yearn to honor God with our lives. With the Spirit's help, we seek to do that. Honestly, earnestly, we turn to God's Word for answers to issues that tug at our minds and hearts.

Our services this week have encouraged us to look at our world, instead of ducking our heads. Our faith leads us to search the Scriptures for the principles God provides for our walk with him.

Growing in Faith

Use Meditations (available at church) which place you into daily contact with God's Word.

Memorize the Bible verse for this week.

Set aside daily time to complete the 90 Day (New Testament) Bible Reading Plan. When you are finished with the day's segment, reflect upon the meaning of what you have covered. (The plan is available on the website.)

Read Matthew 24:1-35 where Jesus describes the end of time

- ✓ What will be happening in the world as the end dawns? What will be going on religiously?
- ✓ Jesus points to one hopeful thing, against a very sad backdrop, what is it?
- ✓ False prophets can appear as religious people or as those conveying the wisdom of the age. What can you say about their messages?
- ✓ How can a believer hope to sort through the maze and haze of the end times?
- ✓ While people will shake in terror as this world ends, why is this something we can look forward to?
- ✓ Why is this section of Scripture so important? What does it encourage you to be doing with your life?

We are now done with our first three weeks of together walking a path that leads to forever. These weeks have encouraged us to see the importance of God's Word and Sacraments in our lives. These are the tools the Holy Spirit uses to work inside our souls. May the first three segments of our journey serve to raise your awareness of the ongoing need for God's Word in your daily life.