

May 3, 2020

A.M. Worship
Contribution
Weekly Budget

online
\$6,065.00
\$5,284.00

Can you find 22 books of the Bible in this paragraph?

The Bible books number sixty-six in the King James Version and form a most remarkable library. The impact of the Bible, whose ancient writings and truth still apply, has been dynamic. A hard-to-ignore fact is the quality of its teaching. Most of the Old Testament was written in Hebrew, somewhere east of Suez, rather close to Judea. Accounts such as these are interesting, but the main job is to find the Bible book names in this paragraph. All may compete. Respond by underlining each book as you find it. It usually takes but a few minutes to judge several sentences for such names. There is the danger of seeking so hurriedly one will overlook names in going from answer to answer. This is just a fluke of eyesight. Though twenty-two books are here concealed, it is hard to say what score is normal. A child may find certain books whereas adults will overlook them. At the worst, one should find a few. As a matter of fact, some are obvious in a humorous sort of way.

NOTE FROM THE ELDERS

On April 27th, the governor announced that he will allow churches to gather after May 1st, with certain restrictions. It seems that we can gather a certain percent of members into our building for worship. The elders have tentatively set the date of May 17th as our morning worship service within our building. This date will allow the elders to finalize plans for getting seated, taking communion, giving our offerings, leaving, etc. in order to have six feet of separation. We will continue all of our present on-line church morning services for the elderly, and those that do not yet feel comfortable in public places. We will continue all present on-line Zoom study groups throughout the weeks. Please continue to pray for one another, pray for our family and friends, that none of us will be affected by this virus. Please pray that a vaccine will be available for everyone soon. We will keep you updated should anything change.



ELDER David Johnson Curtis Sanford Phil Carter Jeff King	DEACON Kim Smith Joe Davis	Walter Anderson	CHURCH OF CHRIST 1100 E Wilkins PO BOX 688 ANGLETON, TEXAS 77516 Phone: (979) 849-6391	WITH ACCENTS ON ACTIVITIES OF THE CHURCH "	MAY 5, 2020
				VOLUME LI, NUMBER 18	

WORKDAY AT THE CHURCH

Saturday, May 9th at 9:00 a.m.

Please contact the church office, if you can help.
Bring rakes, wheelbarrows, and shovels for the mulch.

Lock the Building

Two weeks in a row one of the doors in the foyer has been found unlocked. When the panic bars were installed that added a secondary lock. The doors and are now unable to be unlocked from the outside when the panic bar is up. The only door that has the panic bar locked down and can be accessed from the outside is the door under the covered driveway. Please remember to lock the doors behind you when leaving.

From the Preacher's Desk

"Return to the Old Paths"

I want to activate your imaginations for just a moment. I want you to imagine that your favorite sport disappeared completely. No one played it, no one practiced it, and no one even talked about, at least not anymore. For me, that sport is football. It's difficult to envision what the world would be like if football didn't exist, especially in the states of Texas and Oklahoma. However, imagine that somewhere in the past it just vanished completely, and you never knew the game. Now imagine you found a manual about football; an ancient document you uncovered in a dusty attic. You open the book and inside are the rules, regulations, and instructions on how to organize and play the sport. If you were to follow those rules exactly, what would it look like? To no surprise, it would look like the game of football that we know and love today. How could this be possible? Because you followed the rulebook, and when you follow the rulebook it doesn't matter how much time passes the game looks the same.

This is one of the greatest examples of the restoration of the Lord's Church. Men like Alexander Campbell, Tolbert Fanning, and Barton W. Stone noticed a similar vanishing. However, it wasn't the disappearance of football, but the one true church. It was changed so much that it was unrecognizable. Mankind had become more concerned with the world and less concerned with the Word. It took sacrifice and dedication to return the Lord's church to what we know and love today. *Return to the Old Paths* by V. Glenn McCoy is a fantastic book about the history of the Restoration Movement. Sadly, many people do not realize the sacrifice that numerous people had to make to ensure that the Lord's Church would return to its rightful glory. Men like, Jerome Savonarola who through his studies denied the authority of the Pope and fought against the Catholic Church. He was arrested, tried, condemned, and burned alive on May 23, 1498, in front of the very church where he had preached the majority of his life. Often we forget to recognize the cost it takes to stand up and do something great for that which is right.

Someone once asked C.S. Lewis, "Why do the righteous suffer?" Lewis responded, "Why not? They're the only ones who can take it." Although we might not suffer presently like those who strove to restore the Lord's Church, we will suffer eternally if we refuse to fight for its survival. The church started with a sacrifice and must end with a sacrifice. Hebrews 10:10 says, "We have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." Christ came down and took the form of a man to die that we might be forgiven for our sins and the church be established on earth. He sacrificed his life for every one of us and we have to live a life worthy of that sacrifice.

McCoy in his book *Return to the Old Paths* writes, "Unfortunately, the church that Jesus established in the first century did not remain faithful. It fell into a state of apostasy. After a few centuries, the resulting body hardly resembled the church that Jesus had established." It was because of those restoration heroes, like Stone and Campbell who all felt it necessary to fight for a return to the old way of life, that we even stand here today as members of the Lord's Church. Jeremiah 6:16 says, "Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it." Jeremiah was sent by God to beg the Israelites to return to their former glory when they obeyed God rather than men. Today, we owe a lot to the restoration pioneers, but we owe even more to God.

Every day people try harder and harder to make the church vanish again, and we can't let it happen. It saddens me to read about states supporting gay marriage, schools teaching evolution, and people trying to get rid of religion. We need to hold tight to the truth of God's Word and stand for the church of Christ. Even if it means we die along the way. Philippians 1:21, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." In other words, every day of my life will glorify God, and if I die doing so that's my gain as I'm one step closer to heaven. I am grateful for those who restored the church, but I'm afraid we might one day have to do it again if we don't start to do something now. God Bless!

David Olmos



Tonight's Reading Through the Scriptures study will be examining Paul's second letter to Timothy. If you would like to share in this time as we together meditate on God's Word, please join us on Zoom this evening, Tuesday, May the 5th, at 7:00 p.m., by following the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86343344633>

New faces seem to join us each week, and we are so thankful for the continued desire we see from you all to let inspired Scripture speak in our lives today.

Our Wednesday night youth class will be starting a new series beginning this week on how to positively influence our non-Christian friends while still maintaining our own morals and integrity. This topic was suggested by one of our youth and I think it is definitely something that is applicable and needed in each of our lives. Our youth class starts at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, and we hope that anyone and everyone between the fifth to the twelfth grade can join us for that.

I'm sure by now many of you know that our sister, Gracie Lenz, was baptized into Christ this past Thursday, but I just wanted to say how it has been an absolute blessing to have been witness to not only her, but all five of the baptisms we've had over the past two months. It sounds silly in these terms, but there is no denying that Jesus Christ is an "essential worker"—no matter what is going on in our world, he does not cease to work. I look at all these that have accepted him as Lord of their life through baptism, and I'm thankful to know that it is these young people and their faith in our God that will be the foundation of the church after we are gone. They are our leaders of tomorrow, and I truly believe the future of the Lord's church is in good hands. My prayer is not only that we as the Body of Christ continue to build up and encourage these new Christians, but that through our labor of love in our congregation and our community, we can continue to be blessed by getting to see our Lord do work.

BIBLE STUDIES ONLINE

Tuesday Night
7:00 p.m. Bible Reading

Wednesday Night:
5:00 p.m. Youth Bible study
7:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible study

Sunday Night:
6:00 p.m. Congregational Bible study

Rejoice always.
Pray without ceasing.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

Please Pray

Rick Arnold is waiting on the call to schedule shoulder surgery; he is hoping for the end of May...Please keep Pearl McDaniel in your prayers and all of our members that are in nursing facilities...Rayford Welch, father of Michael Welch, received a good report following his heart catherization last Friday.