

C.R.O.S.S.

Volume 3, Issue 7

July 2015

Lessons for July

The lessons in this quarter's second unit come from the Prophet Micah. In our first lesson, Micah described many sins in Judah, some of which the people devised at night and carried out later. God withheld His Word because of it. The next lesson contrasts the ineffective ministry of the false prophets with Micah's strong ministry. Lesson 7 features God speaking, asking what He had done to cause Judah's departure from him. Micah answered on their behalf. The last lesson is encouraging, reminding the people that God would shepherd them as He had in the past. He would forgive them, throwing their sins into the depths of the sea. God still has a plan for His chosen people.

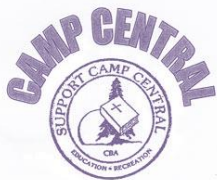
Justice

Deeper In Christ Conference & Retreat

Our 2nd Annual Deeper in Christ Conference, July 9-11, will focus on Evangelism and Outreach. These concepts go hand in hand and are avenues for us to carry out God's commission for us to "go" and to "make disciples." (Matthew 28:19)

Evangelism and outreach are tasks every Christian should undertake (1 Peter 2:9). This conference will help the serious Sunday School student build confidence and inspire you to carry the Gospel to the world.

Reach Out to Bring In!



*Annual Sunday School Picnic
Saturday, July 25, 2015*



Please contact Dea. Byron Earley if you plan to attend!

Scripture of the Month

"An unjust man is an abomination to the righteous, but one whose way is straight is an abomination to the wicked"

– Proverbs 29:27

The battle of good and evil is as old as time itself. It is the stuff of action movies, love stories and video games. Hollywood makes it entertaining. Think of how we love the bad guy; it wouldn't be much of a plot without him. But God says it is anything but entertaining, in fact, God says an unjust man is an abomination. These are not words to be taken lightly.

God desires for believers to respond to injustice by taking a stand against it. As Christians, we must understand that our opposition to injustice will be hated by the unjust. We must not let that deter us however from demanding justice. We must respond, not only when some evil is committed against us, but against all injustice.

As we respond, we must take care to stay on the path of righteousness. We must allow the Holy Spirit to guide us and help us avoid the pitfalls of sin along the way. Ask God to strengthen your ability to resist temptations that you may remain a shining light, exposing injustice.

- Incline your ears to God's Word
- Read and study the Bible daily
- Place God's Word into your heart (scripture meditation & memorization)
- Guard your heart with all diligence, protecting it from sinful distractions
- Guard your mouth from speaking evil; stop speaking lies, perversity and deceit
- Keep your eyes looking straight ahead and not allowing them to lust after or idolize anything

GOOD vs EVIL

Series: The Malnourished Christian

Fellowship (Hebrews 10:23-25)
Part 4 of 7



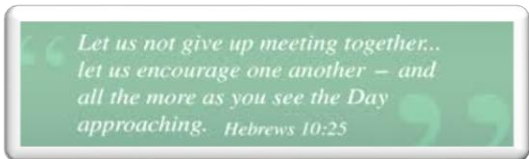
There is a term in pediatric medicine called "failure to thrive." This is a term used to describe when a child fails to reach the expected mental, physical and emotional standards of growth. One of the contributing factors for this condition is the lack of a caring family.

In order for Christians to grow, we too need a caring family, a caring church family. The caring church family makes every effort to provide opportunities for family togetherness. We call this fellowship. Think back to your official membership in your church, it started with the "right hand of fellowship." Remember how inclusive and inviting it was to be greeted with hugs and handshakes from the members. Welcome to the family!

Churches that are concerned about the growth and development of believers work to provide many opportunities for fellowship. It is not just about social interaction, but avenues to share testimonies and offer encouragement to strengthen and support your walk with the Lord.

The benefits of a caring, nurturing family cannot be overstated. God created the perfect "organization" for fellowship, and that is the family. The family unit was intended by God to provide us with daily fellowship so we can learn to develop deep loving relationships and discover what it means to sacrifice for others. For those who have received Christ as their personal Lord and Savior, "family" extends to many new brothers and sisters who are related to us by Jesus' blood. Through biblical fellowship we can help each other get through the trouble times and rejoice with each other in the good times.

Experience the fellowship, relate, participate!
Sunday School is a great place to experience the wonderful benefits that true fellowship can bring!



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Evangelism & Outreach

Fill in the blank. KJV references

1. Preach the gospel to every _____ .
2. You shall be witnesses to me in _____.
3. And _____ in the temple they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.
4. Be ready always to give _____ to every man.
5. You shall know the _____, and the _____ shall make you free.
6. The harvest truly is _____, but the labourers are few.
7. Let your _____ so shine before men, that they may see your good work and glorify your Father.
8. As you go, preach, saying _____.
9. (The Lord) is not willing that any should _____.
10. He that winneth souls is _____.



GOT JOKES!

A man was beaten up by robbers on a road to London. He lay there, half dead and in bad shape. A Vicar came along, saw him and passed by on the other side. Next, a monk came by but also walked quickly on the other side. Finally, a social worker came along, looked at the man and said "Whoever did this needs help!"



A preacher announced from the pulpit, " I have good news and bad news. The good news is we have enough money to retire the mortgage on the church."

A sigh of relief went through the congregation.

The preacher continued: "the bad news is: the money is still in your pocket."



It was the Fourth of July and the fireworks had lit up the sky. As the last one burned out, a four-year-old piped up, "Daddy, do God's feet get burned?"

Test Your Knowledge Answers

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|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Mark 16:15 | 6. Luke 10:2 |
| 2. Acts 1:8 | 7. Matthew 5:16 |
| 3. Acts 5:42 | 8. Matthew 107 |
| 4. 1 Peter 3:15 | 9. 2 Peter 3:9 |
| 5. John 8:32 | 10. Proverbs 11:30 |