

THE GREENWOOD BULLETIN

Church of Christ
371 W. Main Street
Greenwood, IN 46142
(317)888-8288

VOLUME 6 NO. 39

December 7, 2009

The Most Powerful Book in America

They lie on the table side by side
The Holy Bible and the TV guide.
One is well worn and cherished with pride.
Not the Bible, but the TV guide.

One is used daily to help folks decide.
No, not the Bible, but the TV guide.
As the pages are turned, what shall they see?
Oh, what does it matter, turn on the TV.

Then confusion reigns, they can't all agree
On what they should watch on the old TV.
So they open the book in which they confide,
No, not the Bible, but the TV guide.

The Word of God is seldom read,
Maybe a verse as they fall into bed.
Exhausted and sleepy and tired as can be;
Not from reading the Bible, from watching TV.

So then back to the table side by side,
Lie the Holy Bible and the TV guide.
No time for prayer, no time for the Word.
The plan of Salvation is seldom heard.

2

But forgiveness of sin, so full and free,
Is found in the Bible, not on TV.
Choose which book will rule your family.

The Beginning of the End

By Steve Niemeier

What seems like yesterday we embarked upon the first of the year of 2009. A year that our elders determined would be a year for us to ‘get back to the basics’ in our study of God’s word. Material was purchased for our classes to make sure we stayed focused on this plan. Teachers prepared lessons and we were all on the same page of being “grounded firmer and deeper” in our knowledge of the basic principles of the gospel of Christ and the work of the church.

Now as we enter into December we are at the beginning of the end of this journey of studying the basics. Those who have attended our Bible classes know the benefit of this decision that the elders made a year ago. We are experiencing spiritual growth because of their vision and oversight. If you have not been attending Bible classes and wonder why the lessons from the pulpit have been basic teaching and straight to the point in the basics of the gospel now you know.

The question that we all face is what are we going to do now? We have improved our knowledge base. We are better equipped to handle the perils of life. We are better equipped to work with each other in brotherly love. We are better equipped to go and teach others the gospel of Christ. Now that we are better equipped to do so – will we?

Our elders have given us the direction to move forward in our Bible studies for the next few years. We are conducting teacher training and preparation classes. The first group is well under way and they have embraced this opportunity. They will be teaching our children in the first quarter of next year and they have already prepared many of

the lessons that will be taught. These will be given to our elders who will review them so they know what is being taught to our children. This is oversight in action just as the Lord stated it should be – feeding the flock – not with “fast food” but with nutritious spiritual nourishment.

The junior high school class, the high school class and the adult class will all be studying the same lesson each class period. While they will be in different class areas the opportunity to study together with parents or grandparents or an older member is there for us to take advantage of. This is an opportunity that I can tell you is priceless only if you take advantage of it. Open your hearts and your homes to invite your brothers and sisters of all ages to come and prepare your lessons together. It seems that this is just what our New Testament brothers and sisters did in Acts 2.

While this is the beginning of the end our studies in the basics it is the beginning of our future as a congregation in doing the Lord’s work. The expectations from heaven are greater now that we have taken the time to increase and solidify our knowledge. The expectation from our elders is that we heed to the expectations found in the word of God. We have an open door, here in Greenwood to carry the word out to our friends, family and co-workers and co-students. There is a God who has established an unperturbed gospel of salvation through His Son Jesus and we are the caretakers of that message in this area.

The next few years should be exciting as we put into practice what we have been taught. We should consider the fact that we are just to cultivators, planters and “waterers” of the seed of the gospel – if we do this properly God will provide a harvest. This is an amazing sight to see – God giving the increase – we have seen this in both in this area, in Moldova and especially in Sierra Leone. We should not be surprised that He does this when we go out and work hard in the vineyard of the Lord.

What a great year we have had and yet it is a year that is quickly coming to a close. Now our work is really

beginning and my fellow member we are up to this task – our Heavenly Father is encouraging us – His Son our Savior is encouraging us – our elders are encouraging us – and our community is full of souls who need us to teach them the gospel – the door is open let us go and do it!