

# Ministering God's Love



## Cultivating Faith

### THE KING'S VOICE

OCTOBER 2015

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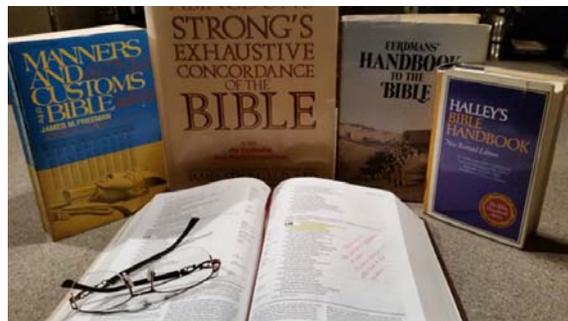


By Dorene Royal

I have a wrinkle on my forehead. It is not symmetrical; it is over one eye only. I think it comes from repeatedly forming that “look” that my daughter describes as the “hairy eyeball”. Every time I read about the Bereans in the Book of Acts (Chapter 17), I wonder if they had that look. Paul and Silas preached in their city (now known as Veria in Northern Greece) and they raised an eyebrow – they weren’t quite sure if what they were hearing was quite right, so they searched the Scriptures daily to see if it was so. As a result, many of them believed.

I bet it was hard work; they didn’t have Google or Control+f (find) back then. They didn’t have the research libraries that we have at our fingertips today. They literally had to search word-for-word until they found what they wanted to know. Hallelujah for 2015 and the age of technology; and hallelujah for hermeneutics. Herm-a-what you ask? Hermeneutics is a fancy word for “the science of interpretation” and if you go to seminary there is a whole course on it which can be very pleasant or unpleasant depending on your teacher! (There’s a whole back-story here; I’ll tell you if you ask!) Hermeneutics teaches us that to understand Scripture you have to know about the customs of the times, historical background, its context (who said it and to whom did they say it?), the style (poetry, letters, law, parables, prophecy, narrative), and the original language.

So...how do you do this “Herm-a-what”? It really isn’t hard and can be quite fun. I’d like to describe 3 of my favorite books/methods and give you a little example of how valuable they are. These are all in our church library, and if you want to get them for yourself, cheap, they can be purchased used-like-new at Amazon for a few dollars. Biblehub.com is also a great resource.



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1. I started reading this one when I was 12 because I was interested in the wedding customs of the Bible (how typical is that of a tweenie?!). **Manners and Customs of the Bible** by James M. Freeman clearly reproduces 893 verses in Scripture and illustrates the customs behind it. Here is an interesting example from Luke 11:7 – a verse we have read many times: *She brought forth her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling-clothes*. Freeman tells us that the swaddling-clothes were bandages which were tightly wrapped around a new-born child. The rank of the child was indicated by the splendor and costliness of these bands. An ancient writer from Palestine described picking up an infant wrapped in this manner: “The infant I held in my arms was so bound in swaddling clothes that it was perfectly firm and solid, and looked like a mummy. It had a band under its chin and across its forehead and a quilted silken cap; no sign of arms or legs, hands or feet, could be seen. His body was stiff and unyielding.” Not quite the picture we form of baby Jesus happily kicking his napkin and waving his hands at us, is it?!
2. I was first introduced to **Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible**, by James Strong, at age 13, but I didn't read it, I walked around the living room with it on my head. Dad thought that I was slouching (I think my piano teacher communicated that opinion to him) and back in those ancient days that is how we were taught good posture. Strong's Concordance WAS exhaustive! What is it? It is every word in the Bible and its meaning – that's why it is so huge. Those of us who speak other languages know that when you translate from one language to another it is hard to convey the full meaning of the word. The Bible was written mostly in Hebrew and Aramaic (Old Testament) and Greek (New Testament) and Strong's gives you each word along with its Hebrew/Aramaic/Greek meaning which can truly bring a verse to life. Here is an example from the story we have all read in Matthew 25:8 where there were 10 virgins waiting for the bridegroom; 5 asked for more oil because their oil *had gone* out. It appears from reading this that their lamps had been burning for a long time and they simply ran out of oil, however if you look at the Greek word (Strong's #4570 σβέννυμι), it means the lamps (brilliant shine) *are going out; they are being quenched/stifled*. That led me down a bunny trail and I discovered that the very same word, σβέννυμι, also appears in I Thessalonians 5:19 where we are told “do not quench” the Holy Spirit – meaning do not let the fire (brilliant shine) that fell at Pentecost go out, don't allow it to be quenched/stifled! There's a big difference between “had gone out” and “are going out - being quenched/stifled”! That puts the responsibility on the lamp bearer – no wonder they were called the foolish virgins! It's fun to open Strong's and follow a word-trail, you never know what you will discover!
3. Erdman's **Handbook** to the Bible and Haley's Bible Handbook are also faves of mine. These have maps and the history of Israel and the civilizations that surrounded it as well as backgrounds to all the books of the Bible. You will learn that Amos was a farmer who called the rich women “cows” (and got away with it!). You will learn that Jude was the younger brother of Jesus who wrote an urgent letter (as an old man) when he heard that there were arrogant and immoral men slipping into the church and diluting the Message; his one-chapter-book (just before Revelation at the end of the Bible) is to fortify resistance against such people. You can learn about the blood sacrifice and the entire sacrificial system (I am SO glad we don't have to bring a lamb to church in order to be forgiven of our sins!). You can read about Nehemiah (my favorite Biblical character) who was the determined rebuildier of walls in the face of adversity, intimidation and blackmail. When the walls were complete, Ezra read the Scripture to the people; this brought about a great revival! The Handbook has themes of the Bible, Who's Who in the Bible, and a plethora of nuggets that will make the Word come alive.

So, the next time you are reading the Bible (or hear the Scriptures read in church) and that one eyebrow goes up quizzically, take a look in one of these books (or search on-line) and figure out why was it written, who was it written to, how the original language make it clearer, and most of all...how can you apply it to your life! No more herma-what!



St. Francis of Assisi

## Blessing of the Animals - October 4, 2015 @ 3:00p.m. – Outdoor courtyard

In Celebration of The Feast of St Francis of Assisi



### Everyone Welcome - Open to the Wider Lakeland Community

The Blessing of the Animals service (more accurately, giving thanks for them) will be held in the outdoor courtyard, Sunday, October 4 at 3 pm. Bring your pets for a fun, brief, outdoor service of celebration and thanksgiving for "all creatures great and small."

### We will be collecting the following:

Bath & Hand towels, washcloths, still in good shape  
Blankets  
Dawn Dish Detergent  
Paper Towels  
Animal food bowls  
Cat Litter  
Dog Biscuits-plain  
Cat treats

Bring your items to the blessing. There are many ways to help the animals, whether it is by donation of money, goods, or time. Perhaps best of all is opening your heart and home to save a life of an animal. They are God's creatures too!

This is always a fun event for four legged & two legged creatures alike. There will be treats for furry and feathered friends alike .Please bring your pets in an appropriate pet carrier or on a leash. Thank you!



## How can I know when it is God who is speaking to me?

Whenever I am praying and I have a sense of God calling, I generally receive that with a certain degree of uncertainty. There are some indicators that I look for in what I hear or understand. Basically I try to sense if I am at peace; I mean a real deep peace. I look for this especially if there are major challenges going on in my life.

I will be very honest, I have faith that God will talk to me; listen and talk even sometimes a conversation.

What is challenging is to be open to what God is saying to me. Sometimes I must remind myself that God already knows why I am praying and what is in my heart. God knows so there is no reason to try to hide anything. It is a time to be in a right relationship with God, no secrets because He already knows. To try to hide anything just causes separation. Be honest, admit faults and sins, apologize and ask for forgiveness.

Sometimes it is not easy to understand what God is trying to say, because the evil one is always trying to distract me any way possible. He will tell you that's not really God, or did you send that email; anything to keep you from talking and listening to God. To be sure it is God is possible because I have a strong sense of spirituality. It took me some time to learn how to listen to God. This sense of spirituality can take a lifetime to achieve, but the joy I have when I talk to God is worth all the effort, all the time.

I remind myself during tough times that God really does want me to hear Him, and even more, He wants to be a part of my life; God actually wants to have a relationship with me.

In the early times, I learned to listen carefully to what God was saying. To be sure it is God, I asked myself was this really something good? If not, if it was evil, vindictive, negative, than I understood that I have been distracted and I don't heed what was said. Instead, I go back and start to meditate until my mind is clear and I can again talk to and listen to God. I often find that God tells me about something I need to do. Sometimes He has told me to do something that is not in my "comfort zone". But I know that He is teaching me to reach out, in His name, and learn more about God and myself.

Setting aside some time each day to read Scripture, at least 20 minutes, and then to meditate, think hard about what I have read is a sure way of leading me into my daily prayer time. Spending time talking and listening to God is the highlight of my day. I highly recommend it to everyone. When I am busy and think about skipping that time, I remind myself of Jesus in the Garden talking to the sleepy Apostles when He asked, "Could you not spend one hour with me?"

How about it, God is waiting for you right now.

## What would you do?

It's Sunday morning, just after bible school lets out, and a familiar man stumbles in the hallway, grabs his chest and falls to the ground. What would you do? Who would you call? How would you react? This is a scenario that nobody ever wants to witness playing out in front of them, but heart disease is the number 1 cause of death in the United States and about 735,000 people suffer from heart attacks each year. That's one person every 43 seconds! In Cub Scouts we are learning about how to perform first aid for a variety of situations, and heart attack care is an important lesson to learn. Here at Christ the King, we are taking steps to try and be prepared. Our planning ranges from creating disaster and emergency plans, to researching and acquiring Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs). AEDs are nothing new in today's world; you see them about everywhere you go. From the grocery store, to the mall, to schools and to restaurants; most public facilities have them just like they have a first aid kit. Today's AEDs are safe medical devices that detect the pulse of a person, can instruct a first responder what steps to perform, and if necessary can provide an electrical pulse to try and start a stopped heart. **So, what can we do?** Mother Carolyn has tasked us with trying to find and fund an AED for the church. The AED we have researched for our church (same model that Polk County Sheriff Deputies carry in their vehicles) costs approximately \$1200. If you are interested in helping us fund this important piece of equipment, or are interested in more information, please speak with Josh Beck or any vestry member. By pooling our funds together, we can purchase this valuable life saving device that could one day save one of our lives.



### NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

**Does the picture to the right look familiar? It should, it has been in our hallway for many many years. But do you know the history behind it? If you look real close you will see it was painted by a lady named Mary Conn. Mary Conn was a beloved parishoner of Christ the King for years and years. Mary's daughter is our longest living member that currently attends Christ the King. Carolyn Lowery, Thank you so much for allowing us to hang the beautiful art work your mother painted of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!!**



## Financials for August 2015

INCOME	
08/02/15	3112.12
08/09/15	2519.50
08/16/15	2986.85
08/23/15	1074.51
08/30/15	2049.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,742.48</b>
EXPENSES	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,448.01</b>



**KIDS!!**



**Bring your favorite stuffed animal to Children's Chapel Sunday morning, October**



## MEN'S CLUB

**ALL MEN AT CTK... SAVE THE DATE. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH FOR OUR FIRST GET TOGETHER. MORE INFO TO FOLLOW**

### Trunk-or-Treat, Smell My Feet

Ok, well maybe you don't want to smell my feet, but Fall is officially here, even if it doesn't feel like it here in Florida, and Halloween is just around the corner. With that we are planning to host our annual Trunk-or-Treat event shortly after the service on Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> in the front parking area. So here's what to do:

Adults - We encourage everyone to help make this a fun event by bringing some treats and decorating their cars for all the children (and maybe the occasional adult) for Halloween. If you do not plan on participating, please park in the rear parking area to keep traffic down in front for the children.

Kids - You get to dress in your best Halloween costume! Also invite your classmates and friends (and their moms and dads) to church and the Trunk-or-Treat afterwards! We do ask that all costumes be church friendly!



# M I N I S T R Y      S C H E D U L E

Ministry area	October 4	October 11	October 18	October 25
Celebrant	Mother Carolyn	Mother Carolyn	Mother Carolyn	Mother Carolyn
Deacon	Bob Dinnerville Ed Tatlian	Bob Dinnerville Ed Tatlian	Bob Dinnerville Ed Tatlian	Bob Dinnerville Ed Tatlian
LEM2	Isabel Detringo	Jim Royal	Marilyn Springthorpe	Wade Griggs
Acolyte - Server	Elizabeth Hospedales	Liam Borden	Sydney Sharrow	Elvon Hospedales
Acolyte - Cross/bells	Jacob Heist	Clive Borden	Mitchell Parrish	Clive Borden
Acolyte-Collection	Nathanial Heist	Joey Beck	Alexander Parrish	Joey Beck
Acolyte -Gospel	John Beck	John Beck	John Beck	John Beck
Old Testament	Sharon Rogers	Martha Griggs	Mike Green	Jim Royal
New Testament	Veda Dwyer	Susan Weaver	Jan Dinnerville	Stacey May
Prayers of the people	Jan Dinnerville	Ed Tatlian	Wade Griggs	Bob Dinnerville
Greeters./ushers	Betty & Claire	Darren & Susan	Terry & Cheryl	Jack Dale & David Biggs
Pre k (paid)	Colleen	Debbie	Colleen	Debbie
Children's Chapel	Pam Sharrow	Andrea Borden	Pam Sharrow	No Children's Chapel
Prayer Team	Wade & Lisa	Meghan & Isabel	Cathy & Marilyn	Isabel & Lisa
Altar Guild	Claire & Cathy	Claire & Cathy	Claire & Cathy	Diane & Carolyn
Vestry Counters	Mike & Martha	Mike & Martha	Mike & Martha	Mike & Martha

# October 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
					A – Ed & Susan Weaver	Acolyte Meeting 9am LEM Meeting 10am
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Holy Communion 10am Children's Chapel 10am Blessing of the Animals 3pm Missions Sunday A – Bob & Marilyn Springthorpe B – Jane Williams B – Dorene Royal	B – Rich Heist	10am Woman's Bible Study	Women of the Bible~ Bible study With service to follow. 7pm  B – Andrea Borden	A – Janine & Marty Erlengaugh B – Betty Collins		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Holy Communion 10am Children's Chapel 10am		10am Woman's Bible Study	Women of the Bible~ Bible study With service to follow. 7pm B – Kevin Parrish	Vestry Meeting 6:30		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Holy Communion 10am Children's Chapel 10am		10am Woman's Bible Study	Women of the Bible~ Bible study With service to follow. 7pm	B – Ronnie Ready		Men's Club Get together B – Jacob Heist
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Christian Ed & Adult class 9am Holy Communion 10am Children's Chapel 10am CELEBRATION of New Ministry TRUNK or TREAT B – Darren O'Brien		10am Woman's Bible Study  B – Carmen Ready	Women of the Bible~ Bible study With service to follow. 7pm			 Turn your clocks back