
Port Orchard Church of Christ

Where

Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lifted, Jesus is Lived

The Dreaded Bible Reading Resolution

It's the time of year for resolutions. As a mom of five little my resolution is just to survive. But even survival requires setting specific goals - especially when it comes to reading God's Word. We can't survive without it. The problem with resolutions is we tend to approach them with an all-or-nothing mentality. We set high standards in January and when we can't reach them we completely quit by March. Bible reading resolutions are no different.

I love seeing moms set Bible reading goals. What hurts is seeing frustrated moms give up and throw in the towel when they can't reach their goals. I'm one of those moms. I've been there. I'm here to tell you that Bible reading isn't all or nothing. You don't have to get up before your kids (especially when it seems like they never even went to bed). You don't have to have an uninterrupted hour of complete silence (which I haven't experienced in seven years).

There are times in life when reading the Bible feels like a huge feast. You sit down, tie a napkin around your neck and dig in. But more often in young motherhood reading the Bible is like clinging to a lifeline - the only shred of sanity our sleep-deprived brains can grasp. And that's okay. My sister was just here visiting. One afternoon she sat on our window seat with a hot cup of tea and her Bible. As soon as she opened it she was piled with nephews. "Well, that didn't last

long," she said as she put her Bible down and let them pull her toward the Legos. "Welcome to my life," I said.

We might not get to experience long, leisurely times of feasting on God's Word in this stage of life, but we need to grab onto the Word any way we can. It has to be fresh in our hearts and minds so it's there when we need it. One night I was so ready for bed, but I knew I hadn't been in the Word recently. I grabbed my Bible, opened to where I left off and read a chapter. Little did I know I was in for an especially difficult night with the newborn. The next morning I couldn't string two thoughts together - but precious words that I had read the night before came to mind and strengthened me. I had been reading [Exodus 34:6](#) - "The Lord, the Lord God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness and truth..." I let those words wash over my mind all day long as I struggled through my fatigue. I was so glad I had made time for that short passage before I went to bed. I didn't feel like I needed it then, but God knew it would very soon be a source of great comfort.

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Deacons:

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Welcome Guests

We are so glad that you decided to visit Port Orchard Church of Christ this morning! Since you took this step to join us for worship, we would like to extend to you a warm welcome. Wherever you are this morning, as we lift worship to God, we pray that you are able to leave feeling uplifted, convicted, or encouraged in your faith.

We seek to worship God like the first century church did, with a sense of awe and with a fear

of the Lord. Some things we do might seem old fashioned or traditional, but we want you to know that at its core, it is for the praise of God's glory.

You are not required to do anything weird or ostentatious. We hope that you feel free to join us in worshipping God to the best of your abilities. If you have any specific needs, we have a ministry staff that would love to connect with you. Ask the people sitting around you for

names of the ministry staff and to point them out!

Once again, we are so happy to have you here worshipping with us and we hope this is a chance to worship God in a deep and meaningful way.

Port Orchard Church of Christ

Save the Dates!

Tuesday 1/17 Ladies Prayer Group

Tuesday 1/24 Ladies Prayer Group

Saturday 2/4 Deacons Meeting

Sunday 2/5 Congregational Meeting

Sunday 2/12 Senior Saints Potluck



Port Orchard News and Events

Pulpit Preview– Relationships

Roger Fry will be preaching a sermon about relationships, this upcoming Sunday. Worship Service begins at 10:45, we hope to see you here!

Happy Birthday!

January has arrived, it's time to celebrate our January babies. If you see any of these following brothers and sisters make sure to wish them a Happy Birthday! Connie Switzer – 1/5. Jo Vaugh – 1/6. Isaiah Zepf – 1/13. Runell Mason - 1/16. Karen Taylor – 1/18. Forest Gerard, Michelle Herbert - 1/24. Myron David - 1/30.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tom Sibley

Tom Sibley shared a sermon with us last Sunday. If you missed his message and would like to hear it, please visit the church website at pococ.weebly.com

Visitors for the sick

Is entertaining or socializing a strong characteristic that you have, well then, we have the perfect opportunity for you. We would like to compile a list of those available to visit our sick or shut-in church family. If this is something you would be interested in, please add your name to the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Serving January 15, 2017 :

Prayer Leader: Wayne Hammock	Communion Prep: Kelli Keagle
Scripture Reader: Jim Snead	Communion Cleanup: Reinke Family
Offering Thoughts: Ken Avery	Praise Team: Darrell Fry, Paula Hill, Isaiah Zepf, Rachel Karn
Communion Meditation: Darrell Fry	Sunday School & CW Helper:
Servers: Terry B. & Brandon K.	Lori S. & Karri K.
Ushers: Gary C. Tim D.	Preaching:
Greeters: Paula H. & Sarah H.	Roger Fry
Nursery Attendants: TBD	
Sound: Brittney Pringle	
Slides/Lighting: Lisa Bratcher	



Benevolence Team

With Ray and Connie Switzer leaving, there is a big gap in the Helping Those in Need Team that needs to be filled. If you have a heart for helping those who are desperately in need, please talk with Darrell or Laura Fry about your desire to serve in this wonderful work. You will literally be in the position of being the hands, feet and eyes of Jesus.

May God Bless this ministry!

Darrell & Laura Fry

Mountain States Children's Home

Empty money cans from the Mountain States Children's Home are out in the foyer. Please grab one and start filling them up with your spare change. Thank you!

Switzer Journal

There is a journal out in the foyer for Connie and Ray Switzer in lieu of a tablecloth. Lets fill it with kind words, well wishes and love as they get situated with the next chapter of their lives.

Congregational Meeting

Notes from the congregational meeting will be available outside of the auditorium.

Betty Widman

Bette Widman
PO Life Care Center
Room 24
2031 Pottery Ave
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Our Prayer List

Prayer requests:

Healing:

Bette Widman - Healing and strength
D.J Magneson - Hip pain
Darrell & Laura Fry - Grandson Daniel
Karen Taylors Neighbor
Sarah Benjamin's Friend April
Dave Snypp's Father - Healing from a stroke.

Other:

All those traveling.
All police officers.
Heritage house - strength for each resident there.
Our congregation - strength as we move forward into a New Year.
Those suffering from the flu.
The homeless.

Encouragement:

Charlotte Hahn
D J Magneson

Comfort & Strength:

Family of Dorothy Janes
Jennifer Connelly Delay - Bret and Bryan Hollman
Isaac Benjamin

January 8, 2017

Worship: 89

Class: 28

Offering: \$3,535.00

Goal: \$3,437.50

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Thanksgiving 2016 was a weird experience for the Wallace family. I had only been home from the hospital for about a week with baby #5. At the last minute all of the local relatives got the stomach flu and had to cancel the feast. We found ourselves roaming around the snowy town looking for a restaurant. They were all closed. They were open when we didn't need them, but now they were turning us away. We wound up at a diner eating pancakes. Hardly a Thanksgiving dinner, but we were so glad that one place was open.

When I get so busy with my daily responsibilities that I don't make time to soak up God's Word, it's like driving past all those restaurants every day without going in. I could stop and grab a bite to eat, but other pressing needs take priority - until one night when I'm in desperate need of sustenance and

the doors are closed. I search my heart for memorized verses, something fresh I read that morning, and my heart comes up empty.

Don't be afraid to make a Bible reading resolution this year. But be prepared for it to play out a little messy and disjointed. If we treat our Bible reading resolutions as all-or-nothing, we will always tend toward the "nothing." So grab your Bible. Balance it awkwardly on the couch beside you as you feed the baby. Invite the little ones to sit beside you and read it out loud. Tape a passage to your mirror. Read a few verses before you turn out the light, even if you think your brain won't absorb it. God is faithful to use what we put in.

-Sarah Wallace

Ephesians 4:22-24 (NIV)

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

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