

BSLC NEWS

October 2018

GETTING PROACTIVE: BIBLE READING

Last Sunday I shared with you my belief that God calls us to be proactive rather than reactive as we go about His work. What this means, in short, is that we pursue goals and create plans rather than sitting back and just reacting to the things that occur.



One area in which I know people have good intentions but often falter is in the reading of God's Word. The Bible specifically commends us to be actively immersing ourselves in the Lord's mindset by regularly studying the Scriptures.

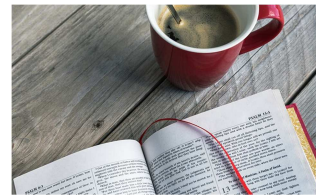
Joshua 1:8 ESV This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Romans 15:4 ESV For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

One of the reasons people falter is because they don't have a good Bible reading plan. They start in Genesis with good intentions, but often get bogged down as they slog through Leviticus. Next thing you know, they have given up altogether.

In response to this, the LCMS, in 2018, developed a specific plan of Bible reading. If you follow the plan, you will read the entire Bible over the course of three years. It is broken down into meaningful and reasonable chunks so that it isn't overwhelming or unrealistic for most people. Here's an example of one day's reading: Gen. 1:1-19; Ps. 1; Matt. 1:1-17.



Beginning this January, I would like to encourage us at Beautiful Savior to begin this plan. We will be joining the effort late, so we will be following a plan that was created for 2018 and concludes in 2020. No matter, though, we can start in 2019 and conclude in 2021.

Between now and January, please prayerfully consider joining me in this proactive plan to become more aware of God's plans and purposes for us. I will be looking for volunteers to take one day of each month to reflect upon the day's readings and to offer some meaningful questions to consider as we read. In this way we can bless each other in the journey.

So please mark January 1 on your calendar and plan to be a part of this effort to grow as God's people.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Hillenbrand