God did not create you to simply be on this planet and have fun.

Many people try to fill the void in their life with hobbies and entertainment. But the only thing that can truly fill you is when you feed your soul.

If you find your life too busy please get into His Word and grow. I hear many sermons and many people talking about getting into God's Word—but few actually take the time to dig deeply. Spend time observing God's creation and praising Him. Spend time reflecting on how small you are in the grand scheme of things and give God thanks. Spend time evaluating your life, areas you fall short, and confess these weaknesses to Him. Spend time meditating on heaven and spending eternity with Him. Spend more time in prayer, allowing Jesus to intercede on your behalf. Spend time lamenting on those who are sick or suffering and look for ways to help them. In other words, feed your soul!

Let me encourage you, set aside the media that is trying to invade your lives and fellowship with others. Sit around a table with some friends and enjoy fellowshipping with them. Take meals to those who are shut-in or sick. Spend time sitting with them or listening to them talk about "the good old days." Turn off the television and open your home up for Bible studies. In other words, feed your soul.

Look for ways to do good to others. Reach out to those who may be hurting financially. Join hands with those who are building homes for the less fortunate. Take time to do mission work. Get out and knock-doors or teach at a VBS. Feed your soul.

I should caution you that if you heed my advice you will find hobbies and sports do not fulfill you the way they used to—your heart will long for something more. You will crave real connections and activities that have a deeper purpose. You will begin to look at things differently. You will be actively living the life Christ intended you to live! So, look for ways to feed your soul. ~Brad Harrub

Kennewick Church of Christ

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Website: www.Kennewickcofc.com

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ

Church Email: kencoc@gmail.com

Meeting times:

Sunday:

Wednesday:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm am

Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

Elders:

Minister:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; ccbotts@hotmail.com

Dustin McCrickard 509-579-9068

LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; vern.engelke@gmail.com

Open Congregational meeting - 2nd Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome

Attendance 07/28 NA

Budget \$2400.33

Contribution 07/28 NA



The Bible Praises Doctrine

The disdain some have for doctrine in our day stands in marked contrast to the way the Holy Spirit exalts it. Instead of having little regard for doctrine, the early church proclaimed it. Do not lose sight of the charge brought against the apostles, "You have filled Jerusalem with this doctrine" (Acts 5:28).

The Holy Spirit Commands Preaching Doctrine

What does God want to be the nature of preaching in the kingdom? When Paul wrote young Timothy he answers this question. "Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine..." (2 Tim. 4:2-3). Any teaching that does not involve doctrine is seen by God as a departure from sound doctrine.

Without Doctrine Teaching Is Incomplete

Look at the verse immediately preceding the instructions to preach the word. In the Old Testament, the phrase "the man of God" was used to refer specifically to the prophets, who were the men of God. This phrase is part of Paul's instruction to Timothy. He affirms that all Scripture comes by the inspiration of God and then lists what this inspiration gives. The Scripture is "...profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God man be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). If the man of God ignores the doctrine found in the Bible, he is imperfect, and he will never equip those who hear him for every good work.

Doctrine Nourishes the Christian

Listen to Paul's words again. "If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed" (1 Tim. 4:6). Instead of doctrine being detrimental to spirituality, it nourishes! ~Dan Jenkins

The Bulldog and the Sprinkler

Most summer mornings, a delightful drama plays out in the park behind our house. It involves a sprinkler. And a bulldog. About 6:30 or so, the sprinklers come on. Shortly thereafter, Fifi the bulldog (our family's name for her) arrives.

Fifi's owner lets her off her leash. The bulldog sprints with all her might to the nearest sprinkler, attacking the stream of water as it douses her face. If Fifi could eat the sprinkler, I think she would. It's a portrait of utter exuberance, of Fifi's seemingly infinite desire to be drenched by the liquid she can never get enough of.

There are no bulldogs in the Bible, or sprinklers. Yet, in a way, Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3 reminds me of Fifi. There, Paul prays that the Ephesian believers might be filled with God's love and "have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ." He prayed that we might be "filled to the measure of all the fullness of God" (vv. 18-19).

Still today, we're invited to experience a God whose infinite love exceeds anything we can comprehend, that we too might be drenched, saturated, and utterly satisfied by His goodness. We're free to plunge with abandon, relish, and delight into a relationship with the One who alone can fill our hearts and lives with love, meaning, and purpose. ~ Adam Holz

Keep These Dates in Mind

08/10 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship 08/11 Open Congregation Meeting 500p 09/01 First Sunday Potluck 09/08 Open Congregation Meeting 500p 09/14 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship

So that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

(Eph. 3:10-12)

July Birthdays and Anniversaries

Debbie Bolt 8/8
Danny Mendoza 8/13
Clarence & Melinda Botts 8/13
Ron & Ila Stephens 8/13
Maddison Reeser 8/18
Eric Calzadillas 8/19
Bill & Fran Henniger 8/19

Merry Bunker 8/22 Harvey & Lynette Jones 8/25 Sue Minor 8/25 Eddie Petross 8/28 Bonnie Simons 8/28 Barbara Oldham 8/31

Bible Studies

Adult Bible Classes Sunday am.—Genesis Wed pm – Titus

Youth Classes
Classroom Wing
Teen Class Teen Room

Ladies Class

Recessed for Summer



Issues (ongoing): Karen McBurney, Shirley Childers, Kaleb McCrickard, Marji Lindholm, Marilyn Davis, Eunice Petros, Tami Pennington, Amanda McCrickard's parents, Karen McBurney's father, Leland & Marilyn's daughter, Don and Sherri Blackwell.

• Keep Sammie and Vern's **grand-daughter-in-law** in your prayers as she recovers from surgery. (Correction from last week.)

Schedule for speakers over the next few months:

08/04 - Tom Mendoza; 08/11 - Joe Botts; 08/18 - Leonard Peters; 08/25 - Clarence Botts; 09/01 - Danny Mendoza; 09/08 - Allen Lindsay; 09/15 - Tom Mendoza; 09/22 - Joe Botts; 09/29 - Leonard Peters

Our Ministries

Mountain States Children's Home

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. (James 1:27)

Peru Ministry - Oscar and Anna Maria in Peru

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the son and of the Holy Spirit

Good Pantry - Our food pantry is located in the small room next to the library.

"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed." (Proverbs 19:17)

Austin and Kennadie McCrickard - Bear Valley Bible Institute

"And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11-12)

Is there No Balm in Gilead?

Jeremiah asked, [Is there] no balm in Gilead; [Is there] no physician there..."(8:22). Of course there was (and there still is!) God loved Israel with a love beyond their comprehension, but He was not going to help when the ppeople refused to follow the way of righteousness. T hey were carried away into captivity in Babylon and remained there for 70 years before being restored to the land of Canaan.

Stubborn man refuses to see the love of God and seek His help. It reminds me of a dog that is put on a leash for the first time. You try to lead that dog along and he will pull, twist, tug, bite, toss, roll and refuse in every way to be restrained. It's a tug of war as you drag him along with him on "all fours" resisting every inch. You're not trying to hurt him or punish him. You're teaching him to be led. All he has to do is quit fighting and tugging and gently walk along beside you. Things would be so easy if he would do that. But no, he will fight and pull every step of the way. You're not the one pulling, tugging, yanking, and giving him a hard time. You're not seeing how difficult you can make it for him. He's the one resisting and making it hard on himself. He'll get mad at you thinking you're the one hurting him. But that is not the case. Once he figures out he doesn't have to pull and fight, it's a simple matter for him to stroll along and enjoy the walk.

Children are often the same way. When they resist the rules of the home and the right ways of the Lord, they make the way hard on themselves by their own rebellion. They will pull and tug, fuss and quarrel and try your patience. But when they learn to obey their parents and be patient, they'll see how much more pleasant their life can be. They'll get to do a lot of things if they will only cooperate and quit tugging on their leash. It's a lesson that must be learned – the sooner the better. It's a less they will some day teach their own children as well.

While Saul was king of Israel, he went through a period in his life where he felt threatened by David. He was paranoid thinking David wanted his throne and would take it from him by force. But that was certainly not the case. David had several chances to kill Saul, was even encouraged by his men to do so, but David refused to kill the Lord's anointed (cf. 1 Sam. 24). During this time, David was constantly on the run for his life because of Saul's pursuit. All the while, the Lord was on his side. He had been anointed by Samuel to be the future king of Israel (I Sam. 16:13) but he was not about to kill Saul to obtain it.

Later in David's life, his own son Absalom won the hearts of the people and tried to seize the throne. David once again had to flee the city and hide wherever he could. He was a hunted man. His own son would have killed him in a heart-beat if he could. However, David had given orders to his commanders not to harm Absalom when they found him. But they did not listen. At their first opportunity not listen. At their first opportunity they killed him. When David received the news, the Bible says David, "was much moved...and wept; and as he went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!" (2 Sam. 18:33).

Psalm 13 is thought to have been written at such a time when David was in great distress. "How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord! Forever? How long wilt thou hide thy face from me? How long shall I take counsel in my soul, [having] sorrow in my heart daily? How long shall mine enemy be exalted over me? Consider [and] hear me O Lord my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the [sleep of] death; Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him; [and] those that trouble me rejoice in thy salvation. I will sing unto the Lord, because he hath dealt bountifully with me.

At times of despair when David did not know what would happen. When he wondered what he would do and whether he would live through it, he still trusted in God's mercy. His heart rejoiced in his salvation. He would sing unto the Lord because of his bountiful blessings. Should we not do the same? We are no different than David. We serve the same God and our Lord is the same yesterday, today and forever (cf. Heb 13:8). If he helped David, he will help us too.

In times of great anxiety and burden, there was serenity knowing Jehovah, God was his keeper and protector. David had the same frame of mind as Job who said, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him; but I will maintain mine own ways before him" (Job 13:15). Is this not an example of God's care for his children? David trusted in God's mercy and rejoiced in his salvation. It brought comfort to him in his darkest hour. We too can take great comfort in our Lord in spite of all the troubles of life. There's a better day coming. There's a better time ahead, if not in this life, certainly in the life to come. ~Garland M. Robinson