

The Encourager



Welcome Guest

We are so glad you've come for worship today! Our prayer is you will be blessed by your time with us. Please feel free to ask us any questions you may have concerning our worship.

Church of Christ

140 West 15th Street

Front Royal, VA, 22630

540 635 2613

FrontRoyalChurchofChrist.com

SimpleBibleLessons.com

Sunday Service's

Bible Study 10:00 am

Worship 11:00 am

Afternoon 2:00 pm

Wednesday 7:00 pm

Personal Bible Study

SimpleBibleLessons.com

Online & In Home

Correspondence

Food Pantry

By Appointment

Minister

John Stephen Smith

540-635-2613

ministerfrcoc@gmail.com

How Amazing Is The Bible

Have you considered how astounding it is that the God of the universe cared enough about humanity to give us His written Word so we could know Him?

The Bible records God's thoughts, words, desires, and purposes as well His intervention in human history. The telling of His Son, as our Savior, His plan of redemption, and Christ's return to gather the saints with Him.

Each book of the Bible reflects its human author's personality, background, and vocabulary, yet every word was inspired as God Himself spoke through each writer. (2 Pet. 1:20-21). Its message is consistent in truth, purpose and prophecy.

Each time it is open, you are hearing God's voice speaking directly to you. Take advantage of this privilege and read it regularly.

WEEK 5



WEEK 5

HIGHLIGHTS

PROMPTS

MON
GENESIS 48-50

- Jacob Blesses Ephraim & Manasseh
- Jacob Blesses Each of His Sons
- Deaths of Jacob & Joseph

What strikes you as most interesting about Jacob's blessings of his sons?

TUE
EXODUS 1-3

- Between Joseph & Moses
- Israel Oppressed
- Birth of Moses
- Moses Murders & Flees
- Moses at the Burning Bush

Look at what questions Moses asked God.

Do you ever feel afraid to ask God about things?

What are you afraid he will say?

WED
EXODUS 4-6

- Moses Questions God
- Moses Returns to Egypt
- Double Work for Slaves
- God Promises Redemption
- Genealogy: Moses & Aaron
- Aaron to Speak for Moses

Moses was obedient, yet it looked like all he got was double work for the slaves.

Have you ever obeyed God and it looked at first like things got worse?

What happened?

THU
EXODUS 7-9

- Aaron's Staff Becomes a Snake
- Plagues 1-7

Which plague so far would you least like to experience in your area?

FRI
EXODUS 10-12

- Plagues 7-10
- Passover Tradition
- The Exodus Begins
- Passover Rules

Put yourself in Pharaoh's shoes.

He's visualizing the loss of his slave labor; what else do you think went through his mind?

SAT
EXODUS 13-15

- God's Guiding Pillars
- Crossing the Red Sea
- Song of Celebration
- Water Turned Drinkable

Moses had to pray at the sea all night before God parted the water.

What has made you pray continuously?

SUN
EXODUS 16-18

- Food from Heaven
- Water from a Rock
- Hebrews' First War: Amalekites
- Moses' Father-in-Law Visits

The people thought God would let them die in the wilderness.

Have you ever felt a lack of faith?

What happened?

Sermon Notes



CHILDREN CRAVE D _____
Deuteronomy 6:6-7

CHILDREN SEEK P _____
Proverbs 1:8-9

CHILDREN WANT A M _____
1 Corinthians 11:1

CHILDREN NEED TO F _____
Joshua 24:15

CHILDREN WANT TO L _____
Proverbs 3:1-4

CHILDREN NEED SOMEONE WHO
WON'T GIVE UP ON THEM
Luke 15:11-32

Daily Devotional

MONDAY – PARENTING

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: *Joshua 24:14-15*

Today, I will... write out a plan of my dreams for my family.

TUESDAY – YOU CAN DO THIS

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: *Deuteronomy 6:1-3*

Today, I will...begin my own list of imperatives I want to instill in my children.

WEDNESDAY - HANNAH HAD IT RIGHT

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: *1 Samuel 1-2*

Today, I will...pray for all the children of the world and if I still have children in my house, I will rededicate myself to giving them to God.

THURSDAY – I'M GONNA BE LIKE YOU, Pt 1

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: *John 8:38-44*

Today, I will...examine my attitudes, words, and actions to consider if they are of the nature I want to pass along to the next generation. If not, I will ask God to forgive me and I will begin to work with Him to change.

FRIDAY – I'M GONNA BE LIKE YOU, Pt 2

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: *1 Corinthians 16:15*

Today, I will...examine my activities and see if there is more I can do to serve the saints with my family.



Persist

Lesson 4 of 4

How We Persist & Persevere

January 27, 2021

Presented by the Church of Christ @ 140 West 15th Street, Front Royal Virginia 22630 www.FrontRoyalchurchofChrist.com

Hebrews 12:11-13 ^{NKJV} *Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. ¹²Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, ¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.*

Tennis great Bjorn Borg said: "My greatest point is my persistence. I never give up in a match. However down I am, I fight until the last ball. My list of matches shows that I have turned a great many so-called irretrievable defeats into victories."

Thomas Edison said: "The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one time more." And Robert Frost said: "The best way out is always through."

Winston Churchill said: "Success is stumbling from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm." And then most importantly,

King Solomon said wrote in **Proverbs 24:16** ^{NKJV} *"For the righteous falls seven times and rises again, but the wicked stumble in times of calamity."*

What wears us down, tempts us to quit and throw in the towel?

Three things might wear us down if we let them:

1. ^A _____ . *James 1:3; 12*
2. ^B _____ . *2 Thessalonians 3:13, Galatians 6:9* He knew a danger tiredness posed.
3. ^C _____ . *Proverbs 16:28*

How do we persist?

How do we persevere?

I need to keep clear on ^D _____ I should persist. If you have a big enough why you'll figure out the how.

1. Because persistence makes me more ^E _____ ^F _____. *Romans 5:1-5*
2. By persisting, I ^G _____ others.

You'll inspire ^H _____ ^I _____. *I Thessalonians 1:7—*

You'll inspire ^J _____ ^K _____. *2 Timothy 1:7-8 –*



Peak of the Week

How We Persist & Persevere

1. Do you recall a time in your life when you persisted in something, and the persistence paid off in that you experienced or gained something that you would never have had you given up? What caused you to press on when you felt like quitting?
2. Of the three things that wear on us, tests, tiredness, and turmoil, which, if any, are you experiencing right now? How have these either in the past or present impacted your walk with God?
3. What did Jesus do when he was weary or tired? (John 4:4-6; Matthew 14:13-15). When Paul said, "do not grow weary in doing good...", he didn't say never to rest. Why is it difficult at times for us to rest? What is a good balance between the two?
4. Paul spoke of tribulations bringing about perseverance, proven character, and hope (Romans 5:3-5). How has persevering through trials shaped your character for the better? How has it given you hope for what tests are potentially ahead in your life?
5. In what ways do you see persistence and perseverance demonstrated in the life of Jesus? How does our persistence in our walk with Jesus inspire other believers? Non-believers? How has someone's persistent faith amid trials inspired and influenced your own?

CRISS-CROSS

The words appear forward, backward, upward, downward, or diagonally. Circle each word.
 All words are from the Bible.

AXLE, HORSE, ROAD, CAMEL, LANE, SADDLE, CART, MILE, SPEED CHARIOT, REINS, DRIVER, RIDER

C	K	H	O	R	S	E
H	L	D	T	R	A	C
A	M	R	O	A	D	A
R	E	I	N	S	D	M
I	L	V	L	P	L	E
O	X	E	A	E	E	L
T	A	R	N	E	U	W
P	Q	R	E	D	I	R



The Cracked Acorn

carson van arsdall

Pure Gold

January 24, 2020

Gold sells for an oz. at \$1,836...one ingot(2.2 lbs.) for \$62, 383.

Once gold went for \$30 an oz if you bought twelve ingots now worth \$748,596 and more.. Why is this? Predictions are within 20 years all the available gold will be mined. There will be no more huge deposits to be exploited at this moment.

For thousands of years gold has had a particular magic of its own, being the most sought after of earth's metals. It commands respect, can be made into coins or easily put into attractive adornments. People have gone to extremes to locate it to fuel wars while leveling mountains and forests. India has a huge gold market buying ¼ of all that is mined. Brides need gold jewelry to bring to their marriages. In Chennai, the low caste of the population sweep the streets behind jewelry factories trying to recover maybe a gram to help feed their families. On some of the Indonesian islands farmers have abandoned sown crops to work in the mercury laden pits to make 5 dollars a day. This is an instant leap from poverty in these areas. All gold finds a market, legal and otherwise; after India, China is the 2nd largest buyer of gold articles.

"It is just a shiny, yellow substance we dig out of the ground, but we have such a deep-seated romantic relationship with gold most of us believe it could never be a realistic investment option for us mere mortals. But with fears over the security of everything from cash to commodities and housing, could gold really give you the security you want? Or is this mystical metal subject to

the global economic downturn? As with any other investment, gold can go down as well as up in value; having peaked at \$1,030.80 an ounce in March, it is now trading close to the \$820 mark. However, while even the biggest banks can go bust, not even ambitious City traders can destroy gold. Gold will always be worth something." (comments from Wall Street)

"Ophir was the famous gold-producing region prominent in the OT. It is believed to have been located



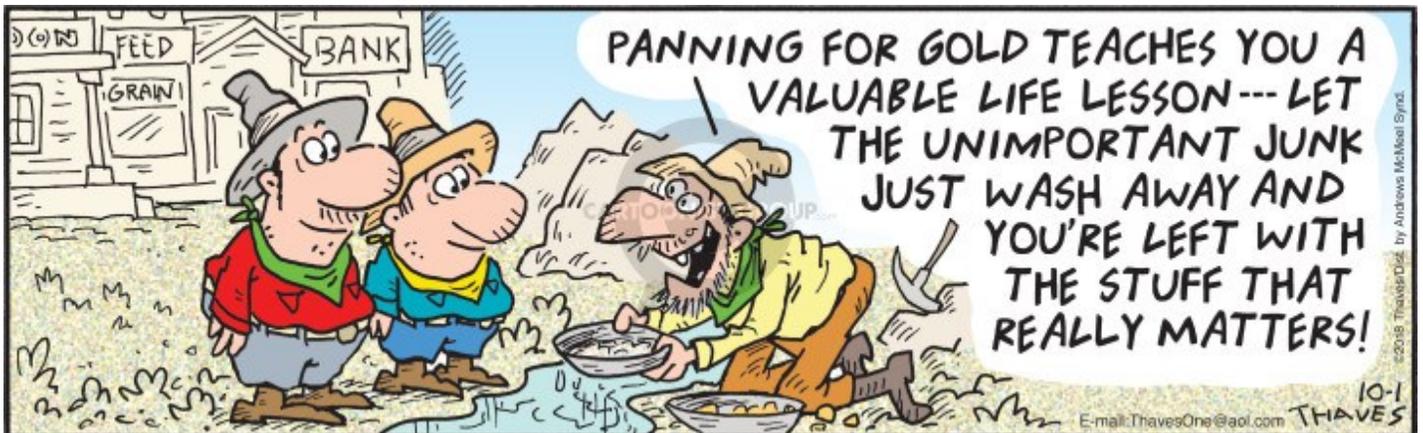
"Maybe it's only fool's gold, but it's still gold!"

in SW Arabia in what is now known as Yemen. It may have included a part of the adjacent African seaboard. Yemen was famous for its gold mines, which are known to have still existed in the ninth century B.C.

Ophir was visited by the trading fleet of Solomon and the Phoenicians. Solomon's navy was fitted out at Ezion-Geber, then traveled to Ophir, taking "four hundred and twenty talents of gold from there" 1 Kings. 9:26-28; 2 Chronicles 8:17-18; 9:10. At

the northern end of the Gulf of Aqabah, Ezion-Geber (modern Tell el Keleifeh) was excavated by Nelson Glueck. Solomon used the copper of the Arabah, smelted at Ezion-Geber, as a stock-in-trade. His Tarshish or "refinery" fleet sailed down the Red Sea and spent part of three years to make the trip, explainable by long hauls in excessively hot weather. In exchange for copper, Solomon's refinery fleet brought back not only the fine gold of Ophir 1 Kings 10:22. Gold of Ophir garnished Solomon's armor, throne, Temple, and house of the forest of Lebanon 10:14-19. (Unger's Dictionary)

... And the main street was pure transparent gold, like glass. Revelation 21:19--



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Prayer Request



David Born

Joel Jones

Jesse Mae Swisher/a
preemie.

Christy Swisher/mom
to preemie

Pam Chambers

Gloria Kinney

Mildred Bean

Bobby Jo Henderson

Kenny Henderson Jr

Carol Ritenour

Rita Mullins

Pat Derflinger

Ruth Martin

Kim Wines

Remi Wines

Scott McCool

Michael Michelucci

Linda York

Missionaries

Our Nation

Our Military

Those Battling Cancers

Debra Lawson

Aiden Thompson

Micah Brue

Haywood Seal

Shelly Long

Valerie Tewalt

Ann Derflinger

C.R. Newlin

Priscilla L.

Jeff Pingley

Wendy Willoughby

Robert Jenkins

Kathy Ludwick

Shirley Williams

Phylicia Smoot

David is slowly
recovering.

Carson's Niece dealing
with cancer. Andrea is
56.



News and Notes



Pantry Needs:

Chicken
Noodle
Soup

Thermal Shelter needs are
listed on the BB.

**11:00 Tuesday Ladies
Bible Class Study on
Revelations**

Thank you Juanita for keep-
ing the flowers changed
with the seasons and
holidays.



David Mayberry 1/27

February

Jim Durand 2/7

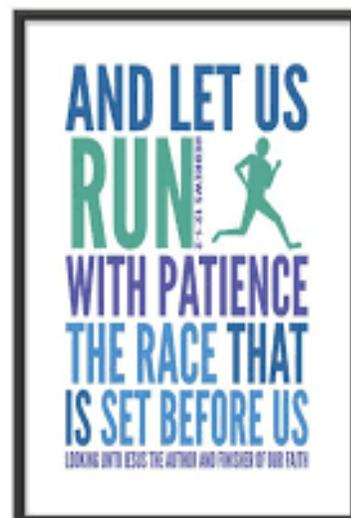
Steve Smith 2/12

Eugene Tewalt 2/15



Eugene & Juanita Tewalt
2/2

Bob & Deborah Baleskie
2/27



James For Beginners

Practical Christianity

Bible Talk^{TV}

Mike Mazzalongo

L 5 Micheal Jackson & James

James 2:1-26

Intro – Michael Jackson

- Allen Funt – Candid Camera
- People in Christ treat

I. Christians treat different people in the same way – 2:1-13

Vs. 1

Vs. 2-3 – An example

Vs. 4

Vs. 5

Vs. 6-7

Vs. 8

Vs. 9-13

10 Commandments – Judicial System.

Law of Liberty – Mercy System

II. The Christian's Attitude – James 2:14-26

Vs. 14-17 – True religion consists of mercy to.

Vs. 18 – A brother might say, "I have faith".

Vs. 19

It's not of Christ that

It's in Christ that .

Vs. 20

Vs. 21-24 – 2 examples of faith in action:

Abraham

-God works perfect faith.

Vs. 25

Rahab

Vs. 26

Summary

Christians do not

If his faith is alive

7 Say & Do Test

Say - Do

Say - Do