

What Every Christian Should Have

by Jon Munn

My story started Sept. 17th, 1963 when I was born. I started attending church the following week. I have attended on a weekly basis from that time until now. I was blessed to be born to Christian parents who deemed it very important to attend church on a weekly basis.

As a child from the 1960s I remember kneeling for prayer on Sunday evening and Wednesday evening prayer meetings. I remember singing all 25 verses of Just as I am during altar calls. I remember staying in church until 12:30 Sunday morning as people were at the altar praying for salvation, but none of this would get me into heaven.

One Sunday when I was seven years old stands out in my memory. There was an altar call at the end of the service and the pastor was walking through the pews asking people if they wanted to go forward to pray. He asked me and I quietly declined and he moved on the next group of people. Sometime later that summer I was home alone and walked into the kitchen

to get a snack and the Holy Spirit spoke to my heart and said that it was time to except Jesus as my Savior. I prayed right there in the kitchen by myself and asked Jesus into my heart as my Savior and Lord. I do not remember the exact time or day, but I remember the experience and change in my life as a 7 year old.

So do you know the answer to what every Christian should have? If you said a salvation story you are right. You may or may not remember the exact time and date you asked Jesus into your heart, but you should definitely remember the experience. If you don't have your own personal salvation story you may want to rethink if you are truly saved. If not, today can be your day of salvation. It is not too late to call on the Lord to save you.

2 Corinthians 6:2 For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

Annual Fall U.P. Prophecy Conference 2024

October 11-13

Join us for an in depth look at one of the most prevalent topics in our world today.

Our speakers are both from Friends of Israel Gospel Ministries.
Tim Munger from West Bloomfield, MI

Our Theme:
Anti-Semitism Past, Present, and Future

We will examine the cause and conclusion of Anti-Semitism.

Service Times:
Friday: 7:00PM
Saturday: 9:00AM-2:00PM
Sunday 9:45AM, 11AM, & 1PM after lunch



Why did Pharaoh order the Hebrew baby boys to be killed? Why did Haman try to kill the Jewish people living in the Persian Kingdom? Why did Hitler hate the Jews and try to remove them from the earth? What is meant by the phrase, "From the River to the Sea"? Why are there anti Jewish protests on university campuses all over the country? Why are Jewish people being threatened and attacked all over the world? Why is the nation of Israel being fired upon daily and involved in constant wars?

Family Fall Fun Fest

It's time for some good old fashioned free family fun! Oct 26, from 1 - 5. For families looking for an alternative to Halloween, this is Godly, harvest focused event. Think of this quote from the Bible: John 4:35 I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.

The festival will be filled with carnival games, crafts, candy and prizes. The kids are sure to have a great time! Weather permitting, we'll also have a hay ride and outdoor games.

Families are welcome, but the games are for kids up to 6th grade. Children are to be accompanied by a parent.

We need volunteers to man the games and pass out candy too!

If you can help, call Tracy at 772-209-0222.



Services & Bible Studies (Times and Places)

Every Sunday:
Sunday School 9:45 am
AM Service 11:00 am
PM Service 6:00 pm

Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm:
Adult Bible Study & Prayer
Middle & High School Youth Group

Men's Bible Study:
Men's breakfast is once a month.
Usually the 2nd Saturday at 8 am.

Women's Bible Study:
The ladies' Bible study will meet every other week. Monday morning at 9 am at the church and Monday evening at 6 pm at Sharon Rometti's home.

Summary of the Book of Esther (from gotquestions.org)

Brief Summary: The Book of Esther can be divided into three main sections. Chapters 1:1-2:18 – Esther replaces Vashti; 2:19-7:10 – Mordecai overcomes Haman; 8:1-10:3 – Israel survives Haman's attempt to destroy them. The noble Esther risked her own death as she realized what was at stake. She willingly did what could have been a deadly maneuver and took on the second-in-command of her husband's kingdom, Haman. She proved a wise and most worthy opponent, all the while remaining humble and respectful of the position of her husband-king.

Esther's story is much like the story of Joseph in Genesis 41. Both stories involve foreign monarchs who control the destiny of the Jews. Both accounts show the heroism of Israelite individuals who provide the means for the salvation of their people and nation. The hand of God is evident, in that what appears to be a bad situation is indeed very much under the control of the Almighty God, who ultimately has the good of the people at heart. At the center of this story is the ongoing division between the Jews and the Amalekites, which was recorded to have begun in the Book of Exodus. Haman's goal is the final effort recorded in the Old Testament period of the complete eradication of the Jews. His plans eventually end up

with his own demise, and the elevation of his enemy Mordecai to his own position, as well as the salvation of the Jews.

Feasting is a major theme of this book: there are seven recorded banquets (Esther 1:3, 9; 2:18; 5:4-5; 7:1-2; 8:17; and 9:17-22), and many of the events were planned, plotted, or exposed at these banquets. Although the name of God is never mentioned in this book, it is apparent that the Jews of Susa sought His intervention when they fasted for three days (Esther 4:16). In spite of the fact that the law allowing their destruction was written according to the laws of the Medes and Persians, rendering it unchangeable, the way was cleared for their prayers to be answered. Esther risked her life by going not once uninvited before the king but twice, (Esther 5:1-2; 8:3). She was not content with the destruction of Haman; she was intent on saving her people. The institution of the Feast of Purim is written and preserved for all to see and is still observed today. God's chosen people, without any direct mention of His name, were granted a stay of execution through the wisdom and humility of Esther.

Summary of the Book of Jonah (from gotquestions.org)

Brief Summary: Jonah's fear and pride cause him to run from God. He does not wish to go to Nineveh to preach repentance to the people, as God has commanded, because he feels they are his enemies, and he is convinced that God will not carry out his threat to destroy the city. Instead he boards a ship for Tarshish, which is in the opposite direction. Soon a raging storm causes the crew to cast lots and determine that Jonah is the problem. They throw him overboard, and he is swallowed by a great fish. In its belly for 3 days

and 3 nights, Jonah repents of his sin to God, and the fish vomits him up on dry land (we wonder what took him so long to repent). Jonah then makes the 500-mile trip to Nineveh and leads the city in a great revival. But the prophet is displeased (actually pouts) instead of being thankful when Nineveh repents. Jonah learns his lesson, however, when God uses a wind, a gourd, and a worm to teach him that He is merciful.

Missionary Report: Each month we will update a few of our missionaries

Wrights (Missionaries in Gulu, Uganda)

Update on Gabriel (one of the young men who Nate works with):

The people in our church gave money to help Gabriel finish his house. Gabriel is very thankful. He is mentioned that they still need to buy a bed, his wife would like a small sum to start a business, and he could use a bicycle to expand the area that he can evangelize the deaf community in Gulu. Please keep him in your prayers.



Gabriel's house when construction started.

The house as it is almost finished.

Gabriel sharing the Gospel.

Wisly Bregis (Pastor and School Leader in Haiti)

A message from Wisly to the Church:

"Greetings Brother Lee and Iron River Bible Church. Hope this message finds you in good health. The architect finally gives me the estimates for the school with all the details. They are for three kindergartens to the high school.

You know about the foundation of three rooms we have already started, I sent you pictures about them, the second one is for the future. As you look at them, the Lord will enable your donors to do as He lays on their heart. It is a big project that needs prayer and support. God is able my Brother to do above what we ask and think. Actually we can't continue the school construction because of lack of materials and means to remunerate the workers. We know our God has the whole world in His hand. He will bring what He has started to completion. Thank you my Brother for support and prayers" Wisly.

The estimates that he sent include: \$63,000 for 6 elementary classrooms, 2 offices, 3 high school rooms, cafeteria, library. \$28,000 for 3 classrooms that have already been started.



The pictures on the left show the work that has been started on the new classroom buildings. Work has stopped until they have money to do more.

Summary of the Book of Jonah (from gotquestions.org)

Brief Summary: The first three chapters are about Paul longing to visit the church in Thessalonica but not being able to because Satan stopped them (1 Thessalonians 2:18), and how Paul cared for them and was encouraged to hear how they had been. Paul then prays for them (1 Thessalonians 3:11-13). In chapter 4, Paul is instructing the believers

in Thessalonica on how to live, in Christ Jesus, a holy life (1 Thessalonians 4:1-12). Paul goes on to instruct them of a misconception they had. He tells them that the people who have died in Christ Jesus will also go to heaven when He comes back (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 5:1-11). The book ends with final instructions of living the Christian life.

God Called Me to Himself

by Kerry Kirkpatrick

A bit over 30 years ago I had a notion that there was something I needed to do. For the life of me I could not understand what it was. There was nothing I needed to do that I could think of. For two weeks this went on. I had a nagging feeling in the back of my mind there was something I needed to do.

Finally, one day, after two weeks I was on my way to work in the morning. I realized it was God calling me. It was like somebody had turned a light switch on and the only thing I could do was pull over to the side of the road. And I prayed right there on the side of the highway on my way to work. And received Jesus as my savior.

I didn't quite understand all that was going on. A feeling of peace and enlightenment came over me. I knew from that moment on I needed to learn everything I could find out about God. So I started listening to radio programs on the Christian radio station on my way to work. And then I got cassette tapes on the Bible. Slowly, I realized that I had received salvation...

It's hard to explain, but I realized in time that I had been saved. I didn't understand the concepts, but I grew in Christ from that day forward and I never looked back...

Family Bible Time Challenge

Whether your family includes children, a couple, or an individual, God's command is still the same. We need to read His word daily and then obey it.

Here is a suggestion/challenge for you during the month of August. Let's all get involved in the:

October Bible Reading Challenge.

This month, your challenge is to read multiple books in both the Old & New Testament.

These books are: Esther, Jonah, 1, 2, 3 John, and 1 & 2 Thessalonians.

After you finish reading one book, you will move

to the next book, and read it.

So, you are challenged to take time with your family each day.

- First pray together.
- Next, read a chapter of the book together.
- Then, discuss what you read together

Share what you learn with others. This could be in person, by phone or text, or even on social media.

See overviews of these books in this newsletter.

Summary of the Book of Esther (from gotquestions.org)

Brief Summary: False spiritual teachers were a big problem in the early church. Because there was not a complete New Testament that believers could refer to, many churches fell prey to pretenders who taught their own ideas and advanced themselves as leaders. John wrote this letter to set the record straight on some important issues, particularly concerning the identity of Jesus Christ.

Because John's letter was about the basics of faith in Christ, it helped his readers reflect honestly on their faith. It helped them answer the question, Are we true believers? John told them that they could tell by looking at their actions. If they loved one another, that was evidence of God's presence in their lives. But if they bickered and fought all the time or were selfish and did not look out for one another, they were betraying that they, in fact, did not know God.

That did not mean they had to be perfect. In fact, John also recognized that believing involved admitting our sins and seeking God's forgiveness. Depending on God for cleansing from guilt, along with admitting our wrongs against others and making amends, was another important part of getting to know God.

Kids' Corner with Miss Abby

Recipe - Ingredients

- 44 Caramels 1 bag
- 44 Snaps pretzels
- 2 Honeycrisp Apples
- Sprite optional

Instructions

- On a cookie sheet, lay out the pretzels in rows.
- Unwrap all the caramels and put them on top of each pretzel.
- Preheat oven to 250 degrees F.
- Cut up the apples into small pieces.
- Put them in a bowl of sprite or lemon juice if you want to prevent browning.
- Dry them off completely.
- Stab each one with a toothpick and set aside.
- Bake the pretzels with caramels for 5-6 minutes.
- Once the caramels are soft, push the apple and toothpick through the middle.

Spiritual Tie-in - Like our verse for this moon says, Seasons change but God's Word (the Bible) does not. This month I challenge you to memorize 1 verse every week. Work on it with your whole family or alone and see how amazing God's Word is!

Verse - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Isaiah 40:8

Activity - Leaf Art

Collect leaves and glue them to a paper to make a beautiful piece of art.

