

Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.

Proverbs 1:8-9 NIV



BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH

Service of
Worship & Communion

Sunday, 5 May, 2019

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Wifi: WWING2G Password: john3:16n17 (lowercase)

Sunday School 9:30am

Morning Worship - 10:40am | Evening Service - 6:00pm

Midweek Service (Wednesday) - 7:30pm

Hothersal Turning, St. Michael Tel: 426-4707

bereanbarbados@gmail.com | www.bereanbarbados.org

ALL ARE WELCOME!

We Need More Bible in Youth Ministry

For me, Bible study started at a young age.

I was blessed to have parents who encouraged my brothers and me to get into the word early, to write things down, to learn for ourselves what it had to teach. I'm sure I thought it was boring at the time; but now that I'm a teenager, I'm starting to realize this personal discipline is essential to my life and future.

It was through personal, inductive Bible study that I learned to really love God's word. But when I look at the church around me, I don't see much emphasis on Bible study in youth ministries. We're encouraged to read our Bible, of course; but what the Christian culture gives us is one lesson after another on "issues," and very little encouragement to study the Scriptures in depth.

But we teens need Bible study — more than we even realize. Here are four reasons I believe pastors, teachers, youth leaders, and Christian parents need to encourage and exhort us to study the Bible, and teach us how to do it.

1. We desperately need the truth

No one argues that Christian teens today are facing a massive onslaught of temptation and opposition, perhaps even more so than previous generations. Chances are the youth in your church are dealing with all kinds of issues — from depression to peer pressure to the LGBT agenda to uncertainty about what lies beyond graduation.

Now, more than ever, we need the truth of God's word as our rock and anchor. Only the Bible gives us what we need to sift through the lies; to stand strong in the face of trials; to live lives that are focused on Christ and his glory, and even to make this goal a priority.

2. We need to see these truths for ourselves

It's also no secret that we learn more and remember better when we enter into the process of discovery for ourselves. I've benefited hugely from the teaching of my parents, my pastor, and many others — but my greatest joy in God's word has been in the truths I discovered on my own. There's something about the process of discovery that makes the thing discovered so much more valuable. You hold it closer, and treasure it more highly.

Teens need this experience of discovery in the Bible. Middle and high school are often a time of searching, of discovery, and of wonder. We don't just want to be told something; we want to find it for ourselves. So, teach us to search the Scriptures, and give us the tools to do it.

3. We need to be challenged

Luke 2:52 records that “Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.” By age twelve, he was learned enough in the Torah that he could hold an educated conversation with the religious leaders of his day.

Teens today are rarely encouraged to engage in deep, life-transforming study of the Bible, or in literate conversations about it. We’re encouraged to read it, and while that’s a great starting place (and a necessary one), it can’t be the end. We are definitely capable of thinking deeply and wrestling with tough topics, so hold us to a higher standard. Challenge us, give us something to reach for.

The teen years are a time of habit development. If we begin now to form the habit of Bible study, we’ll be equipped with a solid foundation when we finally leave the authority of our parents, teachers, and youth leaders.

4. We need the fellowship

The stereotype is unfortunate, but true. Youth groups can often be breeding grounds for cliques, fights, and all kinds of high school drama. With a little help from social media, little things become big things and a circle of friends turns into an exclusive “group” faster than a relationship can become “Facebook official.”

At the start of his first epistle, the apostle John explained his reason for writing. “That which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ” (1 John 1:3).

The basis of all true fellowship is God’s word. Do you want unity in your youth group? Let your teens come together around the Bible. When there’s something deeper in common than school, sports teams, or music preferences, fellowship becomes much deeper, more lasting, and more impactful for both us and the larger community of faith.

Equipping the Future Church

Teens are the future church. We’re the leaders, teachers, pastors, evangelists, authors, artists, engineers, and stay-at-home moms of twenty years from now. Please, equip us to do what we’ve been called to do. Give us the tools to pursue a dynamic, growing relationship with our Creator.

Entertainment is not necessarily bad, but we can’t survive on or find real joy in that alone. We need the truths of the Bible. Teach us to find them for ourselves, and you will impact the rest of our lives and ministries.

Order of Service

May 5, 2019, 10:40 a.m.

“Friendship with Jesus”

Opening Song - Choir

Invocation

Hymn # 361 - The Lily of the Valley

Hymn # 383 - No, Not One

1st Scripture - St. John 15: 9 - 17

Hymn # 720 - Jesus Loves Even Me

Hymn # 666 - My Jesus I Love Thee

Prayer

Notices & Offering

Ministry of Music - Choir

Hymn # 72 - Fairest Lord Jesus

Sermon - Dr. Benson Hull

Hymn # 317 - What a friend we... Jesus

Distribution of Elements

Special Offering

2nd Scripture - Sis. Rachel Williams

Ministry of Music

Benediction



PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:

- **For the children of our nation and all who parent, mentor, teach, care for and influence our youth.**
- Youth who are studying, taking exams or entering the workforce.
- Thank God for allowing us to see a new month
- Thank God for healing, for providing and for protecting us
- Miraculous results from our Evangelism ministry
- The economic recovery of our country
- God's guidance and wisdom for the board and all who are in leadership positions.
- Building relationships with our surrounding community. Meeting their needs as we evangelise.
- Pastoral Succession & Selection - The Pastoral Search Committee
- Our sick and shut-in members
- The work of the Gideons, CEF, ISIVCF and The Bible Society
- The peace of Jerusalem *Psalm 122:6* - **God's Will Be Done.** *Matthew 6:10*

**Join us again at 6pm
for our Sunday Evening Service**

May Birthdays



5th - Joel Ellis

8th - Julia Licorish

9th - Julianne Johnson

10th - Angela Ward

13th - Pamela Kellman

14th - Cheron Sobers

16th - Rachel Williams

19th - Harold Codrington

23rd - Jennifer Thompson

28th - Heather Payne