

Vancleave Church of Christ Weekly Newsletter

Dedicated to spiritual encouragement and local Christian ministry

October 17, 2021

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 6:1, 2

For What Do We Search? *by Duane Patton*

According to three separate online sources, over **3.5 Billion** internet searches are conducted every single day (that's over a **trillion** per day world-wide)! Google is the reigning champ of on-line search engine traffic processing on average over **40,000 queries per second!** I suppose that number excludes the search I performed in looking up these statistics at bing.com, right? That is a truly remarkable number of information searches going on around the globe. One might even argue that it is a never-ending search. A question comes to my mind in consideration of the above research: Do we search for the kingdom of God to the same degree of urgency and frequency? If not, is it because doing so is more difficult? Or, could it be that we find it less interesting or comparably not as important? In any case, consider the following.

While on the earth in human form, Jesus taught that His disciples were to “seek” the kingdom of God and to do so with all urgency and priority (**Matthew 6:33; Luke 9:23., 24**). The mundane, earthly things of this life are temporary, but God’s kingdom is eternal; so, its entry must be weighed against the horrors of eternal condemnation that follow this life for the one who is not in Christ (**Romans 2:5-16; 6:23; cf., 2 Thessalonians 1:6-9**). Nothing in the world is to be compared to the value of even one soul for whom Christ died; the material world will certainly pass away (**Mark 8:36, 37; John 3:16, 17; Luke 15:15; 2 Peter 3:10, 11; 1 John 2:15-17; viz., Mark 13:31**). For this reason alone – that our souls stand in constant need of the eternal benefit of Jesus’ death – searching for God’s kingdom (whether through careful online research or otherwise) should be our world-wide priority! After all, sin is a world-wide problem! The apostle Paul echoed the haunting words of the Psalmist as he documented mankind’s problem without God’s grace, “There is none righteous, no, not one” (**Romans 3:10; cf. Psalms 14:1-3; 53:1-3**). The number of searches performed every day are not nearly as important as the thing for which we are all searching. Let’s be sure to search for God’s kingdom foremost!

“...without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6, NKJV)

Seeking first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness...

Services:

Sunday

9:00 AM Bible Class
10:00 AM Worship

6:00 PM Worship

Wednesday:

6:00 PM
Prayer & Bible Study

Local Works of Faith:

Sunnybrook Children’s Home
Gulf Coast Bible Camp
Local Food Pantry
Annual Youth Events
Back-Pack Buddies
The Gospel of Christ TV (Fox 25)
(Every Sunday at 6:30 AM)

Foreign Missions:

Guyana, South America
India

Local Wi-Fi Network Access:

SSID: 2Wire029

Key: 3995723302

E-mail: vcocministry@vancleavemschurch.org

Web Site: <http://www.vancleavemschurch.org>

Subscribe to these on YouTube:

Vancleave Church of Christ Digital
Ministries
The Mississippi Gospel Minute



Prayer Requests and Announcements

The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry. ~ Psalms 34:15

Recent Prayer Requests:

Cindy Stevens: Has asked for our prayers as she is to have some tests run.

Tonya Organ (Lance Hesselrode's sister): To have surgery with follow-on treatment to be determined.

Cathleen Nicholson: Has also been diagnosed with breast cancer and is anticipating treatments.

Jerry and Virginia Mobley: Sister Virginia is dealing with some unexplained pain issues.

Brannan Perry (Brennen's brother): Is to have test to determine possible heart issues.

Nic Wages: Has a student who needs our fervent prayers to deal with some very serious issues.

Continue to remember these:

Earl and Linda Kenney Jerry and Virginia Mobley Wayne and Lanette Girod

Gregory Cooley Lou Dick Dino Vecchio Mike Kenney

If you have any updates / corrections on any prayer requests or other announcements, please share them by sending an email to vcocministry@vancleavemchurch.org

ANNOUNCEMENT: Annual Fall Hayride here on Sunday 31 October! Finger foods to follow!

WEEKLY WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT: Remember, we all owe a debt that we ourselves can never pay, and Christ paid a debt He Himself never owed – that is why our salvation is God's gift!

"I, alone, am the one who wipes out your wrongdoings for My own sake, And I will not remember your sins

(Isaiah 43:25, NASB)

Daily Bible Reading Plan for 2021 Week 40

MONDAY **Matt. 1; Lk. 2:1-38**

What do you suppose is the significance of the genealogy of Jesus as recorded by Matthew?

TUESDAY **Matt. 2; Lk. 2:39-58**

Herod was a very corrupt king. What do you think motivated him to slay innocent children?

WEDNESDAY **Matt. 3; Mk. 1; Lk. 3**

What, in your mind, might be the value of connecting Jesus' genealogy to Adam (3X in all Scripture)?

THURSDAY **Matt.4; Lk. 4-5; Jn.1:15-51**

Jesus was "tempted" with food, power, and riches. With what might the world test your faith?

FRIDAY **John 2 -4**

This text contains some truly memorable passages. What are some among these that stand out to you?

SATURDAY **Mark 2**

Jesus didn't seem at all surprised with the rooftop entry of the paralyzed man. Why might this be?

SUNDAY **John 5**

Jesus said that His purpose for coming was not to "judge." What do you think He meant by that?

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. Psalms 119:105