

Vancleave Church of Christ Weekly Newsletter

Dedicated to spiritual encouragement and local Christian ministry

March 27, 2022

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:14, 15

United in Matters of Faith? Part 3 By Duane Patton

As incredible as it may sound, **some individuals of accountable age and mental responsibility have never once heard a word from the Bible.** This is only one of several reasons for why so much confusion exists in matters of faith. Hopefully, we will discover about six reasons in our articles on this topic. Consider again a couple other reasons for the confusion and division regarding the Bible and matters of faith.

Some have heard a twisted account of God's word. Confusion sometimes occurs when an individual has been misguided, religiously speaking. Upon hearing the Bible and its message for the first time, a person may not know who, what or even how to believe. Peter, an early writer and apostle of Jesus Christ, warned the churches about some unstable teachers who "twist the Scriptures to their own destruction" (**2 Peter 3:16**). Likewise, today many sincere folks have heard similar perversions of truth revealed in God's word. So-called differences of "interpretation" sometimes fall into this category of mishandling the word of truth partly because former generations who were themselves misinformed. These might include close friends, relatives, preachers, teachers, etc. Yet, we are all are under equal obligation to "handle aright" the word of truth (**2 Timothy 2:15**).

Some have been conditioned against God's word. Should one have the grave disadvantage of growing up in a culture or society hostile to the Bible, this person stands little chance of understanding the message within the sacred page. Prejudice, or bias, regarding the biblical text create an anti-Bible mentality as though the book itself is somehow harmful to one's way of life. In other instances, some may consider the Bible simply as a collection of writings by mere humans no more valuable than the writings of Shakespeare, Poe, or Homer – maybe writings that are good for some people, but certainly not for everyone. These are similar to biblical characters like Festus who said of the apostle Paul, "Too much learning is driving you insane!" (**Acts 26:24**). Those who are conditioned against God's word see the Bible as a real imposition to their lives. This only leads to further confusion and division. But we are to "let the word...dwell in us richly" (**Colossians 3:16**).

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee..." (Psalms 119:11, KJV).

Seeking First the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness

Services:	Local of Faith:	Foreign Missions:	Subscribe to these on YouTube:
<u>Sunday:</u>	Sunnybrook Children's Home	Guyana	<i>Vancleave Church of Christ Digital Ministries</i>
9 AM Bible Class	Gulf Coast Bible Camp	India	<i>The Mississippi Gospel Minute</i>
10AM Worship	Local Food Pantry	Guam	
6 PM Worship	Annual Youth Events		
<u>Wednesday:</u>	Back-Pack Buddies		
6 PM Prayer	The Gospel of Christ TV		
& Bible Class	(Every Sunday at 6:30 AM, Fox 25)		



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

Recent Prayer Requests & Announcements

- **Bill Whitehouse:** Becky Wages' uncle, is in ICU with some serious, complicated health issues. He and his wife Patty, need our prayers especially as she faces possible difficult decisions pending his improvement.
- **Connie Wages:** Procedure went well. Waiting for results from kidney biopsy.
- **Jack Fitzgerald Family:** Prayers are welcomed due to the passing of Jack.
- **Chris McDevitt:** Under doctor's consultation regarding possible amputation of both of her hands and feet.
- **Josephine (Jo) Lichtenburg:** Her Procedure has been moved to next Tuesday.
- **Raymond Daves (sister Quave's father):** Suffered a heart attack but is recovering well!
- **Carla Clayton:** Prayers needed for recent illness.
- **Baby Shower for Alex and Heidi Patton:** April 3rd (Next Sunday after fellowship meal). They are registered at Amazon.com. Due to limited space on Heidi's return flight, please consider very small gifts (gift cards, etc.) or choose free shipping to their home address: 157 Hornbeam Road Groton, Connecticut 06340
- **Do you want to share the Gospel with the world?** Go to Wade Phillips Mission Facebook page, find The Gospel of Christ advertisement for **FREE BIBLE STUDY** and share with your friends! Easy, effective evangelism!

Please Continue to Remember These in Prayer

Harvey Goldensup	Maxine Robinson	Tonya Organ	Amy Stevens	Jack Hayes
Mason Kleist	Roy Corbin	David Hines	Mike Kenney	Dino Vecchio
Judy Hinton	Jerry Kennedy	Andrew Sawyer	George Mertz	Rita Herring
Tommy Shirley	Paul Langham	Frank Sentelle	Andrea Shofner	Kim Atkins
Teddy Dearman	Earl and Linda Kenney			

Have requests or other announcements? Send email to vcocministry@vancleavemschurch.org

Rightly Dividing the Word

A weekly synopsis of every book of the Bible with a memory verse designed to increase our faith

Ruth: A truly amazing story of righteousness, love and faithfulness to the Lord and to family, Ruth relates the life of a young non-Israelite girl who married into the Hebrew family. Ruth's husband, along with his brother and their father died leaving only Ruth's sister-in-law and their mother-in-law to fend for their lives under very harsh circumstances. They dwelt alone during the extremely difficult period as referenced in Judges. Yet, godly conduct, right attitudes and wise choices on Ruth's part led her to marry a near-kinsman of her then deceased husband. The marriage of Ruth to Boaz was an unlikely but fortunate union. Ruth became a vital part of the ancestry of King David and, eventually of the world's savior, Jesus of Nazareth (Romans 1:3)

This week's memory verse:

"The LORD recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the LORD God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust" (Ruth 2:12)



Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.