

Thanks to our Speaker  
*Paul Cantrell*

**Scripture Reading**  
Genesis 2:15-17

*“Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and tend it. The Lord God commanded the man, saying, ‘From any tree of the garden you may freely eat; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for on the day that you eat from it you will certainly die’.”*

**April Birthdays**

3 Amanda Hoffman 6 Susan Hudson 16 Alana Hudson  
23 Shannon Hudson 26 Stori Rose Hoffman

**April Anniversaries**

19 Bill & Kena Brown

**Regular Meeting Times**

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

**Temporary Meeting Times**

Sunday.....10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

**Preacher:**  
(Vacant)

**Church of Christ**  
81-377 Ave 46  
Indio, CA 92201  
(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

# Indio Informer

Vol. 32 No. 16

April 18, 2021

**We Need More Bible Study**

By Bill Brandstatter

Before becoming a Christian, Bible study is important. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God (Romans 10:17). After a person becomes a Christian, Bible study is vital. How I divide the Bible and how I handle it is important (2 Timothy 2:15). It is significant to understand the importance of the Bible and why we need to study it on a daily basis.

The Bible is God speaking to us. Paul indicated, “*All scripture is given by the inspiration of God*” (2 Timothy 3:16). Peter acknowledged that “*Holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit*” (2 Peter 1:21). God speaks from His Word. God speaks to us by His Son (Hebrews 1:2). Are we listening?

The Bible is a lamp and a light. (Psalms 119:105) The Bible can help us to better understand life and its difficulties. It can also provide us with all that we need to face temptation and all that this world throws at us. Paul advises that we “*put on the whole armor of God.*” (Ephesians 6:11) Without the Bible in our lives, Satan cannot be resisted effectively.

The Bible is man’s source for the future. I don’t know what the future holds, but I know I have a future and I know it is in God’s hands. After death, every person has a future. The Bible says, “*It is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment*” (Hebrews 9:27 NKJV). That future involves eternity. Jesus said the future is either everlasting punishment or eternal life (Matthew 25:46). Where I spend eternity depends on what I do now. The words of Jesus and our obedience to them will be the determining factor in judgment (John 12:48; Hebrews 5:8, 9).

The Bible is our source for the right equipment in life. Paul wrote that through the Scriptures, *“the man of God may be “complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work”* (2 Timothy 3:17 NKJV). Man cannot provide the equipment that the Bible does. How equipped are we to handle tragedy in our lives?

Remember, Paul stated, *“Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God”* (Romans 10:17). Without the Bible I would not have the faith I need to get through this life or get to eternity.

Do we need to study the Bible more? God will bless us and heaven could be our home if we *“receive with meekness the implanted word which is able to save your soul.”* (James 1:21).

## **God’s Word is Always Relevant**

By Joe Chesser

It really shouldn’t be surprising that the word of God is current to every culture and generation. Since God is timeless and cultureless, it shouldn’t surprise us that His word is also that way. Though it’s not surprising, it is none-the-less amazing!

It is true that the Bible is set in time and culture as the plan of God was slowly revealed through the centuries. The people in the Bible were real people who lived in various cultures at various times. But as God intertwined their backgrounds and futures, He let the world in on the plan He had before the world was created (Ephesians 1:4). He chose to develop through the Jewish people His plan for redeeming the entire world. When God became flesh and lived on earth (John 1:1, 14), He did so in Jewish society. Yet, when Jesus went to the cross, He broke down those cultural barriers and opened up for the entire world His gospel (Ephesians 2:12-16). Jesus wanted to be relevant to every generation and culture.

At this point you might be wondering where all this is going, so let me tell you. There are people every day who are searching for relevant help to deal with their personal problems of life. Many of these people go to church every week. Many of them pray often.

Yet, they seem to wonder if God really understands their unique situation, and if so, does He have something significant to say to help them. These people live all around us, and perhaps, even in our own homes. But they also live in Nepal and Argentina and Scotland. No matter when or where people may live, no matter what their culture or customs may be, people are longing for, needing, a word from God. No one is exempt from needing to hear from God. And the Bible is just the place to look. It’s the only place to look.

Since God created us, He knows all of our needs. And since God transcends time and culture, He’s not locked in to only one way of doing so. He not only knows us inside out as individuals, He also knows what’s going on around us. But the really amazing thing is that whatever my needs may be, the Bible can help us. The word of God is living and active. It penetrates the soul and spirit and can judge all of our thoughts and attitudes (Hebrews 4:12). The Bible may be thousands of years old, but it is amazingly relevant to every one of us.

There is no need to struggle through each day wondering if anyone cares, if anyone can help. God cares and He has given us His word to be our source of direction and comfort. Read it every day. Meditate on it. Study it. Learn it like never before. Then, when Satan tries to defeat us, like Jesus, we can draw from God’s word just the help we need (Matthew 4:1-11). We’ll be amazed at how relevant God’s word is!

## **What Ordinary People Have Said About the Bible**

*“A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education.”* Theodore Roosevelt

*“Within the covers of the Bible are the answers for all the problems men face.”* Ronald Reagan

*“A Bible that’s falling apart usually belongs to someone who isn’t.”* Charles H. Spurgeon