



Biblical Pursuit

Do you remember the game called Trivial Pursuit? When I was in seminary I played it a lot. I lived in a dorm that was home to quite a variety of graduate students, some in the seminary and others studying various sciences. We were all fairly poor so we played board games with each other to pass the time in an economical way. One weekend one of the students brought in a variation on the original game called Biblical Pursuit. It had the same rules but drew on the Bible as its source for questions. Now you might think that in a dorm with a large population of seminarians in it that there would be an unfair advantage working, but you'd be wrong. The residents who consistently won the games were not usually seminarians, but students studying secular subjects who had grown up in Baptist, Disciples of Christ, and other denominations. They had been prepared, through a lifetime of Sunday School and VBS memorization, to compete successfully in games which drew on the words of the Bible. One math student I remember could rattle off the names of all the Old Testament Prophets and kings in order. I still can't do that.

For many of us who are part of the community of Savior Anglican Church, the Bible has some pretty mysterious regions. Many of us were not raised in traditions that emphasized the stories of the Bible and now we find ourselves at a loss when we feel that we ought to be more familiar with those accounts. It may be that we recognize certain references that percolate out of them from time to time but don't know their context: What, exactly, gave us the name "Jezebel" as a reference to a bad woman? Are ravens good or bad things? Why should young people never taunt older bald men? Are Elijah and Elisha two different people?

This summer we will be addressing those questions by concentrating on some of the (ought to be) familiar stories of the Old Testament. We began last Sunday with a portion of the story of Elijah and before the summer is over we will have considered the lives and messages of Isaiah, Amos and Hosea. I hope that you all will make every effort to be present as we explore the lives of the Old Testament saints and sinners as we discover how their lives reflect our own.

See you Sunday!
Craig+

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Our Mission Is: We Will Know, Love, Serve, and Obey Christ and Will Make Him Known to Others!

Our Core Values:

Growing and Discipling the Family of God

Reflecting the Love of God Through Hospitality, Friendship and Fellowship

Encountering the Living God Through Traditional and Contemporary Worship

Raising and Nurturing Children through the Grace of God

Sharing God's Love By Reaching Out



The Lord's Prayer
James Tissot
1886 - 1896

The Value of Friends

Jesus said, "I have called you friends". (John 15:15) Jesus asked His disciples to show friendship to Him by loving one another as He had loved them. Those who know Jesus Christ as their Savior, have these ties. They are forever connected to Him and to one another. Paul said we've been born of God (Romans 12:5), and we love those who are born of Him (1 John 5:1). When we get together with fellow believers, we have the opportunity to talk about the One we love – Jesus Christ – and of the love, forgiveness, and grace we have in Him. At such times we can encourage each other to continue to trust Him and spur one another on to be faithful in our walk with Him.

Those who are drawn to Christ are drawn to each other. In our service for Him, we share not only our words and money, but our time and friendship with one another. In order to do this, we need to be willing to build these relationships.

Friends are essential for our emotional, physical, and spiritual well-being. They listen to our heartaches without blaming us for having problems. They are happy when we succeed and sad when we fail. They even risk making us angry for the sake of making us right. Friends love at all times (Proverbs 17:17). During times of adversity, we need friends we can rely on and who will stand with us in times of trial.

True friends are like diamonds – precious and rare. These friends are the first persons who come in when the whole world has gone out. The depth of such a friendship isn't merely about doing the right thing. It's about sacrifice, and it springs out of a relationship with the One who truly did lay down His life for us. John Chrysostom gave such an insight on the value of friends when he wrote "such friendship, that through it we love places and seasons, for as . . . flowers drop their sweet leaves on the ground around them, so friends impart favor even to the places where they dwell. With friends even poverty is pleasant . . . It would be better for us that the sun were exhausted than we should be without friends". We need to nurture these friendships God has given us.

That being said, sadly we have to bid two true friends "good-bye", at least for awhile. Shelia and Travis Chandler are transferring to Shreveport, Louisiana this month. Friends, your presence will be sorely missed, but you will remain forever in our hearts. You are two of the cherished "diamonds" God has given to all of us at Savior.

In Christ's service,
Pat Williams



Children's Sunday Morning Summer Bible Study

July 4: No classes

July 11: Following Through Water And Sand – John 21:1-19

July 18: Encouragement On Boat And Beach – Acts 27:1-28:10

July 25: John, Jesus, And the Holy Spirit – Mark 1:4-11; John 1:24-3

