

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Date	Morning	Evening
05/25/09 Monday.....	2 Samuel.....15-16	Psalm.....58-59
05/26/09 Tuesday.....	2 Samuel.....17-18	Psalm.....60-61
05/27/09 Wednesday.....	2 Samuel.....19-20	Psalm.....62-63
05/28/09 Thursday.....	2 Samuel.....21-22	Psalm.....64-65
05/29/09 Friday.....	2 Samuel.....23-24	Psalm.....66-67
05/30/09 Saturday.....	2 Samuel.....25-26	Psalm.....68-69
05/31/09 Sunday.....	2 Samuel.....27-28	Psalm.....70-71

The Informer is a weekly publication that is published and overseen by the Belle church of Christ located at the corner of 8th and Oak in Belle, Missouri 65013. Our Mailing address is “P.O. Box 381, Belle, Missouri 65013. The church phone number is (573) 859-6616. Jerry McDonald is the pulpit preacher. His email address is jerry@challenge2.org. His cell number is (573) 578-5931. Thomas McDonald is the associate preacher. His email address is thmcdonald10@hotmail.com. His cell phone number is (573) 308-9126. We support U. John in Prakasam, India. We will also be supporting Jeremy Desjarlais in Sydney, Australia. We also support Ruben Williams as he studies to preach at the Memphis School of Preaching. Our church website is <http://www.bellecoc.com>. The email address is bellecoc@bellecoc.com. Our services are as follows:

TIMES OF SERVICE

Sunday Morning Bible Study.....9:30
 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:30
 Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00
 Wednesday Evening Bible Study.....7:00
 Ladies Bible Class 3rd Monday Evening of Each Month.....7:00

OUR PLEA:

BACK-TO-THE-BIBLE

Belle church of Christ
 P.O. Box 381
 Belle, MO 65013

The Informer

Belle church of Christ

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FAITHFUL STEWARDS

Jerry McDonald

In his first letter to the church at Corinth the apostle Paul wrote: *“Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful”* (1Co 4:1-2). Contextually he was talking about himself and the other apostles as the ministers of Christ, but within that context is a principle that teaches that all of us are stewards of the mysteries of God because we are all ministers of Christ. Each of us has the responsibility to take the gospel to someone who is lost. As such it is required that we be faithful. We want to look at ways in which we are to be faithful stewards of the mysteries of God.

1. We are to be faithful in our preaching and teaching. This means that we are to preach and teach nothing but the truth, and the whole truth. The apostle told the elders of the church in Ephesus *“Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God”* (Act 20:26-27). He told them that he declared all the counsel of God unto them. This is our job today. Often we try to soften the truth so that people will accept it because the truth is hard and many won’t accept it, but that is just the way it is. Jesus said that most won’t accept the truth *“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it”* (Mat 7:13-14). Even the master couldn’t get the majority to accept the truth and he said *“For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him”* (Joh 13:15-16). People have told me to tone it down and I have shown where Jesus spoke boldly and their response is, “Well you aren’t Jesus!” No, but I am to

follow his examples, and I am not greater than he is. If he could not gain the multitudes, then I have no expectations of such. If he could not tone it down, then I have no right to do such. We have to preach the gospel as it is given and let the seed fall where it may. Part of the power of the gospel is to convict people of sin *“And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment”* (Joh 16:8), and if I try and preach it in such a way that it does not do this, then I limit its power. So I have to be faithful in preaching and teaching the word of God.

2. We are to be faithful in our attendance. In his letter to the Hebrew Christians the apostles reminded them that they were not to forsake the assembling of themselves together, *“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching”* (Heb 10:25). Apparently some, in the church, had begun to miss the assemblies and it was going around. Paul wanted them to know that they were not to do this. He said not to forsake the assembling of themselves together as the manner of some of them was. They were to exhort one another each day that they would see each other to be in attendance. When we see each other on the streets we should be exhorting one other to see each other at the next appointed service, but often we don’t. We need to *“exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin”* (Heb 3:13). We are members of a family, and we draw strength from each other so when we see each other we should be exhorting one another to be at the next appointed services.

3. We are to be faithful in our manner of life. *“Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel”* (Php 1:27). When people see us they should see us living the gospel of Christ. They should see us standing fast in one spirit, with one mind, striving together for the faith of the gospel. Often what people see is diversity rather than unity. People say that unity is impossible. Well then Jesus prayed for something that was impossible, and Paul commanded something that was impossible (Jno. 17:20,21; 1 Cor. 1:10) because in both cases unity was the desired goal. The only reason that people think that everyone thinking the same way, believing the same thing, etc, is because not everyone will allow their manner of life to be as becomes the gospel of Christ. They will not be ruled by the gospel. Instead they are ruled by the god of this world, the prince of darkness, the Devil himself. Division is not of God, it is of the Devil.

Let us be good stewards in all things so that we can live faithfully to God and hear Jesus say “enter ye in at the joy of thy Lord.”

CHURCH NEWS

PRAYER LIST

We need to remember all those who are sick and afflicted in our daily prayers. We need to remember those who are in the nursing homes, and in the military. We also need to keep Doris Pendleton, Ruby Backus, Tex Kinman, Bill and Verna Butler, Lynna Shanks, Verma Long, Connie Gass, Nelta Brock, Cheryl Harris, Janet Patrick, Evonelle Calkins, Vera Dreyse, Elnora Shanks, Dawn Tivoli, Richard Massey, the Bill Habermehl family, Savannah Shanks, Adrian and Jean Swindler, Sandy Sarchette, and Olivia Shanks. Let us also continue to remember Andy Shanks, Nettie B. Shirley, Dixie Stacy, and Darrell Conley in our daily prayers. Logan Shanks went back for testing and they have been unable to find the cause of his problem. They think it may have been a virus he picked up. Olivia is on a stronger dose of her medication, let us keep them in our prayers. Chesley is in Frene Valley Nursing Home. We need to remember Delmar Backeus and Marvin Howard and his wife. Scott Thomas had back surgery, and we need to keep him in our daily prayers.

THOSE TO SERVE May 24, 2009 A.M.	THOSE TO SERVE May 31, 2009 A.M.
Greeters.....Jerry & Andrea McDonald	Greeters.....Tex & Lois Kinman
Announcements.....Thomas McDonald	Announcements.....Gary Wallace
Song Leader.....Gary Wallace	Song Leader.....Andy Shanks
Opening Prayer.....David Shanks	Opening Prayer.....Thomas McDonald
Lord’s Supper..Danny Keeney& Tex Kinman	Lord’s Supper.....David & Taylor Shanks
Sermon.....Jerry McDonald	Sermon.....Jerry McDonald
Closing Prayer.....Taylor Shanks	Closing Prayer.....Danny Keeney
P.M.	P.M.
Song Leader.....Gary Wallace	Song Leader.....Andy Shanks
Opening Prayer.....Elwood Runge	Opening Prayer.....Elwood Runge
Sermon.....Jerry McDonald	Sermon.....Jerry McDonald
Closing Prayer.....Andy Shanks	Closing Prayer.....Gary Wallace
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
Song Leader.....Gary Wallace	Song Leader.....Andy Shanks
Opening Prayer.....Danny Keeney	Opening Prayer.....Jerry McDonald
Devotional.....Jerry McDonald	Devotional.....Thomas McDonald
Closing Prayer.....Thomas McDonald	Closing Prayer.....Elwood Runge

FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN’S HOME

The items for Fair Haven Children’s Home this week are “Brown Sugar,” and “Salad Dressings.”

MEN’S BUSINESS MEETING

The next men’s business meeting will be on Tuesday June 1, 2009. All the men of the congregation are encouraged to attend and help made the decisions for the church here in Belle.

Sermons For The Next Two Weeks

May 24, 2009: A.M. lesson: “A Study of Implication and Silence.” P.M. Lesson: “Overcoming Ungratefulness” May 31, 2009: A.M. lesson: “So Great Salvation.” P.M. Lesson: “Love and Faith Toward the Saints.”

