

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Date	Morning	Evening
08/03/09 Monday.....	Nehemiah.....05-06	Romans.....09-10
08/04/09 Tuesday.....	Nehemiah.....07-08	Romans.....11-12
08/05/09 Wednesday.....	Nehemiah.....09-10	Romans.....13-14
08/06/09 Thursday.....	Nehemiah.....11-13	Romans.....15-16
08/07/09 Friday.....	Esther.....01-02	1 Corinthians..01-02
08/08/09 Saturday.....	Esther.....03-04	1 Corinthians..03-04
08/09/09 Sunday.....	Esther.....05-06	1 Corinthians..05-06

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 are also support Steven Rogers as he studies to preach at the Memphis School of Preaching in Memphis, TN. 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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WHY DO WE PUT THINGS OFF?

Jerry McDonald

According to the dictionary the word "procrastination" means: "to put off intentionally and habitually: to put off intentionally the doing of something that should be done" (<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/procrastination>). So why do we put things off? There are many reasons we put things off. Some times we put things off because we are just lazy and don't want to do them. That one is easy to cure, quit being lazy, get up and get to work. Some times a person expects too much of himself and he sets his goals too high and when he realizes he can't reach the goal he puts it off until the last minute hoping something will happen that will allow him to reach the goal. That kind of thinking doesn't work, only hard work will help one reach a goal. Some times a person doesn't think very highly of himself and he just gets to thinking that he is worthless so he puts things off. This kind of thinking never gets anything done. Then there are those with attention disorders, who can't focus on one thing for very long at one time. For whatever reason one procrastinates, it shouldn't be done.

The child of God is never to be lazy. Paul wrote "*For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat*" (2 Thess. 3:10). The kingdom of God is no place for the lazy. Paul wrote to his Hebrew recipients: "*Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief*" (Heb. 4:11). We are to be workers and laborers in the kingdom of God. There is never to be an excuse for laziness in the kingdom of God, so this should never be a reason for our putting things off.

Sometimes we put things off because we set our goals too high and when we realize that we can't reach them, then we begin putting them off hoping that something will happen that will either help us to reach the goal or excuse us from reaching the goal. Our goal is simply to take the gospel to the lost. That is a goal that each and every one of us can reach. We don't have any command to

baptize so many people a year, all any of us have a command to do is “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mk. 16:15). It is not up to us to decide who obeys and who does not, that is up to the person who hears the gospel. God gives people the right to decide for themselves how they will live their lives, and they can decide whether or not they will live for God (Josh. 24:15), but our job is to take the gospel to them and give them the opportunity. We should not be concerned about the increase, that is in God’s purview not ours: *“I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase”* (1 Cor. 3:6).

Some times we put things off because of anger. We often try and fail so we get angry and just put things off. This kind of anger is wrong because it keeps us from going ahead and doing what we know is right. Paul said *“be ye angry and sin not, let not the sun go down upon thy wrath”* (Eph. 4:26). There is nothing inherently wrong with being angry as long as there is a just cause, but when that anger cannot keep us from doing what we are supposed to be doing, keeping the commandments of the Lord in evangelism, edification and benevolence.

Some times we put things off because we don’t think very highly of ourselves; we don’t think we can do anything so we put things off dreading to try to do anything. We as Christians should never have this attitude. We obviously were worth something, otherwise, God would not have sent his son to die for us (Rom. 5:6,-9; Jno. 3:16). As Christians, we are *“a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people”* (2 Pet. 3:9). We were bought, *“not with silver or gold...but with the precious blood of Christ, as a lamb without blemish and without spot”* (2 Pet. 1:18,19). This makes us worth a lot. So we should never think that we are worthless. We should never use this as an excuse to keep us from doing what we know that we should do.

Putting things off has become a habit for most, and for whatever reason, we put things off that can hurt us. People put off becoming Christians for various reasons, but Paul said *“(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation)”* (2 Cor. 2:6). There is no better time than today to obey the gospel, but people will stand during the invitation song with tears running down their cheeks, knowing full-well that they need to go forward, but they put it off. There is a day coming that we will not be able to put off, and that day is the day of judgment, and that day *“For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God”* (Rom. 14:11). A day is coming that we won’t be able to put off, we won’t be able to procrastinate no matter how much we want to. So the truth is, we need to put away “putting things off” and go ahead and start doing things when they need to get done. If we get in the habit of doing things this way, then we will probably be ready for Christ when he returns.

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, Elnora Shanks, Dawn Tivoli, Richard Massey, the Bill Habermehl family, Adrian and Jean Swindler,

Nettie B. Shirley, Dixie Stacy, Darrell Conley, and Marvin Howard and his wife in our daily prayers. Sandy Sarchette is having further problems. Let us keep her in our prayers. We also need to remember Danny and Barbara Keeney in our daily prayers.

THOSE TO SERVE August 2, 2009 A.M.	THOSE TO SERVE August 9, 2009 A.M.
Greeters.....Jerry & Andrea McDonald	Greeters.....Jerry & Thomas McDonald
Announcements.....Elwood Runge	Announcements.....Jerry McDonald
Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald	Song Leader.....Leroy Thomas
Opening Prayer.....Jerry McDonald	Opening Prayer.....David Shanks
Lord’s Supper.....Leroy Thomas & Taylor Shanks	Lord’s Supper.....David Shanks & Elwood Runge
Sermon.....Jerry McDonald	Sermon.....Jerry McDonald
Closing Prayer.....David Shanks	Closing Prayer.....Thomas McDonald
P.M.	P.M.
Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald	Song Leader.....Leroy Thomas
Opening Prayer.....Taylor Shanks	Opening Prayer.....Thomas McDonald
Sermon.....Jerry McDonald	Sermon.....Jerry McDonald
Closing Prayer.....David Shanks	Closing Prayer.....David Shanks
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald	Song Leader.....Leroy Thomas
Opening Prayer.....David Shanks	Opening Prayer.....Jerry McDonald
Devotional.....Jerry McDonald	Devotional.....Thomas McDonald
Closing Prayer.....Elwood Runge	Closing Prayer.....David Shanks

FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN’S HOME

The items for Fair Haven’s Children’s Home will be “Laundry Soap,” and “Toilet Cleaner.”

Sermons for the Next Two Weeks:

The a.m. lesson for August 2, 2009 is “What Is Faith?” The p.m. lesson is “Joy And Consolation In Love.” The a.m. lesson for August 9, 2009 is “Shadow of the Real.” The p.m. lesson will be “Boldness In Christ.”

Men’s Business Meeting

The Men’s Business Meeting will be on Monday August 3, 2009. All of the men are invited to attend and help make the decisions for the church here in Belle.

LADIES’ BIBLE CLASS

The ladies Bible class will be canceled this month and August as well. It will resume on the third Monday in September.

BUILDING CLEANING

Next week is the week we clean the building. All who can stay and help with this chore are asked to help out. We will clean after the pm service.