

# Rainbow Bend

November 2009 Vol. 16, Issue 11



## Bible Why Study

It seems that most of us feel that studying is easier said than done and unpleasant. But this is simply not the truth when it comes to opening God's word and making application to our daily lives. Studying can and will create such a joy in our lives that we can be excited to do it on a regular basis. Ann Spangler and Lois Tverbert, wrote in their book, "Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus", "Would it surprise you to learn that the rabbis thought that study and not prayer, was the highest form of worship?" They pointed out that when we pray, we speak to God, but that when we study the Scriptures, God speaks to us, of course they weren't advocating a coldly intellectual approach to Scripture, but the kind of study that is motivated by a deep reverence for God's Word.

Let's look at some of the benefits of studying the Bible:

### It pleases God

2nd Timothy 2:15 says, "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth". I have heard it said that studying the Bible on a regular basis could give us a degree, an **AUG** degree, Approved Unto God.

### It helps us to develop into healthy mature Christians

1 Peter 2:2 said, "Like newborn infants long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation. All people have a desire to grow into healthy human beings. Christians who want to grow into healthy spiritual beings are encouraged to sit at the feet of Jesus. This is described as being a disciple, as the Bible calls us to a renewed and transformed life, a life where we can grow into being stronger, more effective servants of Christ.

### It teaches us to discern truth from lies

2 Tim 3: 1-7 "but understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, always leaning and never able to arrive at the knowledge of the truth."

*If you believe what you like in the Gospel and reject what you do not like, it is not the Gospel you believe, but yourself.* St. Augustine Praise Jehovah for sending His son, praise Jesus Christ for dying on the cross for us and praise the Holy Spirit for leading us into truth. Being in the word will help you develop a spiritual discipline and discernment.

### It has application in our lives

2 Timothy 3: 16 "All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and by training in righteousness that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work."

Teaching doctrine – teaches us what is right.

Reproof – teaches us what is not right.

Correction – teaches us how to get right.

Training in righteousness –teaches us how to stay right.

Loving God and God's word is the basis of experiencing God's love for us. One of the most powerful ways to increase our awareness of how much God loves us is to focus on His word in Bible study. When we choose to fill our minds with His truth, we are more likely to experience His love. King David's desire to fellowship with God is described for us in Psalm 63:1 when he writes, "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirst for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water."

Bible study teaches us about God, about His grace, our needed forgiveness, His everlasting love and our eternal Savior, His Son Jesus Christ. Since Jesus willingly gave up so much for us, can't we give up a little of our time for studying His word? Find, your love in His word; find your life, your purpose and your desires. Having fellowship with God is a lifelong commitment. Start today and ask God to help you fall in love with His word. Get to know your Lord better simply by spending time with Him.

*"Your words were found, and I ate them; and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart: for I am called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts."*

Submitted by Debbie Salge

## General Emmaus Information

"The Team Selection Committee is eager to know all those from all of our 4th Day Groups, who are desiring to be on an Emmaus Team. If you have served and would like to serve again or if you have never served since your Pilgrim Walk and would like to begin to serve please email [judistorms@gmail.com](mailto:julistorms@gmail.com) or call me at 960-2238. "

We are excited to announce Fannie Bluntzer Spirit Renewal Center has granted both the Walk to Emmaus and Journey to Damascus one full scholarship per Walk and Journey in 2010. This very generous gift is extremely appreciated by both communities as the need for financial help has greatly increased. As with other scholarship money, it will be awarded on a first come basis. Please see website for Emmaus scholarship applications: [CoastalBendEmmaus.org/Sponsorship](http://CoastalBendEmmaus.org/Sponsorship)

Please sign up for Prayer Vigil on the website: [CoastalBendEmmaus.org](http://CoastalBendEmmaus.org), it is critical we fill all slots allotted.

If you have not served on a Walk it may be that we do not have your current Team Service Application, see website for applications:

[CoastalBendEmmaus.org/Schedule](http://CoastalBendEmmaus.org/Schedule). We have ~5900 Emmaus members and only 640 names (11%) in our database with contact and team service data.

[Joint JTD-WTE Gathering January 16, 2010 at Most Precious Blood. h Covered disdinner](#)

## Christian Action Posting

**Changing Our World Ministries** (COWM) is proud to announce its recently launched website; [www.changingourworldministries.org](http://www.changingourworldministries.org). COWM, offers individuals and families who are dealing with life changing events; such as a debilitating injury, serious illness or even the death of a loved one, an [opportunity](#) to go to a "secluded place and rest for a while". For more information, please contact Larry Grove at (361) 548-7298. *COWM is a 501(c)3 non profit corporation funded by donations and operated by volunteers.*

Each month a classic Billy Graham service is shown on TV around the country and phone centers spring into action. Volunteers have the opportunity to speak to people who want to receive Christ as the Savior or to those who need an encouraging word. Volunteers are also needed in the prayer room to be praying for the callers and the team members. If God is calling you to this service, please come to training on November 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm First Baptist Church. Contact Shirley Evans for more information

***Las Luces del Mar Corpus Christi***  
***Friday, December 4, 2009 6:00pm – 11:00pm***

***Las Luces del Mar*** is a proposed annual evening celebration focusing on the illumination of the downtown area as a prelude to the Christmas holiday season. ***Las Luces del Mar*** is an inspirational evening designed to bring forth the spirit of unity and faith in our community.

Las Luces provides a public platform for the community to come together and embrace our city, Corpus Christi, the body of Christ. Las Luces del Mar is a faith led event that has a desired goal to create an annual celebration for the betterment and unity of our community.

(cont. next page)

Through this inter-faith event, we embrace our God, our City, and each other as fellow Corpus Christians. Through this celebration, the "reason for the season", the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, is reaffirmed and placed in the forefront of the Christmas holiday season.

**Las Luces del Mar** includes laser and illumination lights, one main ceremonial stage, street artists, musicians, entertainers, and live nativity scenes, christmas carolers, and food and drink vendors. The laser and light show will be choreographed to music creating an inspirational experience of brilliance, beauty, and praise.

In an act of unity, an inter-faith blessing over the City will be performed by church leaders and spiritual leaders. The inter-faith ceremony ushers in a blessing and cleansing over the City for the approaching holiday season and the new year. After the ceremonial blessing, the city blocked event area is open for the public to freely enjoy.

Building upon the success of the year's inaugural event, **Las Luces del Mar** 2010 will take on an even more ambitious undertaking with the participation of numerous churches and non-profit organizations, numerous artists and performers on the streets of downtown Corpus Christi. The vision is for **Las Luces del Mar** to be established as a non-profit organization benefiting the entire Corpus Christi community.



## *Blessing to All from Walk to Siloam # 7,*

As you are preparing for the end of the calendar year, parties, and hopefully Thanking GOD for all your blessings; the team for Walk to Siloam # 7 is being finalized.

**Please place this Walk on your calendar for February 25 – 28, 2010  
at Zephyr Baptist Encampment at Lake Corpus Christi.**

Keep in mind, this is a walk for Homeless Men, not just men on the street, but men that are involved and staying at various shelters / missions in town. The men must be recommended to attend the Walk to Siloam by the shelter or mission.

The team is preparing for 36 pilgrims. As you are probably aware, these men do not have the income to pay for themselves, so we are asking for financial sponsors. After 6 years of keeping our fees at a bare minimum, we have finally had to increase the fee to \$150.00 for each pilgrim. If you or your reunion group would like to sponsor a pilgrim, please make your check out to Walk to Siloam and mail to me at 610 Brawner Parkway, Corpus Christi Texas 78411.

We covet your prayers, your gifts, and your presence. If you have not served on, supported a team in some fashion or another, or attended Candlelight, YOU are missing out of one of GOD's many blessings!

The team for Walk to Siloam #7 looks forward to sharing GOD's love with the men HE is preparing to attend. Please keep the pilgrims and the team in your prayers.

I will have more information in the upcoming newsletters, but please mark your calendar now to attend **Candlelight on Feb 27<sup>th</sup> at Zephyr Baptist Encampment**. We will have church buses providing some transportation.

*Shalom,*  
*Gary Hudson*  
361-510-2440

# Future Events

W JTD #80  
Feb. 4-7, 2010  
Terri-Lynn Schofield LD

W Walk #1540  
Feb. 11-14, 2010  
Amanda Mendez LD



**Don't Forget**  
**Sign Up**  
**Praying handsp**  
**ForThe**  
**Prayer Vigil**  
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