

Young People Of The Bible

By Associate Pastor Jonathan Wallenbeck

JOSEPH – Genesis 30.24 – 50.26
Joseph was born to Jacob and Rachel; he was the 11th son of 12 sons born to Jacob also known as Israel (Gen. 35.10). He was the first son of Rachel. Joseph might seem like a typical child in most families, but this family was is anything but typical. Jacob had to work 14 years just to marry Joseph's mother and then work another 6 years before he could leave with his wives, children and all that he had earned (Gen. 29-31). Jacob's father-in-law still chased them down, he had to deal with his brother Esau, who he was sure was still anger that he had stolen his birthright and blessing.



All the while trying to keep his family together, he is showing Joseph all his love and favoritism. Imagine how Joseph's brothers must have felt. Jacob does not help the matter any when he give Joseph a coat of many colors. Of course, Joseph being the young diplomat, at 17 or so, has a dream and decides that it would be a good idea to tell his brothers. In his dream he says they are out in the field binding sheaves of grain and suddenly his sheaf stood up and their sheaves gathered around in and bowed down to his (Gen. 37.5-7). Can you imagine someone younger telling you, especially in your family that they

Bible loved you so much that before you came into existence He took care of your short comings, your short fall. He wanted to prove to you just how much He loved you so He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ to die on the Cross, shed His blood, be buried and raised from the grave so that you could

are going to be a ruler on day and you will bow down to them, showing them respect and honor. I mean, who do they think they are right! That is what Joseph's brothers were think at that moment. Then he a second dream, in which not only his brothers bowed down to him, but also his father and his entire family. Imagine the arrogance, of this teenager thinking that his whole family would bow down to him. His father was ok with the first dream, but not the second. This only increased his brothers hatred of him until they decided to take action. (To Be Continued Next Month)

be made righteous before Almighty God (Romans 5.8). Without this amazing gift there would be no hope of recovery from Romans 3.23. Praise God for His mercy and grace.

1. *Christian Standard Bible*. (2017). (Ro 3:23). Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers.
2. Elwell, W. A., & Beitzel, B. J. (1988). *God, Being and Attributes Of*. In *Baker encyclopedia of the Bible* (Vol. 1, pp. 879-880). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.
3. MacArthur, J., Jr. (1998). *The ultimate priority: John MacArthur, Jr. on worship* (electronic ed., pp. 128-130). Chicago: Moody Press
4. Ibid
5. Ibid

Inside The Music

By Associate Pastor Jonathan Wallenbeck

O Come To The Alter—

By Elevation Worship

Are you hurting and broken within?

Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?

Jesus is calling Have you come to the end of yourself

Do you thirst for a drink from the well?

Jesus is calling Where do you find yourself as you walk thru life?

Do you find yourself dry, desiring more but never getting enough?

Jesus is call to You. Leave behind your regrets and mistakes

Come today there's no reason to wait

Jesus is calling Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy

From the ashes a new life is born

Jesus is calling Sometimes

Sometimes your problems

seem to big to let go of, but that is just the thing, you need to let go and give them to Jesus. 1 Pet. 5.7 casting all your care in Him, because He cares for You, *O come to the altar The Father's arms are open wide Forgiveness was bought with The precious blood of Jesus Christ.*

It is Christ blood that you are cleansed and made holy. If God did not love you He would not have sent His Son to die for you. As you meditate on this songs lyrics, focus on what Christ did for you at the cross, His amazing love, and then come to the alter, leave all to Him and walk away cleansed and free. Ready to Serve Your Risen Lord and Savior.

CREW REPORT

Telling Your Story

By Associate Pastor Jonathan Wallenbeck

What is your story? Why is it important that you tell your story? These are great questions, and ones that we have been exploring in Sunday School and Calvary Crew this month. But just in case you have missed a Sunday or Wednesday let me refresh your memory. Your story is what God has done in your life since your accepted Him as your Lord and Savior. How has He affected you? What is He doing that is making an impact in your daily walk? As you read and study His word, how is that changing your life? These are things that make up your story. It is from these experiences that you are able to help others in their times of struggle and difficulties. Remember that your story is yours. Don't use things that have never happened to you as if they did. Let the Holy Spirit work with what you have in your life to be a witness to

those around you. As you have seen in the last couple of weeks in Sunday School we have begun to discuss how to include scripture into our story. There is a smooth and simple way to encourage people, but also give them the truth of the word of God at the same time. I mean that is what Jesus told all of us to do right. In Matthew 28.19, 20—(CSB) Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." So be bold, tell others what God is doing in your life.



Tell Someone your story

Up Coming Events

- Dec. 2**—6:00 pm—Hanging of the Green
- Dec. 8**—3:00—5:00 pm Youth Christmas Party at the Church
- Dec. 23**—5:00 pm—Christmas Caroling and Birthday Party for Jesus
- Dec. 24**—5:00 pm—Christmas Eve Candle Light Service
- Dec. 25**—Christmas
- Dec. 26**—No Calvary CREW/ Awana
- Dec. 30**—6:00 pm—5th Sunday Concert
- Jan. 1**—New Year—Happy 2019
- Jan. 2**—No Calvary CREW/ Awana

Inside this issue:

Tips On How To Study Your Bible	2
Bible Study—Romans 3.23—A Closer Look	3
Young People In The Bible	4
Inside The Music	4

Calvary Report
Associate Pastor Jonathan Wallenbeck,
Editor

Welcome
Garrett C.
to the Family
of God.

Sybil and I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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Tip On How To Study Your Bible

By Associate Pastor Jonathan Wallenbeck

Of course there are lots of different things that you can do when it comes to studying your Bible. But, the most important thing is to study your Bible. There is a difference in reading the Bible and studying it. Reading the Bible, such as reading the Bible in a year is great but it does not leave much time for you to dig deep into the hard truths of God's Word, or pull out that single nugget that will get you through the day. Everyone should try and read through the Bible each year, but at the same time you must make time to study your Bible. In this article I want to give you some basic tips to help you study your Bible. Keep in mind that there are more things that you could do and something's will take time to master. So start slow, work your way up and most importantly let the Holy Spirit be your guide.

1. Let the Holy Spirit Guide you – Jesus told His disciple **John 16:13 (CSB)** When the Holy Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth. For He will not speak on His own, but He will speak whatever He hears. He will also de-

clare to you what is to come (emphases added). The Holy Spirit is your guide in Studying the Bible. Yes you can and should use other materials (will talk about that later), but your primary source must be the Holy Spirit. Considering It is through Him, the God, the Holy Spirit, that all scripture has been written (2 Timothy 3.16, 2 Peter 1.20,21).

2. Pray over it – Whatever you decide that you want to study spend time in pray over it. I know that seems simple but remember you are about to study God's Word, why not ask the Author for help in understanding what your about to study?

3. Pick something that you will stick with – This might seem odd, but just go with me on this. If you pick the Book of Jeremiah, which would be great, but then get stuck with a lot of the imagery, analogies, and other things that can be hard to understand how long will you stay in the Book of Jeremiah. Of course if in your prayer time the Holy Spirit is telling you study Jeremiah then you must do that. So pick something that you will stick with. If

you are just beginning, this is your first Bible Study, I would suggest the Book of 1 John. John gets to the point, is clear, and most of the time easy to understand.

4. Have a Study Bible and Good Resources – Having a Study Bible will help in those areas that can be difficult. However they are not the end all for Bible Study. There are many other tools that can be used to enhance your Bible Study. But to begin with a good Study Bible is needed. A couple of other resources would be a Concordance (this is a book that has every word in the Bible. You need a concordance that is for the version of Bible that you have. (i.e. KJV, NIV, HCSB, ect...) and a good Bible Dictionary (Vines Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words). This book will give you a list of words and their means as they apply in a Biblical context.

5. Journal Your Study - It is important that you write down what you learn from your study. This might be a word or two. It could be a paragraph or even several pages. What you write is up to you and

should be led by your study, what you did or did not understand and how the Holy Spirit helped you move through what you are studying. Remember these are your thoughts, how you see the scripture opening to you as the Lord is speaking to you. You can check what you are learning to make sure you are on a good path, but if you are allowing the Holy Spirit to lead you He will teach you what you need.

So, Pick up your Bible, find a quiet place, get a pen and notepad, spend time in pray, then open up God's Word and let it speak to you.

Above all do not be afraid, remember these words—Do not turn from it (*the Word*) to the right or the left, so that you will have success wherever you go. This book of instruction must not depart from your mouth; you are to meditate on it day and night so that you may carefully observe everything written in it. For then you will prosper and succeed in whatever you do (Josh. 1.7, 8 CSB, emphases added)

Bible Study

Romans 3.23 – A Closer Look

By Associate Pastor Jonathan Wallenbeck

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.¹

This seems like such a small verse, it is short and it might even seem insignificant, but when it comes to your relationship with Jesus Christ it packs a big punch. In this lesson I hope to unpack just a couple of its powerful points for you. I want you to see first our failure and second God's Glory.

Let's begin – The first place that we must start is at the very beginning with Adam and Eve, when Satan tempted Eve to eat of the tree from the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3.1-7). She gave to her husband Adam, and all humanity was plunged into sin. Paul describes it in Rom. 5.12-14 (CSB), "Therefore, Just as sin entered the world through one man and death through sin, in this way death spread to all people, because all sinned. In fact, sin was in the world before the law, but sin is not charged to a person's account when there is not law. Nevertheless, death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam's transgression. He is a type of the Coming One."

Sin did not need the law to be present, but the law shows you what is right and wrong. It is the disobedience before God that has separated you from Him and break your relationship with Him. The Law allows you to know what you needed to do to keep that relationship intact, however, it was impossible to do. There were too many laws, to many ways to break them, you were destined to fail.

However there is great news, no matter how sinful you are, no matter how short you have fallen, there is God's Glory. I know that Romans 3.23 tells you how sinful and short you have fallen of God's Glory. But, it also lets you know that there is a place where you can be right with God, a place where God will recognize you as holy and righteous. Let's examine God's Glory and how it relates to your sin and righteousness.

What is God's Glory? That is a great question; Bakers Encyclopedia of the Bible describes it as, "God's Glory – The majesty, splendor, beauty, and brilliance of God who dwells in unapproachable light are expressed by this indefin-

able term."² Even though this definition list God's Glory as an indefinable term let's put try and put some kind of terms to it so that you can better understand what Paul is talking about here in Romans, the Bible in general when it refers to God's Glory. In John MacArthur's book *The Ultimate Priority On Worship*, he states that, "God's Glory has two aspects, first it is Inherent or Intrinsic and second it is Ascribed."³ The first aspect is His Inherent Glory – "God is the only being in all of existence who can be said to possess inherent glory. We don't give it to Him; it is His by virtue of who He is. If no one ever gave God any praise, He would still be the glorious God that He is, because He was glorious before any beings were created to worship Him."⁴ We cannot give or take away from God's Glory, nor do we have any inherent glory ourselves. God said in Isaiah 48.11 (CSB), "I will not give my Glory to another" His glory however is shone through His children as we serve Him, because of the Person of the Holy Spirit. The second aspect is His As-

cribed Glory – "That is what the Bible refers to when it speaks of giving God glory."⁵ Psalm 29.1, 2 (CSB) says, "Ascribe to the Lord you heavenly beings, Ascribe to the Lord Glory and Strength. Ascribe to the Lord the Glory due His name; Worship the Lord in the Splendor of His Holiness." It is not that you can give God Glory or even Strength but what you are doing is showing the world who God is by reflecting Glory and Strength, Honor and Holiness back to Him and Him alone. When you do not do this it does not hurt Him, but it does affect your testimony among those around you.

Now that you have a better understanding of God's Glory, let's go back to Romans 3.23 and see where that leaves you. Because of your sin nature, you are separated from God. His Glory is the standard, you were created to worship Him, but because of sin, you have fallen short of that mark.

I know you might be thinking, "Wow, what do I do now, there is NO hope." Left to yourself you would be right, there is no hope. But, God

(Continued on page 4 – Bible)