



January 28, 2024

Volume XXXII—Issue 4

### The Mechanics of Daily Bible Reading

By Eddie Parrish

We have been devoting time recently to the subject of daily Bible reading. We have considered both the benefits and the goals of spending time each day in the word of God. With this final treatise, let us consider the mechanics of daily Bible reading. What are some practical tips that can help us to read God's word each day.

Select a good location. We often pride ourselves on being able to multi-task. But when it comes to ingesting the word of God, we should not divide our attention between that and lesser things. Turn off the television. Silence the music. Mute your phone. Find a place with adequate light and a comfortable seat that will allow you not only to read, but also to write.

Read systematically. Instead of picking up the Bible each day and randomly opening to a section, utilize a plan. Perhaps you want to start in Genesis and work your way through the whole Bible. Maybe you want to start in Matthew and read the New Testament. Perhaps you want to read the Bible chronologically. Reading plans are abundant on the Internet or in Bible study software. Many of them are customizable. Choose a plan that interests you and stick with it.

Focus on quality over quantity. While there is nothing wrong with setting a goal of reading through the Bible in a set amount of time, make sure that you are not reading merely to finish in a set amount of time. Read at a pace that allows you to understand, think about, and apply what you read. I would rather read and really ingest the message of five verses than read five chapters without understanding what I read.

Meditate on what you read. This goes hand-in hand with the previous point. To meditate is to let your mind dwell on what you've read. It is to contemplate the meaning of scripture. It is to consider ways to apply and use what you read. The Bible places a premium on meditation (Ps. 1:2; 119:15,98-99). If you are going to set aside 30 minutes, for example, to read the Bible each day, I would encourage you to read for 15 minutes and meditate for 15 minutes. Write down your thoughts in a journal (lessons you learn, promises you need to claim, commands you need to keep, sins you need to confess, etc.). Then pray about those things.

Utilize audio recordings. This may not be for everyone, but some may benefit from not only reading but also hearing the Bible being read. Bible Gateway (biblegateway.com) offers free audio recordings of the Bible being professionally read from a variety of translations. Listening while you read engages both the eyes and ears in the process.

I hope this series of articles has spurred you on to be a more consistent reader of the sacred writings. There is much to be gained by spending time with God in his word. *"Blessed is he who reads..."* (Rev. 1:3).

God loves you,  
Shawn

## Welcome to Woodland Oaks Church of Christ

We are honored you have chosen to worship with us this morning. Thank you for visiting us today! We look forward to meeting you!

### Schedule of Services

<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 AM	Bible Classes
	10:15 AM	Morning Assembly
	6:00 PM	Evening Assembly
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:00 PM	Bible Classes

January 28, 2024

Elder of the Day: Scott Blake

Communion Leader: Steven Talbott

### Adult Bible Classes:

**"Be Careful"** by Scott Blake

Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Auditorium

**"David: A Man After God's Own Heart"** by Randy Sparks

Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A101

**"Daniel—God's Sovereignty"** by Dave Short

Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Worship Center Room A102

**"Handling Money God's Way"** by Gary Tannahill & Dennis Chrisco

Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Education Center Room B204 Library

**"Fruit of the Spirit"** (Young Professionals) by Tony Bloom & Doug Peak

Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center Room C106 (Magnolia Rm)

**"Amos—The Boldness of Faith"** by Scott Logan

Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Worship Center Auditorium

**"Young Adults"** (Ages 18-25) by Andrew Isherwood & Ross Riggs

Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in Room A102

### Teen Bible Classes:

**"Romans"** (9th–12th) by Jordan Fontenot

Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Education Center B-107

**"Genesis"** (7th–8th) by Brant Mathis

Sundays @ 9:00 a.m. in the Education Center B-101

**"Judges"** (9th–12th) by Jordan Fontenot

Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Education Center B-107

**"JR High Class"** (7th–8th) by Daniel Fair

Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. in the Education Center B-101

### Treehouse Kids Bible Classes:

0–1 year	A103
1 year	A105/A106
2 years	A107
3 years/Pre-K	A108
Kindergarten	B200
1st grade	B202
2nd grade	B203
3rd grade	B207
4th grade	B208
5th grade	B206
6th grade	B209

A **Facility Map** and other information is available at the Welcome Center.

A **Secure Check-in System** is active for children ages 0 to 4 years.

A **Nursery** is available during Sunday morning worship for children 0-23 months. For children 24 months and up, there is a **Training Room** available at the back of the auditorium, behind the glass windows.



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### Elders

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Marty Miller  
Raymond Walker

### Staff

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John Tolbert  
Sam Washburn

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**Education** Matt Fitzgerald  
Mike Arnold  
**Family Life Center** Chris Davis  
**Fellowship** Tim Riggs  
**Finance** Jeff Fleming  
**Foreign Missions** Paul Gidden  
Adam Fracht  
**Information Technology** Al Ardito  
**Involvement** Frank Kerze  
**Networks/Special Ministries** Jeremy Haynes  
**Serving Hearts/Hospital Visits** Steve Baker  
Mike Stevens  
**Sharing** Kyle Gordley  
Bradley Welborn  
**Reaching Out/Welcome Center** Gavin Dao  
Bryce Caldwell  
**Ushers** Tony Bloom  
**Homebound/Men's Ministry** Robert Shock  
**Worship** Eric Kirkland  
Bill Malone  
Jordan Blake  
**Youth** Brant Mathis  
Todd Watrous  
Daniel Fair  
Trent Tadlock

**Faithful Fathers:** Chuck Bryant  
**Celebrate Recovery:** Nathan Ingram

### Missions

For updates regarding the mission efforts supported by WOCC, please visit our church website, [woodlandoaks.org](http://woodlandoaks.org), under Connect, click Ministries and Missions.

### Contacts:

#### Last Week's Attendance

##### Sunday, January 21, 2024

9:00 AM Bible Class	369
10:15 AM Worship	573 @ WOCC 367 Views online
6:00 PM Worship	205
Contribution	\$36,694.65

##### Wednesday, January 24, 2024

7:00 PM Bible Class	271
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#### You may give online at:

<https://woodlandoaks.givingfire.com/>

Or mail contributions to our PO Box at:  
Woodland Oaks Church of Christ  
6700 Woodlands Parkway Suite 230-252  
Spring, TX 77382

### Budget

Actual unrestricted contributions through September 30, 2023 are \$1,368,178, compared with a budgeted amount of \$1,241,508 produces a surplus of \$126,670.

### Notes

## Announcements

The **2023 Bible Readers' Banquet** will be this Saturday, February 3 at 5:30 p.m. in the Chapel Center. Those who have completed reading the Bible for 2023, please sign up individually in the foyer and indicate whether you will attend by TODAY.

The **Parenting Workshop** is TODAY from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for those who have registered for this event. Parents: please take your child directly to the FLC following the assembly. Please include any diaper bags, bottles, etc. needed for your child. Please pick them up promptly following the end of the workshop, at 2:00 p.m. from designated areas. Children ages 0-4 will be in the Nursery/Preschool Classroom area and Children ages 5-6th grade will be in the FLC or A101. For adults attending the workshop, after dropping off your children, please go directly to the Chapel Center to get lunch and find a seat so we can start the workshop on time. Thank you!

The **FLC Gym will be Closed** after morning worship TODAY to children playing, except for those who are attending childcare for the Parenting Workshop.

The **Young Professionals Devo Dinner** will be this Tuesday, January 30 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel Center. Please contact Andrew Isherwood or Karen Isherwood for details.

Wednesday, January 31 is the 5th Wednesday of the month, therefore there will be **No Fellowship Meal**.

VBS will be here before we know it, and we need your help in order to make it a success! Please consider signing up to help **Volunteer** for these special days in order to share God's love with our children. You can sign up at: <https://bit.ly/WOCCVBSVolunteer>. The **VBS Volunteer Informational Meeting** will take place on Sunday, February 4 from 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. in the Chapel Center. For more information, please contact: Jordan Fontenot, Janna Wilkerson, or Daniel Fair.

There will be a **Corporate Congregational Meeting** on Sunday night, February 4. The meeting will begin at 6:50 p.m., following the conclusion of our evening assembly. Among the topics for discussion will be the 2024 budget, Missions, and Lightpost.

If you have wondered what **Celebrate Recovery** is about, we invite you to attend a Bible class on Wednesday evenings starting February 7. This is a wonderful way to learn about Celebrate Recovery in a Bible class setting without having to devote an additional evening per week to meetings. This is a **Celebrate Recovery Step Study**, in which we work through a curriculum in striving to trust God on a deeper level and perhaps unlock answers to struggles in our lives. Please sign up in the foyer at the Celebrate Recovery table TODAY or next Sunday, February 4.

**Sweetheart Banquet!!!** Calling all sweethearts 65 years or older whether single or not, to sign up to be served a fine luncheon by the sweethearts of our Youth Group. Younger spouses are absolutely welcome to join too. The sign up list is in the worship foyer near the name tag wall board. The banquet will be Saturday, February 17 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Chapel Center. Any questions, please contact Todd Watrous .

## Texas Bible Bowl

**Bible Bowl Practice** meets Sundays at 6:00 p.m. Grades 3rd—6th will meet in the Magnolia Room C106. Grades 7th—12th will meet in the Chapel Center Auditorium.

## Expectant Families

Janna & Kevin Wilkerson  
Meredith & Bryce Caldwell

## Youth News

There will be a **Youth Invasion** TONIGHT immediately following the evening assembly at Raising Cane's on Research Forest.

Registration for the **Youth Winter Retreat** closes this Wednesday, January 31. The retreat will be February 9-11 at Hensel Camp, located outside of Marble Falls, TX. This event is open to students 7th-12th grade. The cost is \$30 per person. Please sign up at <https://bit.ly/WOCCWinterRetreat>.

The **Youth Service Day** at the Houston Food Bank is this Saturday, February 3. Registration is now full. Please arrive at WOCC promptly at 7:00 a.m. Please see Shawn Montandon for more information.

The next **Youth Girls Dinner Devo** will be Monday, February 5 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Montandon home. Please RSVP to Elise Fair or Emma Montandon.

## Treehouse Kids

TODAY is the last day for the **Bible Buddy Adoption Fair!** Adoptions will take place after Bible Class directly outside the FLC area. This is for all children birth to 6th grade. Children must have a parent/grandparent present in order to register.

**Bible Builders:** Children ages 2 to 5 will be dismissed at the Sunday evening assembly to go "through the Bible in a year" in room A109.

**3rd-6th Grade Boys will be leading the worship** assembly this Wednesday, January 31 (5th Wednesday). If your child will be participating, please let Kevin Wilkerson know which song or scripture that he will lead/read by TODAY.

**Sprouts Storytime** is BACK! We will resume this Wednesday, January 31 at 10:00 a.m. in room A109. Join us for a story, craft/activity, songs, and learning more about how God loves us, all while building friendships that will last for years to come!

The next **Dorcas Class** (for girls K- 6th grade) will be Saturday, February 3. Meet in room A101 from 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. For more information, please see Jane-Ann Fleming .

The annual **WOCC Daddy Daughter Date Night** is right around the corner on Friday, February 23 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.! The fun will include dinner, BINGO, activities, and horse drawn carriage rides. We need a firm RSVP by Wednesday, February 7. Please sign you and your daughter(s) up at: <https://bit.ly/WOCCDaddyDaughterDateNight>.

## Prayers

- ✚ **Cherene McDonald**/scheduled to have knee replacement surgery on January 30 at Memorial Hermann Hospital.
- ✚ **Gina Talbott**/Methodist Hospital The Woodland ICU/room 2006/awaiting additional testing to try to determine source of internal bleeding.
- ✚ **Dennis Daulton**/procedure from last week went fine and they cleared one blockage but found other issues.
- ✚ **Skip Foreman**/fell again last night/tested positive with Covid-19/now at Memorial Hermann/please continue to pray.
- ✚ **Christal Ortiz**/former member/will be traveling to Texas this week to MD Anderson for testing and surgery.
- ✚ **Debi Hix**/surgery scheduled for February 5
- ✚ Please remember our members: **Jeri French, Jettie Huff, Peggy Kirby, Eric Kirkland, Marty Miller, Jeanette Malone, Laurie Mangham, Laurie Riggs, Don Southall.**
- ✚ Please remember our friends & family: **Dean "Jr" Guyton, Glenn Talbott.**
- ✚ Members battling cancer: **Tony Bloom, Bill Blumenshine, Pharis Fowler, Don Gilbert, Cynthia Haney, Cynthia Lockwood, Erica Lunn, Bob McDougal, Marsha Owens, Joanie Roberts, Charles Smithson, Janice Tadlock.**
- ✚ Friends & family battling cancer: **Mary Aldaz, Darren Brooks, Dorcas Dillard, Paul Hendrickson, Phil Martinez, Paul Melton, Christal Ortiz, Rose Talbott.**

## This Week

Today		Sign up for 2023 Bible Readers' Banquet Due Bible Buddy Adoption Fair
	9:00 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:15 a.m.	Worship
	11:30 a.m.	Parenting Workshop
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Bible Bowl Practice
	6:15 p.m.	Bible Builders
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Invasion (Cane's on Research Forest)
Monday	4:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Women
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Beginners/Intermediate/Advanced
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Class
	6:00 p.m.	Young Professionals Devo Dinner
Wednesday		Registration for Youth Winter Retreat Closes
	10:00 a.m.	Sprouts Storytime Resumes
	4:00 p.m.	GriefShare
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Classes - 3rd-6th Boys Lead
Thursday	6:15 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Denny's on 1488)
	10:00 a.m.	Community Bible Class
	7:00 p.m.	Celebrate Recovery Basketball
Friday		AIM Students Arrive
Saturday	7:00 a.m.	Youth Service—Houston Food Bank
	9:30 a.m.	Dorcas Class
	5:30 p.m.	2023 Bible Readers' Banquet

## Upcoming Events

February 2-9	AIM Challenge Week
February 4	VBS Volunteer General Info Meeting Congregational Singing Congregational Meeting Combined Youth Devo
February 5	Youth Girls Dinner Devo—Montandon Home
February 6	Men's Luncheon—Lupe Tortilla
February 7	CR Step Study Class Begins
February 9-11	Youth Winter Retreat
February 11	Sign Up for TX Bible Bowl Due
February 12	Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck
February 13	3rd—6th Grade Boys Devo & Dodgeball Youth Bible Study
February 17	Sweetheart Banquet
February 23	THK Daddy Daughter Date Night
February 23-25	Evangelism Conference—Preston CoC
February 24	Youth SNL Devo
February 25	Sunday Social/Service Project
March 2	Men's Breakfast Dorcas Class Youth Service
March 3	Spring Quarter Begins Congregational Singing High School Devo
March 10	Daylight Savings Begins Sunny Glen Donations Due Youth Invasion
March 16	Elevate Hike Day
March 17	Junior High Devo
March 21	Youth Girls Dinner Devo—Trisha Hyde's Home
April 5-7	Texas Bible Bowl

**A cart for all donations is in the Worship Center foyer.**  
The **WOCC Sharing Pantry** is in need of BREAKFAST ITEMS: Cereal, jelly, breakfast bars, pancake mix, syrup, canned fruit, juice packs  
**Sunny Glen Children's Home:** Baby Wipes, Pampers Pull Ups Size 6, Comet Cleaner, Pinto Beans

If you could use meals during times of need, please contact the church office at 936-273-0010 or [information@woodlandoaks.org](mailto:information@woodlandoaks.org)