



January 7, 2024

Volume XXXII—Issue 1

The Benefits of Daily Bible Reading (1)

By Eddie Parrish

There are two things necessary for a person to engage in an exercise program: being convinced of the benefits of the program, and a desire for those benefits. If either is missing, there will be no change in behavior. One may want to lose weight and increase heart health, but if he doesn't believe the program will produce that benefit, he won't do it. Likewise, one may believe that a program will work, but if he doesn't really want the results, he won't start the program.

One of the most important spiritual exercises for the Christian is daily Bible reading. However, it is not hard to fill our days with so many other pursuits that we are left with little time and energy to meet God in his word. With the hope of motivating us to re-engage in this spiritual discipline, let us consider some of the benefits of being a daily reader of God's word.

Daily Bible reading offers wisdom, direction, and guidance for life. Because *"it is not in man who walks to direct his steps"* (Jer. 10:23), we must *"trust in the Lord"* so that *"he will direct [our] paths"* (Prov. 3:5-6). For us to know where God wants us to go, we must listen to him as he speaks through the words of scripture.

- *"I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you"* (Ps. 119:11).
- *"Your testimonies are my delight; they are my counselors"* (Ps. 119:24).
- *"Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation"* (Ps. 119:98-99).
- *"Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"* (Ps. 119:104-105).
- *"The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple"* (Ps. 119:130).

As we walk each day down the pathways of life there are people telling us which path is the right one. How do we filter out bad, destructive, evil advice? How do we recognize who is directing us wisely and who is directing us foolishly? By filtering what we hear through the word of God. But each day that passes without our reading it, the less equipped we are to choose the right path.

God loves you,
Shawn

The primary purpose of reading the Bible is not to know the Bible but to know God. — James Merritt

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

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

January 7, 2024

Elder of the Day Mark Freeman

Communion Leader Shan Jackson

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.



Woodland Oaks Church of Christ
7300 Crownridge Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77382
Phone/Voicemail: (936) 273-0010
Email: information@woodlandoaks.org
www.woodlandoaks.org



Elders

Scott Blake
Mac Brockman
Mark Freeman

Butch Merriman
Marty Miller
Raymond Walker

Staff

Pulpit Shawn Montandon
shawn.montandon@woodlandoaks.org

Youth Jordan Fontenot
jordan.fontenot@woodlandoaks.org

Children's Coordinator Janna Wilkerson
janna.wilkerson@woodlandoaks.org

Office Manager Karen Ardito
karen.ardito@woodlandoaks.org

Deacons

Administration Joel Blake
Audio/Visual & Media Mark Jetton
Building & Grounds Scott Green
John Tolbert
Sam Washburn

Children's Programs Richard Hyde
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 Steve Baker
Mike Stevens

Sharing Kyle Gordley
Bradley Welborn

Reaching Out Gavin Dao
Bryce Caldwell

Ushers Tony Bloom

Homebound/Men's Ministry Robert Shock

Worship Eric Kirkland
Bill Malone
Kevan Taylor
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, under Connect, click Ministries and Missions.

Contacts:

Last Week's Attendance

Sunday, December 31, 2023

9:00 AM Bible Class	367
10:15 AM Worship	540 @ WOCC
	191 Views online
6:00 PM Worship	258
Contribution	\$54,615.26

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

7:00 PM Bible Class	301
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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

There will be a quick **Meeting about Camp Blue Haven** TODAY immediately following the morning assembly in room A101.

The Building and Grounds Deacons are looking for **Volunteers to Unlock & Lock up the Building**. If you would be willing to be a part of the rotation, please contact John Tolbert, Scott Green, or Sam Washburn.

Congregational Singing will be TONIGHT during the evening assembly.

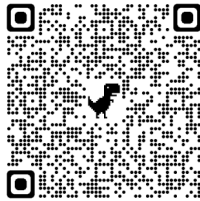
Ladies Bible Class resumes this Tuesday, January 9 at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel Center.

Community Bible Class will resume this Thursday, January 11 at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel Center.

GriefShare begins meeting this Wednesday, January 10 at 4:00 p.m. in room A101. See Sherry Reaves or Marty Justice for more information.

The next **Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck Supper** will be Monday, January 22 at 5:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share and join us in the Chapel Center.

In partnership with Memorial Christian Counseling Center we will be hosting a **Parenting Workshop** Sunday, January 28 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Lunch and childcare will be provided. This presentation will provide parents with safety recommendations with children utilizing technology as well as the importance in helping children develop coping skills that are not centered on technology. Additionally, this presentation will teach parents how to have conversations about technology with their children. Registration is required by Wednesday, January 17. Please contact Janna Wilkerson with any questions.



WOCC is partnering with the Memorial Christian Counseling Center to host a Parent Workshop on January 28. This event cannot happen if we do not have enough **Volunteers to Provide Childcare**. We would deeply appreciate your help! If you are interested in helping to provide childcare, please scan the QR code to sign up. Lunch will be provided for you. Thank you! Contact Janna Wilkerson for more information.



There is a **2024 Bible Readers' Sign up** in the foyer for those who plan to read through the Bible in 2024.

The **2023 Bible Readers' Banquet** will be 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 at the Welcome Center and indicate whether you will attend by Sunday, January 28.

The Prestoncrest congregation in Plano will be hosting a **Conference on Evangelism** and church growth on February 23-25, 2024. You can register and find more information at Prestoncrest.org/story.

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.

Youth News

The **High School Devo** will be TONIGHT immediately following the evening assembly in the Youth Center.

There will be a **Bible Study** this Tuesday, January 9 at 7:00 p.m. at Market Street.

The **Youth Invasion** will be Sunday, January 14 immediately following the evening assembly at Whataburger (6203 FM 1488, Magnolia, TX 77354).

The next **Youth Girls Dinner Devo** will be Thursday, January 18 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Lindsey Thomas' home. Please RSVP to Elise Fair or Lindsey Thomas.

Save the date! There will be a **Youth Service Day** Saturday, January 20! More details coming soon.

Treehouse Kids

Bible Buddy Adoption Fair: Oink, Moo, Cock-a-Doodle, Doo, We are Ready to Read God's Word With You! Please join us for our new Bible Buddy Family Reading Challenge! We have new buddies ready for adoption and a new reading plan that is all about why we love Jesus! When you adopt a buddy, you make a commitment to read and teach your buddy all about Jesus! Please stop by the Bible Buddy Table by the Family Life Center on January 21 or January 28 to get started! For any questions: Please contact Janna Wilkerson, Judy Walker, or Lori Addison.

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

Prayers

- ✚ **Joanie Roberts**/MRI on January 3 had some concerns/sent to MD Anderson for further testing.
- ✚ **Eric Kirkland**/had emergency surgery January 1 for some complications with diverticulitis/Surgery went well/no visitors please.
- ✚ **Andy Gaither**/son-in-law of Bob & Lorene Burright/had emergency abdominal surgery on December 31.
- ✚ **Jeri French**/at Methodist Hospital in The Woodlands continuing to fight an infection/please pray for healing and pain relief.
- ✚ **Dennis Daulton**/was scheduled to have a heart cauterization procedure January 4.
- ✚ **Jeanette Malone**/hospitalized due to gastric issues/was scheduled to have endoscopic procedure January 2.
- ✚ **Jettie Huff**/scheduled to have knee replacement surgery January 16.
- ✚ Please remember our members: **Betty Fowler, Debi Hix, Don Raney, Laurie Riggs.**
- ✚ Please remember our friends & family: **Dean "Jr" Guyton, Ernie Landry, Pete Nuthak.**
- ✚ 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: **Darren Brooks, Dorcas Dillard, Paul Hendrickson, Paul Melton.**

This Week

Today	9:00 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:15 a.m.	Worship
	11:30 a.m.	Camp Blue Haven Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship—Congregational Singing Bible Bowl Practice
Monday	7:00 p.m.	High School Youth Devo
	4:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Women
	6:00 p.m.	Pickleball—Beginners/Intermediate/Advanced
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Class
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Bible Study
Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	GriefShare
	5:30 p.m.	Meal
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Classes
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

Upcoming Events

January 14	Bible Builders Resumes Youth Invasion—Whataburger
January 16	Men's Luncheon—Lupe Tortillas
January 17	Sign Up for Parenting Workshop Due Quilting Group
January 18	Youth Girls Dinner Devo—Lindsey Thomas' Home
January 20	Youth Service
January 21&28	Bible Buddy Adoption Fair
January 21	Elder/Deacon Meeting Youth Junior High Devo
January 22	Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck
January 24	Youth Group Lead Assembly
January 28	Sign Up Due for 2023 Bible Readers' Banquet Parent Workshop Youth Invasion
January 31	3rd-6th Grade Boys Lead Assembly
February 2-9	AIM Challenge Week
February 3	Men's Breakfast Dorcas Class Youth Service
February 4	2023 Bible Readers' Banquet
February 5	Congregational Singing
February 9-11	Youth Girls Dinner Devo—Montandon Home
February 12	Youth Winter Retreat
February 17	Senior Saints Game Night & Potluck Sweetheart Banquet
February 23-25	TX Bible Bowl Review Event Evangelism Conference—Preston CoC

Expectant Families

Janna & Kevin Wilkerson
Meredith & Bryce Caldwell

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

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