



## From Pastor Ron...

July 28, 2010

### **DAILY LIFE: "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you" (Psalm 119:11)**

For years the experts have been urging us to start our day with a well-balanced breakfast. Our bodies, they tell us, need the right fuel to get us going and keep us going.

That is excellent advice, of course, and that advice applies with equal importance to our spiritual diet. What we feed our spirit is the fuel that will get us going and keep us going. What we feed our spirit will become our reservoir and resource when the challenges of life hit us.

What fuel are you providing your spirit? Are you packing away a steady diet of the Word of God?

In our adult Sunday school class this past week we watched a challenging and inspiring message from Dr. N.T. Wright. In it he urged us to feed our spirits daily on a diet of God's Word. Furthermore, he urged us to undertake an intentional program of memorizing the Scriptures, hiding away one verse of Ephesians a day until we have the entire book memorized.

You might be thinking such a thing is too much a task for you. Wrong. Anyone can do it. God wouldn't suggest it unless you could!

I'm not the sharpest pencil in the drawer but in the past I've memorized the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5, 6, and 7), Philippians, most of I John, and most of I Peter. Unfortunately, I got lazy and haven't been as diligent about it as I should have been. Wright's message challenged me to start again.

How about it? Are you ready to ingest a steady diet of God's Word, day upon day upon day? I warn you; don't do it unless you are ready to be changed by it.

How do you go about it? Wright offered this very simple program;

#### **Day 1**

- Read, study, and pray over Ephesians 1:1.
- Memorize it (just repeat it over and over again)
- Read Ephesians 1:2

#### **Day 2**

- Review Ephesians 1:1
- Read, Study, and pray over Ephesians 1:2
- Memorize Ephesians 1:2
- Read Ephesians

#### **Day 3**

Simply repeat that process, reviewing and repeating all that you have memorized each day. I might suggest that you write each day's verse down on a small index card and carry it with you so that you can review it throughout the day. You'll be amazed how much time you spend waiting during the day that can be put to great use memorizing Scripture.

I can't begin to tell you how important this is. It will transform your life and the life of this church. Let's vow together to do it!

**BUILDING UPDATE...** Progress continues. Many of you have asked about helping on various projects. We do need your help and we are working on a list of projects and developing work teams. We will be putting you to work! Make sure you stop by and check out all the progress. We will continue to post pictures on the church website [www.erieefree.com](http://www.erieefree.com) regularly to keep you up-to-date!

**PARDON OUR MESS!....** No good thing is accomplished without mess! Please be patient during these coming months as we continue our construction project.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDIES....** We will continue our Adult Study/Fellowship Time tonight at the Eckberg's at 7:15 and our Youth will be meeting at Jim & Ashley Thicksten's. Please join us!

#### **LOOKING AHEAD:**

- Jim Bultema will be with us on August 8! Jim always brings us great insights into the Word and his ministry!
- NO Elders or Executive Board meetings in August (unless a specific need arises)
- All Church picnic at David and Carol Franks' (August 29th - immediately after Worship Service)

**FALL MINISTRIES....** Yes, it's only July but Fall will be here before we know it and that means the beginning of our Fall ministries. Let's begin praying now for all the right leaders to step forward and for the students that will be attending.

**SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS....** We will be starting a new rotation of our Service Assignments on September 1<sup>st</sup>. If you would like your name added to any of the Service lists, please let the office know as soon as possible.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS...** If you have an announcement, prayer request or information you would like to share with your church family, please let us know. We have forms on the office door for your use or you may e-mail us with your information. All admissions will be included in both the newsletter and the bulletin unless otherwise requested. Let's keep our church family informed and up-to-date on our happenings!

#### **THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, & EVENTS...**

- Today      July 28      Bible Study/Fellowship Time at Eckberg's @ 7:15 pm  
Youth Bible Study @ Jim & Ashley Thicksten's  
**Dave & Carol Franks**
- Thurs.      July 29      No Worship Team Practice
- Fri.      July 30      **Kent Wirth**
- Sun.      Aug. 1      Communion Celebration  
Quarterly Business Meeting  
No Sunday School during the month of August
- Mon.      Aug. 2      **Scott Hammer**
- Wed.      Aug. 4      NO Adult Bible Study/Fellowship Time  
Youth Bible Study @ Jim & Ashley Thicksten's  
**Jim & Joanne Norris**

#### **SERVANT SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 1<sup>st</sup>...**

- Greeter      Tom Hammer
- Scripture      Scott Hammer
- Fellowship      Debbie Lanzen
- Nursery      Linda Morine
- P.Point/Sound      Kathy & Dave

## **PRAYER UPDATES**

- Kindyl Weber's Mom
- Barb Brands
- Richmond and other Christians in Uganda
- Dorothy and Kerry
- Sam Melton & the Melton Family
- FCA Leaders / Campers
- Our Fall Ministries
- Summer Travelers
- Our Building project and all our workers
- Our Youth Ministries and Leaders