

University Heights Church
of Christ
445 Columbia Ave.,
Lexington, KY 40508
(859) 255-6257
www.uheightschurch.com

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday

Bible Study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:30 PM (This is immediately followed by a short worship period)

First Friday of Each Month

Singing: 7:30 PM

LEADERSHIP

Elders

Garry Banks

David Collins

John Thompson

Evangelist

Adam Litmer

Deacons

Troy Antle

Richard Brundige

Matt Thompson

Adam Litmer

Bill Morelan

Jim Parsons

Pat Seabolt

Adam Daniels

Jamie Powell

Adam's Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday (8:30-4:00)

consider Romans 2:4. *“Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?”* (ESV) *“Or are you [so blind as to] trifle with and presume upon and despise and underestimate the wealth of His kindness and forbearance and long-suffering patience? Are you unmindful or actually ignorant [of the fact] that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repent (to change your mind and inner man to accept God's will)?”* (Amplified New Testament) Surely God wants us to get to the point where rebellion against Him is virtually eliminated from our lives.

Remember the Shadburne family

Brother Christian has gone home to be with his Lord! While his family takes tremendous comfort from that, they will miss Christian very much. Let us pray for God's comforts and blessings to be upon them.

Note on Richard

Richard Brundige had his surgery rescheduled for the time of this writing (Friday). Expect an update today and let us pray for his complete healing as he recovers from surgery.

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

John Thompson, David Seabolt, Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd, Louis Harrod, Paul Atkisson, Robert Brundige, Susie Burton, Valerie and Barry Boyd, Janett's mother and stepfather, Sandy Driver, Erlene Young, Burnice Richardson, Ruth Poynter, Larry Sells, Evelyn Damron, Tony Tyree, Andrew Westphal, Jennifer Dunbar, Jean Gartland, John Blessing, Alleen Terrell

University Heights Messenger

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How I Study Scripture (3)

Adam Litmer

In this article I wish to share some tips and suggestions that have helped me in my study of God's Word, whether it be general or specific study (next article's topic). Perhaps you will benefit from them.

Tips and Suggestions

1. **Purchase and make use of a wide-margin Bible.** Whatever translation you prefer to do your primary study and memory work from will almost certainly have a wide-margin version available. These Bibles are for those who take notes. This is a solid investment that can benefit you for many years.
2. **Make your own chain-reference system in the margins or wherever space permits.** Most Bible publishers include a chain reference that can sometimes be helpful. They tend to focus upon words rather than thoughts. For instance, if you find the word “atone” in a passage than the publisher's chain-reference will list another verse that contains the word. That's fine. Personally, I find passages that express the thought behind the word equally, and often more, beneficial. Thus, I create my own references wherever space allows. Most Bible students follow this practice. If you have not been doing so I encourage you to begin. It will increase the ease and rapidity with which you navigate the Scriptures.
3. **Write lightly in pencil.** The more you study the more you grow. As you grow your understanding increases. As your understanding increases your conclusions tend to evolve into something more substantial and weighty. This means that many of the notes you wrote in the margins of your Bible ten years ago are no longer necessary or are in need of adjusting. Sometimes you may even find you no longer agree with what you wrote.

Thoughts On Authority And Rebellion

John Thompson

Most relationships among people take the form of those in authority and those who are subordinate. In the work environment, for example, there are supervisors, managers, bosses, and executives who make the decisions and there are the regular employees who carry out the work assigned to them. In school, principals, teachers, counselors and others are in authority over the students. Within the family, parents, grandparents and perhaps other adults provide the structure and discipline for the children. In church the membership is under the authority of the elders, and all of the members, including the elders, are under the authority of Jesus, the King. Choose any area of life, and any role within that area, and it can be defined in terms of who is in authority and who is subordinate.

Relationship problems among people generally result when those in authority abuse their position, when those under authority rebel, or when some of each is taking place. Abuse of power is pervasive in our society. Politicians ignore the public trust; parents and other adults sometimes do unspeakable things to children; supervisors make the work environment miserable for the employees; and charismatic con artists bilk fortunes from their unsuspecting victims. But, as prevalent as abuse of authority is, it doesn't come up to the level of rebellion. People do not like to be told what to do, how to behave, what to think and say. If it is not advantageous for people to rebel overtly, they will do so covertly through sabotage, passive-aggression, procrastination, undermining behavior, and other very effective ways. Many times, such covert rebellion is the subordinate's only way to "get back" at the one who is perceived as being abusive to them. In many instances, perhaps most, rebellion against authority is seen as a positive thing, with folks going to great lengths to justify it.

But what about spiritual rebellion? Is it ever justified? It might be, from a worldly perspective if God, not some human being who proclaims himself to be speaking for God, but God himself, had a habit of abusing his power and authority. However, that has never happened. In fact, it cannot happen because it would be against the very nature of God. Titus 1:2 says that God cannot lie. God cannot do anything that is outside of his very nature and essence. Therefore, He only and always relates to us out of his concern for our best interests. If there is a problem with our relationship with God, then the problem is ours, and one can rest assured that rebellion is at work.

Beginning right now, as you are reading this article, whenever the commands and precepts, the statutes and ordinances, the warnings and prohibitions, and the examples and principles provided by God to direct our steps become onerous,

Too, bright blue or dark black ink tends to bleed through pages and can make the actual text of Scripture difficult to read. Use a pencil and write lightly. A couple of gentle swipes with an eraser takes care of things.

4. **Always study as if you were teaching.** It is one thing to study a book, it is something else to study it with the intention of leading a group of knowledgeable Christians in a study of the text. Whether you will ever do that or not, study and prepare as if you were. Anticipate the questions a passage might prompt and consider how you would answer them. This will add a depth to your study that might otherwise be lacking.
5. **Teachers, don't rely upon old notes and material for textual studies.** Suppose have been assigned to teach Romans to an adult class. Do not pull out the notes from the Romans class you taught twenty years ago for anything more than reference material. My preference for a textual study is to study the passage carefully and teach directly from the text without hand-outs or questions. This requires that every time I teach that text I restudy it. There is nothing wrong with old notes and material. Yet if you have continued to study since the last time you taught it your knowledge and understanding has almost certainly increased. Study it again, rewrite your material (if you have any) from the ground up, and see how much you've grown.
6. **Start talking about it.** Don't study to hoard. As your knowledge of God's Word increases start sharing it with others. "I was reading the Bible yesterday and I thought this was really interesting..." is an easy and unthreatening (for the hearer) way to start a conversation about Scripture. Every biblical conversation we have with a non-Christian doesn't have to be about getting them in the water. It can simply be designed to let them know if they have questions about Scripture they now know they have someone they can ask. It can simply be about sparking interest in God's Word in that person.

It's all about enhancing our study and benefitting others in the process. May God bless you in your study of His Word.

