

## •INSPIRE•

### Bible Studies

Sunday Adult Bible Study

Monday Women's Bible Study

Wednesday Noon

### Women's Monday Bible Study

(will resume January 6)

Mondays 6:30pm here at church in the Narthex.

Study will be based on Ephesians, a letter from Paul. Please see Kellee Skaggs for additional information.

### Wednesday Noon Bible Study

The book of James, half-brother of Jesus, a letter to the church is written to Jewish believers in his day, but the content of the letter is timeless and timely. James writes that we should turn to God in our trials and live our faith in God's Word. He casts an unfavorable eye on the ways of the world, and calls on believers favoritism in the

church and an unhealthy view of money. Finally, he calls all believers to pursue Jesus's Grace and Mercy with passion.

### Sunday Morning Bible Study

Join Pastor Mike Sunday morning for a bible study on the book of Genesis - "The Beginning".

### Altar Flowers 2020

Have a specific date(s) you would like to dedicate flowers? Please fill out the bulletin insert and place it in the office mail box. *FYI-If the date is already filled, Carol will move you to the next closest date.* ***have a date in mind? Look at the chart on the bulletin board to see what is available.***

## •Grow•

### Youth Confirmation Class

Parents & Students

Class has begun!

Wednesdays, at

6:30pm. Questions?

contact Pastor Mike

pastor\_mike@redeem

erwarsaw.org

cell:574-527-9483

**Class will resume on January 8th**

## •Change•

### Property Purchase

At the Special Voter's Assembly held on August 22, the Voter's approved to purchase the property next door via a mortgage from the current owner. We now look to put this purchase to work for Him. Next will be the conversation as to how this will be accomplished. **Debt Reduction Envelopes are available at the welcome center**

## Redeemer Volunteering & Events

### **Sign up sheet**

(Please place sign-ups in the Office mailbox)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I'd like to donate to the Altar Flowers (\$25)

in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_ on this date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please use this insert and place in the church mail box

I'd like to join an awesome Bible Study! attend as many as you like!

☐ Sunday Morning Bible Study      Monday Evening Women's Bible Study

☐ Wednesday Noon Bible Study

☐ I would like assistance from the Youth Group  
(yard work, cleaning, a visit ...)

☐ I would like to help with Sunday School, IMPACT, nursery

☐ Volunteering at Lincoln School & Little Steps Daycare.  
I am interested in learning about the many opportunities on how to implement our Vision Statement.



• **Christmas Decoration Take Down January 12, 12:15pm**

• **Voter's Assembly January 16, 6pm**

## Jerusalem Alone!

The classic Christmas movie, “Home Alone” is about a 10-12 years-old boy who is unintentionally left at home for Christmas. Well, we might call Jesus being left, “Jerusalem Alone!”

### **A) Jesus’s family makes an annual trip to Jerusalem for \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) When the festival ended and the family headed home.
  - Mary & Joseph started looking for Jesus who they had thought was traveling with family and friends.
  - That’s when panic set in... “They couldn’t find \_\_\_\_\_!”
  - They started retracing their steps, back to Jerusalem.
  - After 3 days, finally found him in the temple, with the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.
  - Luke tells us, “*Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers.*” (Lk. 2:26,27 GW)
- 2) At just 12, He showed great maturity and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Mary asks, “*Son, why have you done this to us? (We) have been worried sick looking for you!*” (Luke 2:48 GW)

### **B) Jesus’s \_\_\_\_\_ is simple, “*Didn’t you realize that I had to be in my Father’s house?*” (Luke 2:49 GW)**

- 1) At first, Jesus’s answer might seem \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) But Jesus words reveal two very important things:
  - At 12, He knew exactly who \_\_\_\_\_ was, the Son of God.
  - His \_\_\_\_\_ needed a reminder of who he was & why he came.
- 3) He was sent for a very specific purpose; the \_\_\_\_\_ of all people.

### **C) Did you also notice how they reacted to His answer?**

- “...*they didn’t \_\_\_\_\_ what he meant.*” (Lk. 2:50 GW)
- 1) God doesn’t ask us to understand; simply to \_\_\_\_\_ what He says.
  - 2) Although Mary didn’t understand everything, did you notice what she did?  
“*His mother treasured all these things in her heart.*” (Luke 2:51 GW).
  - 3) Mary was \_\_\_\_\_ the pieces of the puzzle.

**Close:** That’s a good reminder to us when we’re studying the Bible. Gather as many pieces as possible and grow in your knowledge of God’s Word.

## "Just Like Us"

TEXT: *And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon Him.* (Luke 2:40)

Luke ends the story of Jesus' birth with the verse above. At first glance it isn't very exciting. Jesus grew like any child grows, and became stronger. He learned to walk, learned to talk, learned to feed Himself, and dress Himself. He played with His parents and made friends with the neighbors. He began to learn His letters and how to count.

But at second glance, this is wonderful! Because this is God Himself, going through the growing up stages that all of us have been through. He didn't take the easy way. He wasn't born knowing how to read or how to tie His sandals. He grew and learned like we do, sharing our ordinary lives. (If you have a child handy, blow their minds with this idea: at one point Jesus must have had homework.)

Jesus came to be in our lives, a part of our lives, one of us. He came to be our Savior, and that is not a job someone can do by standing safely at a distance. Instead, He embraced our human nature-He was born, He grew, He lived, worked, and suffered, He died. And then He rose from the dead.

Truly we can never say to God "You don't understand." Jesus has joined us to Himself, and He has redeemed us. Through the Holy Spirit's gift of faith we are now united with Him as His own people, His own family. And He shares His gift of everlasting life with us.

Luke writes, "And the favor (also translated grace) of God was upon Him." That same grace is upon us, too, who trust in Jesus. Thank you, Lord.

THE PRAYER: Lord Jesus, thank You for becoming a human being and taking us to be Your own. You are our Savior, and we rejoice. Amen.