

MEDITATION VS STUDY

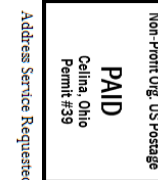
Pastor Justin

Often times you will hear someone say they need to study to show themselves approved unto God. (2 Tim. 2:15) That is a correct statement if you're reading from a New American Standard Bible. However, when you look up the word “study” in the Greek, it is the word, *spoudazo*, which means, make haste, endeavor, give diligence. So really the verse reads more like, “Endeavor to be able to present yourself to God, a workman not ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth.” For some reason, the translators put the English word “study” in place of the other more commonly accepted translations of *spoudazo*. So what does this mean? You need to approach the Bible not from a standpoint of studying, but from a standpoint of meditating on the Word. No where in the Bible does it say to “study” the Bible. But over and over we are told to meditate on the Word of God and that it will make our way prosperous and successful. (Joshua 1:8) It would do you well to dig a little deeper into the meaning of meditation. The Hebrew word for meditate is, *Haga*. If you don't know the proper way to meditate on the Word, we teach an entire course that involves aspects of this in our Discipleship 3 course. Take the time today, to ponder, muse, imagine and declare the Word! That's meditation!

THRIVE YOUTH CORNER

We are so appreciative of our church family! The fundraiser lunch was a huge success and on top of the donations we enjoyed our families being able to see the fruits of our labor. A lot of work was put into the center and it was all because God moved people to give of their time, prayers, and resources. All of the proceeds are going to furnishing the youth center with tables, chairs, more seating, etc. If you feel led to give, you may still make a donation and mark it for “youth center.” We truly do appreciate you making the effort to help our youth make a place they call home. We are a family and will take good care to steward the blessings we have been given!

529 North Walnut Street
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The Connection

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nlcc-celina.org

**Game Night
@
The Youth
Center
February 26,
6:00 pm**

Bring your favorite snacks and games and prepare to crush your opponents. This is a great opportunity for fellowship over card games, board games, and snacks. You can bring your own drinks or there will be drinks available for purchase to benefit the youth general fund.



March 14, we begin Daylight Savings Time. Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour before bed on Saturday evening so you're not late for church on Sunday!!



Daily Prayer

Reminder that there is daily prayer at the sanctuary from 7:00 am - 8:00 am Monday through Saturday. If you can't attend, please spend this time with the Lord still.

**Youth Spring
camp at
Michindoh
March 19-21**

Make sure that you are saving up and preparing for this awesome time with the Lord! You won't want to miss this retreat as it was a blast the last time!



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Tom Sanford

Let me introduce you to Travis Fogt. Travis is a hard working member of New Life who has been here since 2016 when some friends invited him to our church. The people were friendly and Pastor Jason had a great message, so he stuck around. He is 38 years old and has an older sister and a younger brother. Travis loves the fellowship at church and is a part of the worship team. You have most likely seen him play the guitar during worship and at times, even the harmonica! Aside from worship, Travis likes to also play the drums and bass guitar. He is very musically inclined. Growing up in Sydney, Ohio, he never really had a family had moved years. He likes Italian, and enjoys working on guitars for other people. He's has considered fixing guitars as a side business. Travis really loves working with guns and ammo as well. He loads his own ammo into casings as well as reloading used ammo. Assembling AR 15's is no problem for him as he has done this for many others in the past. This unique and diverse set of skills and abilities are all God given and you will benefit from getting to know him. Travis currently works at Airstream, building RV trailer ends, and was employed at Duesway for a number of years prior to that. He really enjoys work and finds pride in the work that is done. On the Disc Profile, Travis is geared heavily toward a "C" and an "S". He enjoys learning and has attended our discipleship courses many times. You will want to get to know Travis and may learn a bit or two because of his diverse knowledge!



DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

Discipleship 1: March 7, 5 - 7 pm
Discipleship 2: February 28 & March 7, 8 am



MEDITATIONS ON THE BEACH

Pastor Bruce

My comrades in the office, (P. Jason, P. Justin, & Nichole Evers laughingly told me to write this newsletter article on "Beach Ministry" due to our recent vacation to Sanibel Island, Florida. Although their suggestion was "tongue in cheek", I decided to write about some things that I was meditating on while lounging on the beach by the Gulf of Mexico. Yes, God speaks there also. So as I was sitting there one day, I began to meditate on the promise of God to Abraham that **his descendants would be as the sand on the seashore.** Genesis 22:17. The Lord goes on to say in this verse that his offspring would possess the **gate of his enemies.** The covenant between Abraham and God consisted of three separate parts:

1. The promised land
2. The promise of the descendants.
3. The promise of blessing and redemption.

The great news about all this is that we as gentiles are a part of this covenant. The Lord told Abraham that

all the nations of the earth. The great news about all this is that we as gentiles are a part of this covenant. Paul tells us in **Romans 4:16, "Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring--not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who have the faith of**

Abraham. He is the father of us all."

What a legacy we have. Let's not be like Israel who followed after their own desires and lost out on what God intended for them.

They could have been invincible. What about you and me? Can we dare to believe the report of the Lord and inherit the destiny that God has promised and go on to **"possess the gate of our enemies"**? Much awaits us in the days ahead. This is not the time to shrink back and hide, but to declare the goodness of God to a dying world that needs salvation. **Abraham believed God and it was counted to him as righteousness!** Now back to sun, salt water, and sand!!

