

# LOVE GOD'S WORD & PRAYER

## Daily Bible Reading

At Faith Baptist Fellowship, we *Love God's Word and Prayer*. We strongly believe that every growing disciple of Jesus needs to be regularly hearing from God through His word and personally speaking back to God through prayer. If regular Bible reading is not yet a habit of yours, this is a great way to get started!

**We are encouraging everyone to continue our Daily Bible Readings with spending time in Proverbs.** We will provide devotional thoughts and helpful prayer points on the passages. The weekend material will prepare you for the upcoming Sunday sermon as well as provide some discussion help for Faith Groups.

*We encourage you to set aside at least 15-20 minutes a day for reading and prayer. If you fall behind, just start on the current day. Try to develop the habit of reading at the same time and place. Have a journal and pen for answering questions and recording your thoughts and insights. For additional Bible reading plans check out our website at [www.faithsf.com](http://www.faithsf.com). Enjoy your time in God's Word and Prayer!*

## Monday, October 11

Read Proverbs 20:11-20

- THINK:** 11- If we are changed by Jesus, our conduct should show it.  
12- Ponder the magnificence of the ear and eye; God made them!  
13- We need sleep, but not sleepy living. There's plenty to do!  
14- Unethical and deceptive behavior is common, sadly.  
15- Again and again we see that knowing God tops worldly wealth.  
16- Watch out! Don't take on foolish debts, for yourself or others.  
17- Dishonest gain is temporary and ultimately brings anguish.  
18- Wise guidance and good counsel is always a good thing.  
19- Don't hang out with someone who is indiscreet of speech.  
20- Eternal punishment awaits those who curse their parents.

**PRAY:** Wisdom! These are proverbs, like so many we have read in previous weeks, that apply godly living to the practical, everyday needs we all have to live wisely. Which ones hit home most closely for you? Pray about them. Which ones call to mind a troubled friend or family member? Pray for that person. Ask God to graciously reveal to them their need for Christ and Christ-like wise living.

*Rejoice and thank God for the expanded West Campus facility.*

## Tuesday, October 12

Read Proverbs 20:21-30

**THINK:** 21- Those who “make a quick buck” may lose it just as fast.  
22- Read Romans 12:19. Hurts cut deep; leave it with the Father.  
23- Cheating is not only criminal--God despises it. Be honest.  
24- Trust in the Lord! Walk with him and he will guide you wisely.  
25- People make foolish vows without thinking. Don't!  
26- Wisdom chooses its advisors carefully and avoids the wicked.  
27- God is able to see inside us. He knows what's deep within.  
28- The eternal King is steadfast in love and faithfulness! Amen!  
29- May we grow wise as we age! Let it be so, Heavenly Father!  
30- Those whom God loves he disciplines. Welcome it.

**PRAY:** Pray through these proverbs, line by line. Some will cause you to confess, others to intercede, others to praise God. As we have done many times, ask God for the grace to live wisely by his word and in the fulness of the Holy Spirit. Help us, Heavenly Father!

*Pray for our West Campus elders and ministry leaders.*

## Wednesday, October 13

Read Proverbs 21:1-10

**THINK:** Write your own brief response to each Proverb:

- 1-
- 2-
- 3-
- 4-
- 5-
- 6-
- 7-
- 8-
- 9-
- 10-

**PRAY:** Pray your way through each of your lines, responding to God's proverbs, asking for grace and wisdom.

*Ask God to guide West Campus leadership in the use of their newly expanded ministry space.*

## Thursday, October 14

Read Proverbs 21:11-21

**THINK:** Write your own brief response to each Proverb:

- 11-
- 12-
- 13-
- 14-
- 15-
- 16-
- 17-
- 18-
- 19-
- 20-
- 21-

**PRAY:** Pray your way through each of your lines, responding to God's proverbs, asking for grace and wisdom.

*Ask God to bless our West Campus with growth and fruit!*

## Friday, October 15

Read Proverbs 21:22-31

- THINK:** 22- Wisdom ultimately overcomes brute strength.  
23- Don't talk too much! Keep quiet and avoid trouble.  
24- God is opposed to the proud but gives grace to humble people.  
25- Beware of refusing to work. Read II Thessalonians 3:10.  
26- Live generously! Give! You cannot outgive God.  
27- Those who deceive and connive cannot fool God.  
28- Falsehood is sin. Have a reputation for honesty.  
29- Live with integrity and you do not need to be a faker.  
30- Human ingenuity cannot defeat the good hand of God Almighty.  
31- Whatever the weaponry, the outcome is God's. Trust him!

**PRAY:** Pray your way through each of these lines, responding to God's proverbs, asking for grace and wisdom.

*Thank God for his provision for our West Campus ministry! Ask him to provide all we need for the larger lease now on the expanded facility. Want to see it for yourself? South and West will meet together at West Campus on Sunday afternoon, the 24<sup>th</sup> of October, for our Quarterly Ministry and Business meeting with a soup and pie supper. Have a look for yourself and praise God!*

## Weekend, October 16-17

Read Colossians 1:24-2:5

If you've fallen behind this week, consider using these extra days to catch up. You can also prepare your heart and mind for this Sunday's worship service. Read the planned sermon text above and the thoughts below in advance of Sunday morning's message. If you are in a Faith Group, consider discussing the questions below together.

**THINK:** In terms of Christ's power to save, we do not believe that anything is lacking. The cross and resurrection are sufficient. So, what does Paul mean by his statement, "I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions..." Clearly, it has something to do with the church. (A good Study Bible will help you here.) What is the mystery now revealed? Once again, Paul is pointing us to the preeminence and supremacy of Christ. The goal of our faith journey is maturity. It is clear from Colossians 2:4 that Paul's concern is false teaching concerning Christ that is threatening the church.

**PRAY:** Rejoice in the reality of Christ in you, the hope of glory! Pray a prayer of praise and adoration. Pray for our pastors as they preach on this marvelous text Sunday morning. Ask God to fill you with his Holy Spirit in your journey toward maturity in Christ. Ask God to protect our church from false teaching. Submit yourself to the lordship of Christ with regard to any suffering He may allow in your life.

**FAITH GROUP:** Discuss together the meaning of verse 24, "filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church." How do you think Paul's thoughts apply to the church today? What should be our attitude with regard to suffering in our lives? Pray for one another in our journey through the Christian life together.