

"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

- John 16.33

VISION 2016



A MESSAGE FROM THE ELDERS

As we look back at events of 2015 and enter into 2016 it is obvious that our world is changing. Unfortunately, the changes taking place are not good. Our country is moving in the direction of becoming more and more ungodly. The frightening part is that the pace of this degeneration seems to be picking up momentum.

Not only are people moving farther away from God, but there is a desire to punish those who hold to His principles of righteousness. We see a very vocal community and media ridiculing, discrediting, and demanding retribution on those who do not agree with their worldly views.

Religious business owners are being forced to close their doors and pay fines for refusing to participate in same sex marriage ceremonies. Government employees who refuse to comply in the issuing of marriage licenses to same sex couples risk losing their jobs.

The most recent Supreme Court ruling approving gay marriage has, to say the least, awakened Christians as to how far off track this country is headed. While this ruling is shocking in its scope, it is just the latest in a long line of anti-God decisions that have fanned the flames of immoral and ungodly living.

If we could go back 70 years we would see a far different world view regarding morality and matters of right and wrong. Many in this congregation remember those days. God's word was respected as the standard for determining right and wrong. Marriages were lifelong commitments. Unborn children were brought into this world with high hopes for a better tomorrow.

Along the way, Satan has slowly but steadily begun to erode the very fabric of righteous, moral, ethical and just living.

During the second half of the 20th century, God was taken out of schools replaced with evolution as the only acceptable teaching of our basic existence. Marriages failed and families began to fall apart. Free love and drugs of the sixties moved to open rebellion against authority. America began destroying its future by killing millions of unborn children in its abortion mills. Feminism continued in its destruction of the family. Hollywood and other media outlets began promoting progressive thinking and humanistic doctrines as the norm. Open homosexuality has come to the limelight and everyone is expected to embrace it as an alternative life style. Now we are voting on the legalization of marijuana and the list goes on and on.

It makes you wonder where we will be in the next 70 years. We are all concerned about the future for our children and grandchildren. The reality is every generation has shared the same concerns. The good news isThere is HOPE.

This year our theme will be "Life in a Changing World." Our focus will be to provide help to families and individuals to overcome the obstacles we face and continue to be an influence for God in this present age. We will concentrate on surviving the onslaught of unrighteousness growing all around us. We will look at practical ways to get those we love through the dangers that lie ahead.

To do that, we need to understand there is nothing new under the sun. We will look to biblical examples of endurance, trust and perserverence that have just as much practical application today as it did in the days of old. There is hope and you and your family of a brighter day and future home in heaven. We simply can't give in to the downward spiral. Our family's future depends on it.

The Elders

MOVING FORWARD

Moving forward we will see this country head further into decay and immoral living. Biblical history is clear that generally when a nation begins its decline into immorality it continues until God intervenes to bring about reformation. It was true in Noah's day and the times of the prophets. Even after Joshua's death Israel began its fateful movement away from God. In Judges 2:10 we read:

And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel. And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and served the Baals. And they abandoned the LORD, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the LORD to anger. They abandoned the LORD and served the Baals and the Ashtaroth. So the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he gave them over to plunderers, who plundered them. And he sold them into the hand of their surrounding enemies, so that they could no longer withstand their enemies. Whenever they marched out, the hand of the LORD was against them for harm, as the LORD had warned, and as the LORD had sworn to them. And they were in terrible distress.

We are witnessing a generation that does not know God. Without a compass, the people drift with the tide of what is easy, sinful and selfish. Many who quote God on the social media, do not understand the Bible nor the purpose of the Bible. So, here we are adrift in a nation that has no direction. Selfishness continues to rise. The hatred of all things good and decent climbs. As in Isaiah's day, "good is being called bad and bad is being called good." What can we do?

First, Biblical history teaches us that God has had righteous people even in the darkest days. Back in the days of Judah the nation was invaded. The temple destroyed. People were killed. Many were taken to Babylon. We know of a few, such as the three Jewish boys in the fiery furnace and Daniel, but there were others who were faithful to God. That group and their children returned after many years. They were faithful. During the New Testament's dark days of Jewish and then Roman persecution, God's people

remained faithful to Him. God has always heard the cries of His people. He heard them in Egypt. He heard them under the altar in Revelation. So, the first lesson the Bible teaches us is that we must continue to be faithful to God. Our hope is not in who can take over Washington, but He who sits upon the throne in Heaven. We must stand with God. We do not fear what man can do to us, Hebrews 13.6.

Second, we must teach our families and then our friends the Bible. In Joshua's day, a generation arose that did not know the Lord. Why? Why did they not know? What were the parents doing? What were the leaders doing? It's time for serious Bible learning. It's time to know what God says, how God's people are to respond, and what God expects of us. It's time for churches to get serious about teaching. It's time for our people to really know the Lord.

Third, Jesus said, many will follow the easy path to destruction. It's wide. It's crowded. It's not demanding. What is happening is nothing more than what Jesus said. There are few who will do what is right. We must surround ourselves with those few. We must spend time with those few. We must turn off dumb TV shows. We must stop reading and watching those things that make our blood pressure rise. Pray more. What is happening is nothing new. Sadly, God has seen it all too often.

Finally, we must continue to be faithful to God. It will be a different world for our children and grandchildren. But with godly parents who are teaching them, it will be OK. Our generation was so different than our parents. They were part of that greatest generation that survived a depression and fought a massive world war. Our generation burned the flag and smoked dope and protested. We marched in the streets. We engaged in free love. Drugs filled the air and our veins. Hippies became heroes. The songs were of rebellion and anti-authority. Those were our times. But we are not hippies. We don't do drugs. We don't burn flags. We walk with the Lord. We try to live righteously.

So don't fret brethren. Don't lose hope. Don't quit the battle. We are marching, not to Washington, but to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion. Could it be, like Esther, that God has placed us here for such an occasion as this?

^{*} Reprinted from Roger Shouse Jump Starts, June 2015.

FULFILLING OUR PURPOSE

At Kettering Church of Christ, we are committed to **guiding people into a growing relationship with Christ**. This is our mission, specifically prescribed by Jesus. He said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:19–20).

It's all according to God's plan from before time. Paul wrote, "...he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him," (Ephesians 1.4). In Romans Paul said, "For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son...," (Romans 8.29a).

How This is Accomplished?

- We LOVE LIKE Jesus.
- We SHARE Jesus.
- We GROW in Christ.
- We **HONOR** Jesus in worship.

Love. Share. Grow. Honor.

Everything comes back to this. These are the four ways we engage in active service to our Lord. We love like Christ as we share time together, look for opportunities to serve each other, and care for each other through the ups and downs of life. Each of us should commit to serving at least one person in our spiritual family. We share Christ through our efforts to spread the gospel to the lost. We all have a role in the future of our congregation. You can make a difference by inviting others to know Christ.

The Way SHARK JESUS

During the week, our family takes advantage of moving toward spiritual maturity through various classes, small group sessions, and individual study. Your preparation and participation in these activities is vital. Finally, every Sunday, we gather together for God-centered worship. We magnify Him through praise, fellowship, and the taking on of His word. You are essential to this part of being a disciple.

As we go through 2016, every action of the Kettering church will fit inside one of these four areas. We need to draw a connection in everything we do with our ultimate purpose: *guiding people into a growing relationship with Christ*. In everything, we need to remember our goal of helping others be conformed to the image of Christ. You play a very important part in *stimulating others to love and good works*, Hebrews 10.24.

NOTHING IS NEW UNDER THE SUN

Our nation's decline in morality is not unique in world history

Abortion rights. Mass shootings. Murder on live television. Deteriorating race relations. Immodesty and sexual inuendo at every turn. Gay marriage and the homosexual agenda. Transgender issues. Christians, along with their Biblical values derided. God denied. Jesus mocked. Everyday, news headlines mark another battle lost in the great culture war. As one reflects over the last few decades, our nation's descent into a moral abyss feels like it is picking up speed. What was viewed as risque in the 1980's, now looks almost innocent and tame. But, are we the first nation to experience moral depravity? Are these the worst of times? Or, could things get much worse?

Scripture has the answer. God's people have always been subject to the ramifications of living inside a world broken by sin. During Noah's day, the earth was filled with violence and the wickedness of man was great, with every intention of the thoughts of the heart was only evil continually, Genesis 6.5, 11. Do you remember what is said about the time of the judges when everyone did what was right in his own eyes, Judges 21.25? As the northen kingdom slid into oblivion, it was filled with those who do not know how to do right and store up violence and robbery in their strongholds, Amos 3.10. During its waning years, Judah stumbled under the leadership of godless men. Jeremiah records Zedekiah's burning the scroll that contained God's warning and a promise of mercy if they repented, Jeremiah 36. Think of the Greco-Roman world during the time of the first Christians. Christian virtues were mocked and regarded as foolishness, 1 Corinthians 1.18-31. They were subjected to heavy persecution and death, Revelation 2.8-10, 12-13; 3.7-13; 6.9-11.

During this quarter, we will explore these concepts:

- How Biblical characters dealt with moral decline and how they found victory. God was there for them. He will be there for us.
- How nothing is new under the sun. The evil practiced then is the same today - it's only repackaged with a modern wrapper.
- How to find the courage to rise above these circumstances and have a heart for those who struggle.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

| FIRST QUARTER: DECEMBER 2, 2015 • FEBRUARY 28, 2016 | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DATE | THEME | NOTES |
| December | Times of Difficulty are | 12/6 - Elder/Deacon Meeting |
| | not New | 12/27 - Singing: Theme - Troublesome Times. (Russ Robins) |
| January/ February | And Such Were Some of You | 01/10 - Elder/Deacon Meeting 01/24 - Singing: Theme - A Changed Life (Rich Walker) 01/31 - An Evening with the Elders 02/07 - Elder/Deacon Meeting 2/14 - Young Men's Service (Wes Grushon) 02/21 - Group Studies 02/28 - Singing: Theme - New Songs (Jim Grushon) |

CLASS SCHEDULES

| FIRST QUARTER: DECEMBER 2, 2015 • FEBRUARY 28, 2016 | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Sund | Sunday Morning | | |
| The Mor | al Crisis in America | : A Deeper Look | |
| Teacher | : Matthew Allen | | |
| WEEK | DATE | LESSON TITLE | |
| 1 | 12/6/15 | From Creation to Moses: How God's People Coped with Moral Decay | |
| 2 | 12/13/15 | Israel During the Time of the Judges | |
| 3 | 12/20/15 | Israel's Last Days | |
| 4 | 12/27/15 | Judah's Last Days | |
| 5 | 1/3/16 | The Decline of the Family and Rise of a Divorce Culture | |
| 6 | 1/10/16 | Abusive, Violent Relationships | |
| 7 | 1/17/16 | Rise of Sexual Freedom and Promiscuity | |
| 8 | 1/24/16 | The Abortion Movement becomes Mainstream | |
| 9 | 1/31/16 | The Gay Rights Movement: Obscure beginings to driving the culture | |
| 10 | 2/7/16 | Tracing America's Drug Addiction Problems | |
| 11 | 2/14/16 | The Growing Face of Pornography | |
| 12 | 2/21/16 | Suicide, Euthanasia | |
| 13 | 2/28/16 | How We Cure America's Apathy to it's Moral Problems | |

[&]quot;Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!"

(Psalm 33:12, ESV)

CLASS SCHEDULES

| | FIRST QUARTER: DECEMBER 2, 2015 • FEBRUARY 28, 2016 | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Wedne | Wednesday (1 pm and 7.30 pm) | | |
| Messenge | rs in a Wicked Wor | ld: The Minor Prophets | |
| Teacher: N | Natthew Allen (1 pr | m); Jon Burnett/Chris Fles (7.30 pm) | |
| WEEK | DATE | LESSON TITLE | |
| 1 | 12/2/15 | Introduction | |
| 2 | 12/9/15 | Obadiah | |
| 3 | 12/16/15 | Joel | |
| 4 | 12/23/15 | Jonah | |
| 5 | 12/30/15 | Amos | |
| 6 | 1/6/16 | Hosea | |
| 7 | 1/13/16 | Micah | |
| 8 | 1/20/16 | Zephaniah | |
| 9 | 1/27/16 | Nahum | |
| 10 | 2/3/16 | Habakkuk | |
| 11 | 2/10/16 | Haggai | |
| 12 | 2/17/16 | Zechariah | |
| 13 | 2/24/16 | Malachi | |

TEEN BIBLE CLASS SCHEDULE

| DECEMBER 2015 - FEBRUARY 2016 | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| SUNDAY JR/HIGH SCHOOL | Examples of Conversion George Wacks |
| WEDNESDAY JR/HIGH SCHOOL | The Moral Crisis in America: A Deeper Look Jason Schofield |

A TIME OF OPPORTUNITY

Boldly moving forward in trust

Imagine living in the path of an approaching violent storm. You know it has the potential to do the type of damage that will fundamentally alter your life and the lives of those you love. What would you do? Besides making the necessary preparations to protect your home and belongings, you would be very interested in those around you. Will they be adequately protected? What things do you have that you could share with them to help them get through?

We've spent the previous three months assessing our nation's moral decline. As we observe the reality around us, it should be easy to see that the storm is already here. Are we doing what is necessary to protect ourselves? What about our family and friends? Are we busy warning, encouraging, leading, and persuading? How can we get them to heaven? How can we assure them we can get through this together, no matter what?

Christians have always been called upon to stand up and stand out, moving forward with trust in God despite unfavorable conditions. They know this is a time of urgency. The spiritual threat is real. "The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light," Romans 13.12. They know they must be prepared to take whatever measure is necessary to effectively stand. They know that God will supply the strength and protection necessary to succeed spiritually. "We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope," Romans 5.3-4.

During this quarter, our focus will center on these three things:

- Seeing the need. Bad times are here. How can we grow as well as help those we love grow stronger?
- How did the early church grow? The New Testament contains an amazing story of church growth. As the world

tried to eliminate Christianity, it grew exponentially.

• This is a time of action. It's a time for prayer. It's a time for sharing, encouraging, and teaching.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

| SECOND QUARTER: March 2, 2016 • May 29, 2016 | | |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DATE | THEME | NOTES |
| | | 03/06 - Elder/Deacon Meeting |
| | | |
| March | Seeing The Need | 03/20 - Singing: Theme - The Fields are White (Matthew Allen) |
| | | |
| | | 04/03 - Elder/Deacon Meeting |
| | How the Early | |
| April | Church Grew | 04/17 - Group Studies |
| | Chorch orew | 04/24 - Singing: Theme - Spreading the Gospel (Jason Schofield) |
| | | 05/01 - Elder/Deacon Meeting |
| | | |
| May | A Time of Action | |
| | | 05/22 - Russ Bowman Gospel Meeting |
| | | 05/29 - An Evening with the Elders |

"Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus."

(Acts 5:41–42, ESV)

CLASS SCHEDULES

| SECOND QUARTER: MARCH 2, 2016 • MAY 29, 2016 | | | |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------|--|
| Sund | Sunday Morning | | |
| What Re | ally Matters? Help | ing Others Get to Heaven | |
| Teacher: | Matthew Allen | | |
| WEEK | DATE | LESSON TITLE | |
| 1 | 3/6/16 | Acts 2: Salvation Matters | |
| 2 | 3/13/16 | Acts 4: Boldness Matters | |
| 3 | 3/20/16 | Acts 5.1-11: Motives Matter | |
| 4 | 3/27/16 | Acts 5.12-42: Standing Firm Matters | |
| 5 | 4/3/16 | Acts 6.1-7: Everybody Matters | |
| 6 | 4/10/16 | Acts 6.8-7.60 - Character Matters | |
| 7 | 4/17/16 | Acts 8: Perseverance Matters | |
| 8 | 4/24/16 | Acts 9: Acceptance Matters | |
| 9 | 5/1/16 | Acts 12: Prayer Matters | |
| 10 | 5/8/16 | Acts 14: Faith Through Tribulation Matters | |
| 11 | 5/15/16 | Acts 19: Courage Matters | |
| 12 | 5/22/16 | Russ Bowman: Gospel Meeting | |
| 13 | 5/29/16 | Acts 24-26: A Cheerful Defense Matters | |

"We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

(Romans 5.3-5, ESV)

CLASS SCHEDULES

| SECOND QUARTER: March 2, 2016 • May 29, 2016 | | |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wednesday (1 pm and 7.30 pm) | | |
| How to Eva | ngelize in America | |
| Teacher: M | atthew Allen | |
| WEEK | DATE | LESSON TITLE |
| 1 | 3/2/16 | What is My Attitude Toward the Lost? |
| 2 | 3/9/16 | Prevailing Attitudes in America |
| 3 | 3/16/16 | Letting Your Light Shine Creates Opportunities |
| 4 | 3/23/16 | Seizing Opportunities Before It is Too Late |
| 5 | 3/30/16 | How to Make the Transition from Secular to Spiritual |
| 6 | 4/6/16 | Speaking the Truth in Love and Without Shame |
| 7 | 4/13/16 | Build a Foundation |
| 8 | 4/20/16 | Three Major Spiritual Needs |
| 9 | 4/27/16 | Christians Need Grace Too |
| 10 | 5/4/16 | Overcoming People's Barriers to the Truth (1) |
| 11 | 5/11/16 | Overcoming People's Barriers to the Truth (2) |
| 12 | 5/18/16 | Conversion is not our Responsiblity; Making the Effort to Teach Is |
| 13 | 5/25/16 | Russ Bowman: Gospel Meeting |

TEEN BIBLE CLASS SCHEDULE

| MARCH - MAY 2016 | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| SUNDAY JR/HIGH SCHOOL | Why Believe the Bible? George Long Mike Rosato | |
| WEDNESDAY JR/HIGH SCHOOL | Helping Others Get to Heaven Wes Grushon Nathan Armstrong | |

FAMILY MATTERS

Impacting the culture one family at a time

The rate of moral decay around us seems to be getting faster every day. In every part of the country, our nation's sins are compounding. Society's leaders appear impotent and even unconcerned about enacting godly change. And, the message of the few who are standing up and calling for what is right seems muted. Will we ever be able to slow the advancement of Satan's agenda? The answer is "yes," if more individual families will make the decision to resist worldly trends and seek God's way.

Family matters. God designed it to be the basic building block of society. It is the very first organizational unit He created. When the family disintegrates, culture and society crumbles. How strong is your family? Your marriage? Your relationship with your children and grandchildren? Are the principles for lifelong marriage being handed down? Are spiritual legacies being created and carried on through the generations? What will your family look like in the coming generations? Will your children and grandchildren be equipped to carry on the way of the Lord?

If we are to ever slow the rising tide of moral depravity, it will be through one on one interaction and instruction inside the family. We need husbands who respond to God's call for spiritual leadership, wives who embrace their role, and children who are reared to be respectful. We need to be people of action, not just talk. Dedication to teaching and instruction on these things must become first priority. None of us can undo the past, but we can all resolve to spiritually strengthen the relationships with those we love the most. How your family is today, has the potential to impact the culture for good or bad for generations to come.

During this quarter we want to focus on practicalities that will help you every day.

- What are a few principles that will help you strengthen your marriage and help it become more of what God wants it to be?
- How can you become a better parent? What are key principles you can focus on to raise your children to love God?
- How do you strengthen or repair broken family relationships?

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

| THIRD QUARTER: June 1, 2016 • August 31, 2016 | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| DATE | THEME | NOTES |
| | Cultivating | 06/05 - Elder/Deacon Meeting |
| June | Relationships | |
| Julie | in the Family | |
| | in the running | 06/26 - Singing: Theme - Fellowship (Jon Burnett) |
| | | |
| | A Godly | 07/10 - Elder/Deacon Meeting |
| July | · | |
| | Marriage | 07/24 - Singing: Theme - New Songs (Jim Rutter) |
| | | 07/31 - An Evening with the Elders |
| | | 08/07 - Elder/Deacon Meeting |
| | Practical Parenting | |
| August | | 08/21 - Group Studies |
| | | 08/28 - Singing: Theme - Children's Songs (Dru McLaughlin) |

CLASS SCHEDULES

| THIRD QUARTER: June 1, 2016 • August 31, 2016 | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Sunday AM Auditorium | | |
| What Wil | l Your Family's Legacy B | le? |
| Teacher: | Jim Grushon | |
| WEEK | DATE | LESSON TITLE |
| 1 | 6/5/16 | Abraham's Family |
| 2 | 6/12/16 | Elkanah's Family (1 Samuel 1-2) |
| 3 | 6/19/16 | Eli's Family (1 Samuel (3-4) |
| 4 | 6/26/16 | Mordecai's Family (Esther) |
| 5 | 7/3/16 | David's Family (2 Samuel 12-17) |
| 6 | 7/10/16 | Naomi's Family (Ruth) |
| 7 | 7/17/16 | Lazarus' Family (Gospels) |
| 8 | 7/24/16 | Gaius (3 John) |
| 9 | 7/31/16 | Lois & Eunice (Acts 16; 1 Timothy 1, 3.14-15) |
| 10 | 8/7/16 | Mary the Mother of James & John (Gospels) |
| 11 | 8/14/16 | Dorcas (Acts 9) |
| 12 | 8/21/16 | Saul/Paul (Epistles) |
| 13 | 8/28/16 | God's Family |

[&]quot;For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named," (Ephesians 3.14-15, ESV)

2016 SUMMER SERIES

| Meditate on These Things What a Strong Physical/Spiritual Family Looks Like A Study of Philippians | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--|
| DATE | LESSON TITLE | |
| 6/1/16 | 1.3-11 - Thanksgiving and Prayer | |
| 6/8/16 | 1.12-19 - Sharing the Gospel | |
| 6/15/16 | 1.20-30 - Living is Christ | |
| 6/22/16 | 2.1-4 - A Humble Spirit | |
| 6/29/16 | 2.5-11 - Sacrificial Love | |
| 7/6/16 | 2.12-18 - Lights in the World | |
| 7/13/16 | 2.19-30 - The Heart of a Servant | |
| 7/20/16 | 3.1-7 - All for Christ | |
| 7/27/16 | 3.8-11 - Seeing the Rubbish | |
| 8/3/16 | 8/3/16 3.12-14 - Looking Forward | |
| 8/10/16 | 8/10/16 3.15-21 - Follow the Right Example | |
| 8/17/16 | 4.4-7 - Don't Worry, be Thankful | |
| 8/24/16 | 4.8-9 - Find the Peace of God | |
| 8/31/16 | 4.10-20 - Be Content | |

TEEN BIBLE CLASS SCHEDULE

| JUNE - AUGUST 2016 | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--|
| SUNDAY JR/HIGH SCHOOL | Creation vs. Evolution Jeremy Price Paul Braden | |
| WEDNESDAY JR/HIGH SCHOOL | SUMMER SERIES | |

THE ABSOLUTE RELIABILITY OF SCRIPTURE

God's word: The ultimate how-to guide for navigating the new world

Like no time in recent history, Scripture is under attack. But, it really should be no surprise. If Satan can destroy our faith in authenticity of God's word, there is nothing to stop him from succeeding in his efforts to lead us toward secular humanism. There is a growing mentality that says the Bible contains things that are wrong, not just "errors" in regards to science, but things that are morally wrong.

A recent survey of 1000 young adults attempted to examine why millennials are leaving the church. 44% of them said they did not believe the accounts in the Bible were true and accurate. Of that, 24% said that "the Bible was written by men." 11% believe the Bible contains errors. 15% claim the Bible contradicts itself. One prominent blog proudly proclaims the Bible is not divinely inspired and lists seven reasons why. They run the gamet from claiming if God truly wrote it, Scripture would be better organized, more specific, and 'perfectly' consistent, to citing that it contains stories of rape, incest, and violent death. More than at anytime previous in the American experience the number of those who doubt the validity of God's word is rapidly growing.

Why is this matter of such great importance? What will happen if things continue the way they are? What can we do to reverse the trend? How do these things affect Christians already inside the church? How often do you open the pages of the Bible to listen to God? If you were asked "why would a loving God allow something bad to happen to my family?", could you answer about the hope that is within you? (1 Peter 3:15) How can we more clearly share the value of God's word with those who doubt Him?

During this quarter we want to equip you with good and logical information that will help the skeptic see the reasoning behind our faith.

We will attempt to answer these three questions:

- 1. How do you know the Bible is from God?
- 2. How did we get the Bible in its present form?
- 3. How precious is God's word to me?

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

| FOURTH QUARTER: September 4, 2016 • November 30, 2016 | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| DATE | THEME | NOTES | |
| September | The Bible is From God | 09/11 - Elder/Deacon Meeting 09/18 - Group Studies 09/25 - Singing: Theme - God's Word (Roy Pyle) | |
| October | Answering Tough Questions | 10/02 - Elder/Deacon Meeting 10/09 - Ed Sanderson Gospel Meeting 10/23 - Prayer Service (George Wacks) 10/30 - An Evening with the Elders | |
| November | Making Scripture Personal | 11/06 - Elder/Deacon Meeting 11/13 - Young Men's Service (Paul Braden) 11/20 - Congregational Meeting | |

CLASS SCHEDULES

FOURTH QUARTER: September 4, 2016 • November 30, 2016 **Sunday Morning** How We Got the Bible Teacher: Matthew Allen **LESSON TITLE** WEEK DATE Why This Matters 9/4/16 9/11/16 The Birth of the Bible 9/18/16 The Text of the Old Testament 3 The Dead Sea Scrolls 4 9/25/16 10/2/16 The Text of the New Testament 5 10/9/16 **Gospel Meeting** 6 7 10/16/16 The Earliest New Testament Manuscripts 10/23/16 The Copyists: Their Work and Goals 8 10/30/16 The Church Fathers and Their Testimony 9 Canonicity and the Missing Books of the Bible 10 11/6/16 11/13/16 **Dealing with Variances** 11 The English Translators 12 11/20/16 Our Confidence in the New Testament 13 11/27/16

"And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers."

(1 Thessalonians 2:13, ESV)

CLASS SCHEDULES

FOURTH QUARTER: September 4, 2016 • November 30, 2016

Wednesday Bible Study (1 pm and 7.30 pm)

Christian Evidences

Teacher: Greg Morrison

| Teacher. Orey Morrison | | | |
|------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------------|--|
| WEEK | DATE | LESSON TITLE | |
| 1 | 9/7/16 | The Genesis Solution | |
| 2 | 9/14/16 | The Origin of the Universe | |
| 3 | 9/21/16 | The Earth: A Young Planet? | |
| 4 | 9/28/16 | Are You Listening to the One From the Dead? | |
| 5 | 10/5/16 | The Origin of Life | |
| 6 | 10/12/16 | Gospel Meeting | |
| 7 | 10/19/16 | The Origin of Species | |
| 8 | 10/26/16 | The Origin of Mankind | |
| 9 | 11/2/16 | The Fossil Record | |
| 10 | 11/9/16 | How Did Life Begin? | |
| 11 | 11/16/16 | The Case for a Creator (1) | |
| 12 | 11/23/16 | The Case for a Creator (2) | |
| 13 | 11/30/16 | Review | |

TEEN BIBLE CLASS SCHEDULE

| SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2016 | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|--|
| SUNDAY JR/HIGH SCHOOL | History of the Church Bob Hoopes Josh Childers | |
| WEDNESDAY JR/HIGH SCHOOL | Answering Tough Questions Matthew Allen | |

CHANGES FOR 2016

As you have read through our vision plan for this year, you have most likely seen a few changes to our Sunday afternoon schedule. Our purpose is to continue our efforts to provide greater spiritual growth, development, as well as stronger relationships within the Kettering family. For example:

- Sunday Sermon Format: During 2016, we will be determining our sermon topics around each monthly theme a few weeks in advance. This will allow us to be more adept at addressing current issues, etc.
- Theme Based Singings: On most fourth Sundays we will meet for an afternoon service of singing. Each singing will have a theme connected to what has been outlined in our plan and will include Scripture readings, prayer, and songs.
- An Evening with the Elders: Every fifth Sunday we will meet off site for an informal session with our elders. These will feature round-table discussions with moments of reflection on the current theme for the quarter. They will be looking for your feedback on how you are doing with the challenges you may be facing with your life in a changing world. You'll have an opportunity to share and ask questions inside a relaxed environment. We will pray together and work to gain strength from each other.
- **Group Studies:** On various dates throughout the year, our congregation will be meeting in various homes for group studies. We believe that a smaller, more intimate setting provides greater opportunity for everyone to grow and participate. These are a great time for you to develop stronger relationships with one another. **Your attendance at these studies is important!**
- Young Men's Services: Twice during the year, we will meet on a Sunday afternoon and give our young men an opportunity to develop their skills in leading a worship service. Your presence will be a great encouragement.
- Song Leader Training: Every Tuesday during January, Russ Robins will be directing a song leader training class. Whether you're new to song leading, or an old pro, this is a great opportunity to sharpen your skill.

OUR WORK IN COLOMBIA

Since 1985, the Kettering family has had the privilege of assisting in the work inside Colombia. Over the last thirty years, our Colombian brethren have worked tirelessly in spreading the gospel and establishing new churches. Starting with small works in Bogota and Manizales, now there are over 80 congregations throughout the country.

Since 2011, we have ramped up our efforts to support and encourage this ongoing work:

- **2013 & 2015:** Added five Colombian ministers in financial support for their evangelistic work.
- 2011, 2013 & 2015: Sent our local minister on multiple trips to teach, preach, and encourage. In 2015, one of our deacons and another member traveled with him to experience the work.
- **2014:** Brought two Colombian ministers to Kettering to meet them personally as well as hear about their work.
- 2011-2015: Have assisted in many one time efforts by purchasing Bibles, supporting special evangelistic trips, and providing equipment for the work of the gospel.
- 2011-2015: Encouraged our members to get involved with and develop a personal connection to the work through prayer, private donations for financial needs, transportation needs, and communication through email/Skype.

OUR PLAN FOR THE COLOMBIAN WORK IN 2016:

- Add two-three men to the list of ministers we support.
- Bring Andrés Lopez (Bogota) to Kettering for six months of training in English and development of his preaching skills. It is our hope to have Andrés interpret for us our future endeavors inside Colombia.



• Send our local minister back to Colombia to follow up with those we assist in their work.

THOSE WE SUPPORT IN COLOMBIA



Jaime Restrepo lives in Manizales, Caldas. He travels extensively throughout Colombia preaching God's word. He also goes to neighboring countries in South America and has been instrumental in establishing many new congregations in the Lord. He has translated many English Bible study materials into Spanish. *The Kettering congregation has been supporting Bro. Restrepo since 1985.*



Carlos Julio Rameriz lives in Cali, Valle del Cauca. Besides his work with one of the churches in Cali, Brother Rameriz travels throughout western and southern Colombia working with various churches of Christ. He has helped establish congregations in Pasto, Buenaventura, Palmira, and Popayan. He began preaching full time in January 2013. The Kettering congregation has been supporting Bro. Rameriz since 2013.



Rafael Amaya lives in Ibagúe, Tolima. He has been preaching the gospel for 17 years. In 2005, he helped begin a new work in the neighborhood of Las Gaviotas in Ibagúe. Beginning with two families (6 individuals), the church currently numbers about 30 people. He also teaches twice a month in a village called God Wáter (Agua de Dios). There are about 12 people there. He also works with another congregation in Ibagúe. The Kettering congregation has been supporting Bro. Amaya since 2013.

THOSE WE SUPPORT IN COLOMBIA



Carlos Correa lives in Lorica, Cordoba. He has been preaching the gospel since 2005. Brother Correa works with five congregations in northern Colombia. Besides working with churches in Lorica, San Antero and Manantial, he has recently helped begin new congregations in San Jose de Palmito and Pueblo Nueva. *The Kettering congregation has been supporting Bro.* Correa since 2013.



Pedro Castro lives in Baranquilla, Alantico. He has been preaching the gospel since 2005. Besides his work in Baranquilla, he travels extensively throughout northern Colombia preaching the gospel. Some of the churches in that area are La Jagua de Ibirico, Cesar, Sahagún in Córdoba, El Banco, Magdalena, El Varal, Bolivar and Playitas, Bolivar. The Kettering congregation has been supporting Bro. Castro since 2013.



Wilson Valbuena lives in Villavicencio, Meta. He has been preaching the gospel since 2008. Besides his work in Villavicencio, Brother Valbuena also works with congregations in Acacias, Castilla La Nueva, and Fuente de Oro. Around 35 Christians make up the church in Villavicencio. The Kettering congregation has been supporting Bro. Valbuena since 2015.



Service Times:

Sunday:

9.30 am: Bible Classes (Age 18 mo-up)

10.45 am: Praise, Prayer, and Preaching

Tuesday:

10 am: Bible Class

Wednesday:

1 pm: Bible Class (Sept-May)

7.30 pm: Bible Class

Elders:

Russ Robins George Wacks

Rich Walker

Deacons:

Paul Braden

Jim Rutter

Jason Schofield

Dan Spargo

2016

Navigating the New Reality



Loving like, Sharing , Growing in, & Honoring Jesus

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Learn more about us at:

www.KETTERINGCHURCH.com

Minister:

Matthew Allen

Roy Pyle

Wes Grushon

Rich Jacobs

Jason Pratt