



## How's You're A.I.M.?

Last month this article dealt with which version of the bible should you be reading. This month I would like to address a slightly different question; *How* should we be reading our bibles? Now, at first this question might not make a lot of sense. “What do you mean how should we read the bible? You read it like you would any book, you just read it.” And normally this person would be right, except the Bible isn’t like just any other book. It is unique in all literature as the inspired word of God. It is the sole, or at least primary, authority on some very important topics such as; what should we believe about God, how should we live our lives, what is right and wrong, how should we love one another. The Bible is a living word (act of communication) from God to his people through his people. I think this book needs to be read differently than the sports page of the Sunday paper!

So what is it exactly that we are trying to do when we open up our bibles and read? If you believe what was said above, that the bible is an act of communication from God, then what you should be trying to do is discern the will of God. We want to hear the voice of God. But the very nature of the Bible effects how we must go about this. You see, God didn’t carve these words on a mountainside for us to discover, or drop a completed copy of it in someone’s lap 2,000 years ago. No, he inspired His people to communicate His message to us through a book, through the written word. When we read the bible we need to take into account that God is speaking to us, but he chose to do it through human words. Therefore, our goal is two-fold; first, to discern the will of God, and second, to discover the author’s intended meaning.

Let’s think about communication in general for a moment. There are three pieces of every communication. An author, the one communicating; a medium, a spoken word, smoke signals, Morse code, sign language, or in our case a written text; and a reader. If the goal is to understand the communication, the question is, who gets to determine the meaning? If my wife sends me to the store to get supplies for a 4<sup>th</sup> of July cookout and writes a list for me to get buns, patties, and condiments, but I come back with a loaf of bread and a bag of peppermint patties she’s going to be upset with me. Even though I thought myself clever for checking patties and mints off the list with one purchase she is going to say that isn’t what she meant. We don’t get to hear, read, or see a communication from a person and ascribe to it any meaning we want. We don’t get to determine the meaning or put a meaning into a text. This is called eisegesis (pronounced ice-a-Jesus), it means to put meaning into the text. This makes for really bad communication. We need to practice exegesis (taking meaning out of the text) and search for the meaning the author intended to convey. This is especially true when dealing with such an important document as the Bible. Our goal is to discover what the human author of the text was trying to convey to his readers. In bible college we called this the A.I.M. of bible study. Author’s Intended Meaning, A.I.M.

This is not separate from hearing God; this is *how* we hear God. God inspired the bible to be written by human authors. Therefore, when we understand their meaning we understand what God inspired. We can’t bypass the human author to get to the Divine author because that’s not the way God chose to convey the information to us. When we honor the way that God wrote the Bible we are more likely to correctly interpret its meaning. Our goal is to discern God’s voice by discovering the author’s intended meaning. Put simply, we listen to God by understanding the text.

“Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.” - 2 Tim. 2:7

In His Service,  
Ben

# July 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3  SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	4 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  <b>COOKOUT 7:00 PM</b>	5	6  CLASSES 6:30PM	7  WORSHIP MEETING 6:30PM	8	9
10 <b>GUEST SPEAKER</b>  SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	11	12  SERVICE & ACTION MEEING 2:00 PM	13  CLASSES 6:30PM	14	15	16
17 <b>ADMIN MEETING 12:30 PM</b>  SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	18	19	20  CLASSES 6:30PM	21	22	23
24  SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	25	26	27  CLASSES 6:30PM	28	29	30
31  SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM						

## Serving In July

July 03

**Meditation:** Doug Dalton  
**Servers:** Brenda Gibson, \*Iris Felix  
 John Signorelli, Rebecca Cullen  
**Greeters:** Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD  
**Nursery:** Claudia Joaquin, Jessica Buxton, Sarah Skiles  
**Lord's Supper Prep:** Brenda Risner  
**AV Booth:** Robert Crawford/PP & Sound  
**Children's Church:** Sarah Skiles

July 10

**Meditation:** Jim Jones  
**Servers:** Brenda Risner, Ruth Carson  
 Tara Coffman, \*Wanda Jones  
**Greeters:** Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD  
**Nursery:** Lindsie Sirmons, Meshell Pruitt  
**Lord's Supper Prep:** Brenda Risner  
**AV Booth:** Robert Crawford/PP & Sound  
**Children's Church:** Roma Weinkauff

July 17

**Meditation:** Randall Coffman  
**Servers:** Brenda Gibson, Iris Felix  
 \*John Signorelli, Rebecca Cullen  
**Greeters:** Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD  
**Nursery:** Christina Barnes, Sheena Zieman  
**Lord's Supper Prep:** Brenda Risner  
**AV Booth:** Robert Crawford/PP & Sound  
**Children's Church:** Nicole Stanfill

July 24

**Meditation:** Lloyd Colston  
**Servers:** Brenda Risner, Ruth Carson  
 Tara Coffman, \*Wanda Jones  
**Greeters:** Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD  
**Nursery:** Kristen Partin, Rebecca Cullen  
**Lord's Supper Prep:** Brenda Risner  
**AV Booth:** Robert Crawford/PP & Sound  
**Children's Church:** Christina Barnes

July 31

**Meditation:** Rick Weinkauff  
**Servers:** Brenda Risner, Ruth Carson  
 Tara Coffman, \*Wanda Jones  
**Greeters:** Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD  
**Nursery:** Brenda Gibson, Jane Clark  
**Lord's Supper Prep:** Brenda Risner  
**AV Booth:** Robert Crawford/PP & Sound  
**Children's Church:** Kristen Partin



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 "Today's a good day to eat hot dogs,  
 'cause that's what our fourth fathers  
 always ate."

## In Our Prayers

Kay Bolden - cancer  
 Bud Thompson - brain tumor/rehab  
 Glenda Brisco's brother - stroke  
 Marlene Johnson - degenerative nerve disease  
 Donna Peters - Health  
 Heidi Mund  
 Laurie Cullen -salvation/early onset Alzheimer's  
 Bob Coulter - Parkinson's  
 Shaun Cecil  
 Diana Williamson - cancer  
 Larry Allen - heart  
 Reba Stephens - health  
 Charlotte McPherson  
 Marcia Sharma - stomach cancer  
 Nita Walker - health  
 Andrea Matthews - heart problems  
 Tammie Crowder - infection  
 Sandy Farris - cancer  
 Herb Lacey - liver cancer  
 Linda Crandal - leukemia  
 Billie Vaughn - Jerry's cousin

Periodically the Prayer List will be updated. If we remove someone that you still want on the list, please let us know and we will be glad to put them back on.

*If you have a prayer need or know of any changes, please contact the church office.*

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

07/02 Billy Surles  
 07/05 Jim Jones  
 07/05 Dan & Elisabeth White  
 07/06 Randall Coffman  
 07/09 Jessica Buxton  
 07/15 Rachel White  
 07/15 Robert Crawford  
 07/16 Shawn Cullen  
 07/20 Bob & Jane Clark  
 07/23 Mark Morey  
 07/26 Lloyd & Judy Colston

### Sunday Services

Sunday School 9:30 am  
 Worship Service 10:30 am

### Wednesday Night

Classes for all ages 6:30 pm

### Secretary's Report

June 2016

Average Attendance	57
Average Visitors	5.5
Total Average Attendance	62.5
Total Offerings	\$9,136.00

### Your Elders

Phil Carson, Randall Coffman, Doug Dalton,  
 Gene Drechsler, Jerry Gibson, Jim Jones

### Your Deacons

Crystal Crawford, Rebecca Cullen, Brenda Gibson  
 Wanda Jones, Joe Price, Rick Weinkauff, Daniel White



**MONDAY, JULY 4TH**  
**7:00 PM**  
**BRING A SIDE DISH**  
**HAMBURGERS &**  
**HOTDOGS PROVIDED**

**GUEST SPEAKER - SUNDAY, JULY 10TH**

**JEFF DILTZ from DHS will be speaking about the foster care program. He will be focusing on helping children get backpacks and school supplies. Come see how you can make a difference in a child's life.**



**A kindergarten teacher was walking around observing her classroom of children while they were drawing pictures. As she got to one girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."**

**Without looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."**