

INTOUCH

December 26, 2010

Bible Reading Challenge 2011

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY – DECEMBER 26

Music rehearsals and evening prayer will not be held this evening.

MONDAY – DECEMBER 27

The office is closed

TUESDAY – DECEMBER 28

10 AM-3 PM Shortened office hours

WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 29

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "That's A Stretch" Fellowship Hall

10 AM-3 PM Shortened office hours

THURSDAY – DECEMBER 30

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "Cirque Du Soleil" Fellowship Hall

10 AM-3 PM Shortened office hours

FRIDAY – DECEMBER 31 *New Year's Eve*

10 AM-3 PM Shortened office hours

SATURDAY – JANUARY 1, 2011 *New Year's Day*

8:00 AM Young Adults Ministry departs on retreat to Durango, Colorado

Wishing You and Yours A Safe and Blessed New Year!

*May the LORD bless you, and keep you;
The LORD make His face shine on you,
and be gracious to you;
The LORD lift up His countenance on you,
and give you peace.*

Numbers 6:24-26

SUNDAY – JANUARY 2

Young Adults Ministry on Ski Retreat in Durango, Colorado

9:00 and 10:40 AM Prayer for Worship Services Prayer Room

9:00 and 10:40 AM MORNING WORSHIP Sanctuary

Dr. Tim Savage

WHY SHOULD I?

Part 2

"Why Should I Go to Church?"

Hebrews 10:23-25; Colossians 3:12-17

9:00 AM Nursery (birth – 23 months) 301-304

9:00 AM Children's Discipleship (24 mo – gr. 3) 101-103, 201, 203

9:00 AM Diakonia Adult Fellowship Class 209

9:00 AM Discovery I Family Room

10:40 AM Nursery (birth – 23 months) 301-304

10:40 AM Children's Church (24 mo. – gr. 3) 101-103, 201, 203

4:00 PM New song singers & Campanitas Bells 206, 207

5:00 PM Carol Choir & Bell Canto Bells 206,207

The focus of Psalm 119 is God's Word and as you read this psalm you get the strong sense that the psalmist loved God's Word. In verse 97 he shouts out, "Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day." Have you ever done that?

We may wonder why the psalmist so loved the Word. You don't have to read far in chapter 119 before you begin to see why it was so precious to Him. His reasons include:

- It makes us blessed of the Lord (vs. 1)
- It insures we will not be put to shame (vs. 6)
- It keeps us from sin (vs. 9,11,36)
- It is our counselor giving us great guidance (vs. 24,105,130,133)
- It strengthens us when we are grief stricken (vs. 28,50)
- It helps produce reverence for God (vs. 38,63)
- It provides for us the way of salvation (vs.41,155)
- It gives us an answer for those who reproach us (vs. 42)
- It gives us much comfort (vs. 52,76,92)
- It gives us wisdom, discernment and knowledge (vs. 66,98-100,104)
- It helps us stay on the right path (vs. 110)
- It keeps us single-minded (vs. 113)
- It gives us the only security for life (vs. 152,160)
- It offers great peace as it keeps us from stumbling (vs. 165)

Centuries later the Apostle Paul penned similar words to the young Timothy. In 2 Timothy 3:15-17 he writes, "...and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, *which are able to make you wise to salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.*" Paul found in the Scriptures a treasure of incomparable worth!

Since it is true that the Scriptures are such a value to us, why is it that they are so easy to neglect? William Wilberforce, member of the British Parliament in the last 18th and early 19th centuries who was instrumental in abolishing the slave trade in the British Empire admitted his neglect. He wrote on his birthday one year, "I fear that my devotions are too much hurried, that I do not read Scripture enough. I must grow in grace; I must love God more; I must feel the power of Divine things more. Whether I am more or less learned signifies not. Whether even I execute the work which I deem useful is comparatively unimportant. But beware my soul of lukewarmness." That same year, as his New Year began with Holy Communion he entered into new vows. He said, "I will press forward and labor to know God better and love Him more."

As our New Year is upon us, I want to encourage us all to make a similar vow. Take the Bible Reading challenge and commit to reading through the Bible this year. Use the M'Cheyne's Calendar or a calendar of your own. Avail yourself to the devotional guides offered in the service today. Connect with the blog where we share what we are learning (go to cbciblereading.blogspot.com). Do so in the hopes that you will, as Wilberforce put it, "grow in grace,...love God more,...feel the power of Divine things more".

I'll be praying that God does a great work in you and through you as you avail yourself to diligent reading and studying of His Word.

By His grace,

Pastor Ron

To God Be the Glory!

May our great God be glorified over and over again by all that He might choose to do through the Advent and Christmas season so richly celebrated here at Camelback Bible Church.

May He use every message that was preached, every Scripture that was read, every prayer that was prayed, every anthem that was heard, and every hymn and carol that was sung to reach into the lives of all of us, and the lives of all those who were with us.

The birth of our Savior changed the world forever!

May His birth in human hearts change them forever!

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES are extended to Mr. and Mrs. (Alycia Carlson) Abel Dragomir, joined in holy matrimony on December 18th, at the Romanian church of Abel's family. Pastor Savage officiated along with the Romanian pastor and the service was filled with the music of family and friends (both Abel and Alycia are musicians by training, education and profession). We join them in praising God for His goodness and thanking Him for their union. They and we look forward to their presence and participation in our church family.

TELEIOS WINTER/SPRING 2011 IS HERE! Registration is now open – and 19 fantastic classes are being offered. Please pick up a Teleios flyer, detailing all 19 classes beginning mid-January – either at the table on the patio, in the office or online at www.cbcaz.org/adult/teleios. We hope you'll take advantage of the great teaching offered here at CBC, season after season. The variety is wide and the purpose is to equip the saints (that's us!). Our growth in Christ enables us to minister more effectively – sharing Christ's love with each other and with our city.

To register:

- Stop by our Teleios Booth following either worship service hour. Sign up for the class that best suits you
- OR simply call the church office (602-955-6470), Monday-Friday, from 9:00 to 4:00 PM (10:00 AM to 3:00 PM the week after Christmas.)

DISCOVERY I will be held next Sunday, January 2nd, at 9:00 AM in the Family Room located off the north side of the sanctuary narthex. This once a month, single session provides an introduction to the strategic role of the local church, and thus the role of Camelback Bible Church in God's plan and purpose. All newcomers to CBC are invited and encouraged to come. And for those seeking to pursue membership, this is the first step in that pursuit.

SANCTUARY CHOIR WILL BE SEEKING NEW MEMBERS IN THE NEW YEAR...

After Christmas, the Sanctuary choir will begin preparing for a joint concert with the Southwestern College Chorale that requires a fairly large choir. Pastor Tom encourages members of our church family who have a background in singing, or who want to learn more about singing, to join the choir when rehearsals resume on January 5th. The music is tentatively scheduled to be Randall Thompson's "Peaceable Kingdom" and short work by Bach. If you have any questions, you may email Pastor Tom at tbookhout@camelbackbible.org.

A YOUNG ADULT SKI TRIP is planned for January 1-5! Come be a part of the annual winter ski retreat to beautiful Durango, Colorado. Pastor Bryce Morgan will be sharing. The cost is approximately \$250-\$300. Email Pastor James Hoxworth ASAP to reserve your spot – hoxworth@camelbackbible.org – Space is limited!

EXCEL WINTER RETREAT 2011 – ALL OUT WAR! January 14-17, Pine Summit Camp, Prescott AZ. The speaker will be Pastor Brent Klontz. Cost is \$135. The Bible says, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." In 2006, U.S. Navy Seal Michael Monsoor did just that, demonstrating that LOVE WINS in ALL OUT WAR. Come hear the details of this amazing story as we seek the ultimate source of this GREAT LOVE, Jesus Christ. Register online by January 2nd: www.cbcaz.org/excel. (Make a summer camp commitment NOW and save \$50 off Summer Camp 2011, June 19-24 – pay only \$275 instead of \$325.)

PRAYING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION Monthly Prayers for our Children

JANUARY: Lord, would you please increase this child's love for you and others as he/she advances in your knowledge, and may you grant that this child grows in discernment, always apt to choose your best. *Philippians 1:9-10a (NIV) And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best...."*

SYMPATHY is extended from the CBC family to Millie Frantz and her daughter, Suzanne Frantz, following the homegoing last Sunday (December 19th) of their beloved Milt, husband and father. Milt and Millie were long-time members of Camelback Bible Church and friends and mentors to many. Their absence has been felt these last couple of years as health issues and distance kept them away. Our love to Millie and, with her, we celebrate Milt's eternal presence with the Lord!

MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW to join your sisters for a relaxing and spiritually rejuvenating time at the "Heart Spa" – the 2011 Women's Retreat, coming up January 21-23 at Living Water Retreat Center in Cornville, Arizona. Tickets are on sale at the table on the patio and will continue each week until sold out. Be sure to invite your friends and get your tickets early as spaces are limited. The cost is \$125 and includes four meals and accommodations. New this year, gift certificates will be available for purchase. Financial assistance is also available. Please contact Tiffany Auger (602-748-8551 or tiffanyauger@cox.net) or Monica McQueen (602-432-5100 or monica@treschicaz.com) with questions or if you would like to contribute your time, talents or a partial or full scholarship.

OUR NEXT FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON will be held on Sunday, January 9th! Plan now to come to Fellowship Hall following the 2nd service to celebrate the New Year with your CBC family! Please plan to bring food – the Luncheon is a potluck! A salad, side dish, fruit or vegetable trays, or dessert are welcomed and needed.

S.A.I.N.T.S. ALIVE! (55+) will hold their next first-of-the-month coffee on January 8th, in deference to the first Saturday of the month falling on New Year's Day. Meeting at 10:30 in the Library (Room 205), this time of fellowship meets over a light brunch, typically with a CBC pastor, elder, staff member, or ministry leader.

ARIZONA CITYFEST (the sponsoring organization of the *Season of Service* community outreach in which we are currently participating and is leading up to this March event) is looking for a truck to use from January 1 through April 10, 2011. If you have a truck in good condition that is currently not being used we'd love your help. The truck will be used to distribute promotional materials for City Fest being held at Tempe Town Lake, March 19-20, 2011. We will gladly supply insurance and all maintenance costs for the vehicle for the duration. Please call 602-385-0772 or email chad.damewood@palau.org if you have any questions or are able to help.

DISCOVERY II, our next step in the membership process, will be held on four consecutive Sundays beginning on January 23rd and ending on February 13th. More details will be forthcoming, but any and all who have attended the *Discovery I* are eligible to attend. Plan now to come to this deeper look into the role of God's church!

NOTE DATE CHANGE FOR 2011 SPRING FLING! Originally scheduled for April 8-10, Spring Fling has been changed to March 4-6. Please change your calendars!

FAMILY CAMP 2011 OFFERS TWO OPTIONS THIS YEAR: Half Week, July 3-6; Full Week, July 3-9! Family camp is time well spent with your church family. Grow together in Christ, be refreshed by the Gospel, and be challenged to live out your faith. Please contact Pastor Jason to learn more, doughty@cbcaz.org.

CBC GIVING UPDATE

Financial Need to make budget by end of 4 th Quarter	\$902,488
Actual 4 th Quarter Giving To Date	\$435,527
Needed to make budget by end of 4 th Quarter	\$466,961
(Less Reduced Expenses)	(\$100,000)
Remaining Year-end Need	\$366,961
Last Week's Giving	\$42,934