REASONS TO READ THE BIBLE DAILY

The Lord blesses, encourages, convicts, and sustains us through His word. Like a delicious meal, we can talk about it, but the best way is to taste of it for yourself. Therefore, I encourage your first New Year's resolution to be to read through the Bible. Here is why!

It will make you wise for salvation - When Paul wrote to Timothy about his faith, he mentioned that Timothy had known the Scriptures from childhood and that they were, "Able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 3:15).

It will grow your relationship with God - Building fellowship with others takes time. If we want to grow a friendship with God, we need time in His presence for that relationship to flourish. Reading the Bible on a daily basis allows us the opportunity to get to know God: What does He care about? How does He respond? Who does He love?

It will help you fight temptation - The Bible offers stories about imperfect people: liars, adulterers, murderers, and idolaters. We are told that these stories were written for our benefit: "Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did" (1 Cor. 10:1-13). The Bible illuminates our propensity towards sin, as well as prepares us to fight it. Being in the word on a daily basis strengthens our minds; fortifying and preparing our hearts for the battle that will surely come our way.

It will provide revival, wisdom, and joy - In Psalm 19:7-11, God assures us that; "The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;" Revival, joy, and wisdom: these are the jewels we uncover as we mine the riches of God's word.

It will nourish your soul - Psalm 1 tells us the man who delights in the law of the Lord is like a "tree planted by streams of water, that yields its fruit in season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers." Reading the Bible keeps us connected to God, growing in our relationship with Jesus Christ, and cognizant of the working of the Holy Spirit.

It will provide comfort - The best way to prepare our hearts for trials is to fill our minds with the word of God. Many false assurances of happiness and ease are the result of misapplied promises born out of an insufficient understanding of God's word. Knowing God's promises, in the full context of His word, helps us to put our hope in God and find comfort for our souls in times of hardship and distress.

It will transform us to look like Christ - Time together helps us become like one another. In a similar way, time with Jesus makes us look like Jesus. The Bible is not simply a textbook to teach us facts about Jesus. It is living and active. We actually meet with Jesus as we spend time in His word.

Commit to reading through the bible. https://biblereadingplangenerator.com





Okatee Baptist Church exists as a family of baptized believers in Jesus Christ who are dedicated to prayer, evangelism, worship, ministry, missions and fellowship through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

> Rev. Woody Oliver / Pastor Dr. Tim Searcy / Associate Pastor December 29, 2024

THE LORD'S DAY

December 29, 2024

Call to Worship

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

Choir

Community Prayer / Welcome / Greeting

Pastor Woody

(Children Dismissed for Children's Church)

Worship in Song

"Revive Us Again"
"Another Year Is Dawning"

Hymn #493 Hymn #635

Special Music

"Everlasting Arms"

Praise Team

Message

Pastor Woody

"What Jesus Does With Failure"

(The birth of Redemption in action)
John 21:1-19

Response

"I Surrender All"

Hymn #433

Offertory Prayer and Benediction

WELCOME

Thank you for worshiping with us today. An offering plate is located on a table in the center aisle of the sanctuary for your convenience. Thank you for supporting our church with your Tithes & Offerings.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Church is provided in the Education Building for children K-4. Children will be dismissed after Family Prayer Time.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFER

Our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal to support international missionaries is \$25,000.00. We have received \$15,724.00 to date. We are \$9,276.00 short of our goal. Would you pray for God to make up the difference in the next few weeks. The national goal is 205 million for 2024.

OKATEE BAPTIST CHURCH, 5467 N. OKATIE HWY., RIDGELAND, SC 29936 843-987-0885 www.okateebaptist.com

ATTENDANCE

Worship Service / 102 Stunday Evening / 37 C

Sunday School / 61 Christmas Eve / 71 and 39

OUR PEOPLE GAVE

Weekly Budget: \$ 8,012.31 Budget Offering: \$ 5,056.00 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering: \$ 15,724.00

WEEK OF DECEMBER 29TH - JANUARY 5TH

Sun 12/29 No Evening Service

Tues 12/31 11:30 am Morning Prayer Gathering

3-7pm New Year's Eve Scripture Reading in Sanctuary

Wed 1/1 Happy New Year

Sun 1/5 9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Worship Service 6:00pm Evening Service

NEW YEAR'S EVE BIBLE READING Tuesday, December 31st / 3-7pm

Beginning at 3pm, we will start reading the Bible and not stop until 7pm. Would you be willing to read for 15 minutes in the sanctuary as we honor God's Word and His promises as we journey into the New Year? Two slots (5:45 and 6:45) are available. See Pastor Woody.

THE BLOOD CONNECTION AT OBC Monday, January 27th / 9am - Noon

Please note the date change for The Blood Connection to be at Okatee Baptist Church. The sign up form is in the Education Building.

Website: Okateebaptist.com; Youtube.com@okateebaptistchurch; Facebook.com: Okatee Baptist Church