

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.

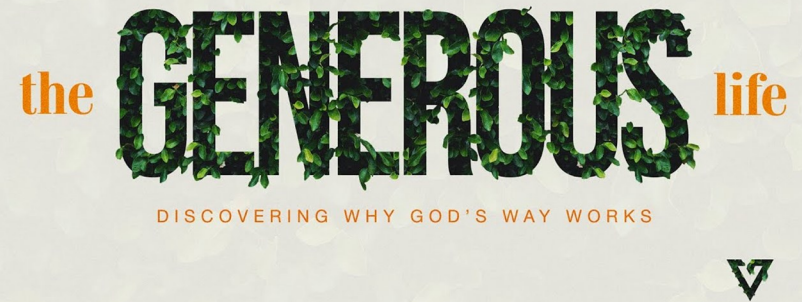
It will provide comfort - The best way to prepare our hearts for trials is to fill our minds with the word of God. Many false assurances of happiness and ease are the result of misapplied promises born out of an insufficient understanding of God's word. Knowing God's promises, in the full context of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



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

January 5, 2024

THE LORD'S DAY

January 5, 2024

Worship in Song
"Victory in Jesus" Hymn # 499

Greeting

Worship in Song
"Victory in Jesus" Hymn #499
"He Keeps Me Singing" Hymn #148

Scripture Reading and Prayer (Mark 5:21-34) Dr. T

Worship in Song
"Open My Eyes" Hymn #443
"O How He Loves You and Me" Hymn #170

Mission Moment Janet Phillips

Message Pastor Woody
"The Generous Life: Awareness"
Mark 5:21-34

Response
"Only Believe" Hymn #512

Announcements
Offertory Prayer and Benediction

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping 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.

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

ATTENDANCE

Worship Service / 71 Sunday School / 43

Sunday Evening / No Service

OUR PEOPLE GAVE

Weekly Budget: \$ 8,012.31 Budget Offering: \$ 4,016.00

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering: Total \$18,197.00

WEEK OF JANUARY 5TH - JANUARY 12TH

Sun 1/5 6:00pm Evening Service - Christian World View:
"What is True"

Tues 1/7 11:30am Morning Prayer Gathering
6:00pm GriefShare

Wed 1/8 5:30pm Prayer Gathering
6:00pm Bible Study - Deep Dive Discipleship
6:00pm Praise Team
7:00pm Choir

Sun 1/12 9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
6:00pm Evening Service: Christian World View:
"What is of Value"

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFER

Our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal to support international missionaries is \$25,000.00. We have received \$18,197.00 to date. We are \$ 6,803.00 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.

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](https://www.youtube.com/@okateebaptistchurch);
Facebook.com: [Okatee Baptist Church](https://www.facebook.com/OkateeBaptistChurch)