

God's Merciful Provision

by Landon Jostes

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 complete, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

As the first question of the WSC gives us the purpose for which we have been made, the second question gives us the rule for how we may attain that purpose. This connection between these two questions understands the fact that we are poor and blind creatures (Rev 3:17). We are lost in our ways and know neither how to glorify God nor how to find enjoyment in him. God understands this better than anyone and in his merciful provision he has given us the Scriptures to make us "wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (2 Tim 3:15).

In 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Paul is teaching us the source of Scripture. All Scripture, both the Old and New Testaments, is through the inspiration – the breathing out – of the Spirit through chosen men (2 Pet 1:21). The Bible is a book by God, about God, so that we may know God. The Bible is also God's useful means to instruct us in all things related to life and godliness, to convince us when we error in faith and practice, to reform our manner of life, and to show us how to live a holy and righteous life before God. Those who fear God and meditate upon the Scriptures day and night will be "complete, equipped for every good work."

Therefore, read the Scriptures *prayerfully*.¹ Reading the Bible without prayer is like driving a car without wheels. You may be able to turn the car on, enjoy the cold air, listen to music, and see the road, but your destination will never grow nearer. Pray for the illuminating power of the Spirit to arrest your conscience and inscribe God's living and active word upon your heart so that you may walk humbly with your God and be received into the gates of Paradise with those precious words from Jesus: "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

Read the Scriptures *reverently*. From Genesis to Revelation, God speaks to you through the Scriptures. As Thomas Witherow (1824-1890) remarked, "The seal of eternity is stamped on every verse of the Bible." Receive every word spoken in the Bible as the very word of God.

Read the Scriptures *regularly*. Nothing will profit your soul more than regularly dwelling with your God in his word. J.C. Ryle exhorted his readers, "Get your mind stored with Scripture, by diligent reading, and you will soon discover its value and power." Whether in moments of temptation, joy, discouragement, or thanksgiving, the word of God has value and power to teach you how to glorify and enjoy God forever.

WSC Q. 2, What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?

A. The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him.

¹ The application points for reading the Scriptures prayerfully, reverently, and regularly are found in J.C. Ryle's book *Thoughts for Young Men*.

October 2025

Sundays Weekly:

Prayer Meeting- 8:00
Sunday School- 9:00
AM Worship- 10:15
PM Worship- 5:30

Highlights in November:

- Church Picnic- 11/2
- Soccer Pick Up Game- 11/28
- Veterans Day Picnic

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Women's Bible Study- 9:30-11AM NextGen Meeting- 5:30-7PM	2 Carpenter's Apprentices- 6-7AM Kids Art Day- 10AM-1PM	3 Food Ministry- 9AM	4 Prayer Meeting- 9-10AM
5	6	7 Ladies Bible Study- 9:30-10:45AM Women's Bible Study- 6-7:30PM	8 Women's Bible Study- 9:30-11AM NextGen Meeting- 5:30-7PM	9 Carpenter's Apprentices- 6-7AM	10 Food Ministry- 9AM	11 Prayer Meeting- 9-10AM
12 Lord's Supper- AM	13 COLUMBUS DAY	14 Ladies Bible Study- 9:30-10:45AM Presbytery Meeting Diaconate Meeting 6:30PM	15 Women's Bible Study- 9:30-11AM NextGen Meeting- 5:30-7PM	16 Carpenter's Apprentices- 6-7AM	17 Food Ministry- 9AM	18 Prayer Meeting- 9-10AM
19	20	21 Ladies Bible Study- 9:30-10:45AM Session Meeting 5:30PM Women's Bible Study- 6-7:30PM	22 Women's Bible Study- 9:30-11AM NextGen Meeting- 5:30-7PM	23 Carpenter's Apprentices- 6-7AM	24 Food Ministry- 9AM	25 Prayer Meeting- 9-10AM FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL- 4:30-7:00PM
26 Lord's Supper- PM	27 Missions Meeting- 5:30-7PM	28 Ladies Bible Study- 9:30-10:45AM	29 Women's Bible Study- 9:30-11AM NextGen Meeting- 5:30-7PM	30 Carpenter's Apprentices- 6-7AM	31 Food Ministry- 9AM	REMINDER: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Sunday, November 2

Key: BLUE- Church Wide Events | PURPLE- Bible Studies | ORANGE- NextGen | GREEN- Children's Events | BROWN- Food Ministry | RED- Meetings | BLACK- Holidays

Quarterly Communion Offering: Emerald Coast Food Rescue (formerly Destin Harvest)

Missionary Highlight:



Presbyterian & Reformed Chaplain Corp John and Lu Elliot

Presbyterian and Reformed Chaplain Corp (PRCC)

Contact Info: www.prcc.co

The PRCC invites us to pray that their ministry would Care for – Cover – Counsel/Mentor – and Connect their Chaplains and churches in the work they're doing. Pray for military Chaplains as they minister in difficult environments, serving many who don't know Christ. Pray for civilian Chaplains as they serve in prisons, hospitals, and nursing homes. Pray that God would protect Chaplain families, especially during times of deployment. The PRCC has a more in-depth prayer guide you can find on their website.

John and Lu Elliot, IXO Nicoya, Costa Rica

Contact Info: elliott.john@yahoo.com

John and Lu Elliot are new missionaries that the Missions Ministry Team gave a one-time donation to and pledged to be prayer partners with as they begin church planting in Costa Rica. They ask for prayer for heart preparations as they settle in Costa Rica and begin language training. Pray also that the hearts of the locals will be ready to receive them. Pray for leaders to be raised up, effective discipleship, fruitfulness in evangelism, and that flourishing churches and a presbytery can be established in Costa Rica.

How can I support Missions?

PRAY for our Missionaries | **GIVE** to Missions | **GO** on a Missions Trip | **JOIN** the Missions Team

Local:

- Good News Jail & Prison Ministry, Chaplain Shane Hardesty

National:

- Presbyterian and Reformed Chaplain Corp (PRCC)
- Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at UF, Pastor Steve Lammers
- Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at FSU, Pastor Kelly Jackson

International:

- Middle East Reformed Fellowship, Pastor Victor Atallah
- Brenda Carter, MTW San Yi, Taiwan
- Chris and Savanna, MTW (sensitive)
- Franklin and Beth Beaver, MTW Worldwide
- David and Jill Martin, MTW Odessa, Ukraine / Brasov, Romania
- Ang Bahay Parola (The Lighthouse) Children's Home, MTW Manila, Philippines
- Evangelical Reformed Seminary of Kyiv, Ukraine
- Perry and Betty, MTW (sensitive)
- Robert and Lisa Stewart, MTW Nagoya, Japan
- Verne and Alina Marshall, MTW Santiago, Chile
- John and Lu Elliot, IXO Nicoya, Costa Rica