

Rev. Brian Episcopo

I've talked with a lot of people lately who measure their entire spiritual health on one variable: how often and how long they read the Bible. Certainly, God's Word is the source of His activity. He spoke creation into existence (Gen. 1), for one. Jesus is essentially God's Word "with skin on," as He is called "The Word" (John 1). And of course, every bit of rationale for this very devotional comes from God's Word as my source.

So yes, God's Word is essential. However, the people who knew the Old Testament the best were the same people who killed Jesus. The Bible is "living and active" (Heb. 4:12) and meant to be lived out in our lives. Jesus even said all of Scripture hangs on two commandments: love God and love your neighbor (Matt. 22). He insisted, "You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!" (John 5:39). The Scriptures themselves demand we ask ourselves, "WHY am I reading the Bible?" Apparently, that is an equally important question to how long and how often. Don't forget to ask it.

NOTES

JAMES 5 HEALING SERVICE

Today, Jan. 21 | During all services

During the worship service, the congregation is offered an opportunity to pray with the elders about health, relationship, job, and other concerns.

Meet by the fireplace in the Hub at any time.

ADULTS

Israel Trip 2018 Informational Meeting

Monday, Feb. 5 | 6:00 p.m. No cost or registration

Join Dr. Dennis Episcopo, his wife Judy, and special guests, David and Jenny Wraight, on a tour of the Holy Land next Oct. 15-25, 2018. Stop by the Welcome Center for a flyer or come to an informational meeting on Monday, Feb. 5 at 6:00 p.m.

Men's Frat

Begins Jan. 22 | Cost: \$20 Monday nights or Wednesday mornings

The Bible is a big book. Authors Kyle Idleman and Deron Spoo take us through the Bible in their book, *The Good Book* (Participant's Guide). Visit **aacmen.org** for more info or to register.

Women's Inspired Readers

Third Monday of the month Fireside (The Hub) | 6:30-8:00 p.m.

When it comes to touching hearts, few things do it as well as a story. Invite a friend and join other readers to discuss inspirational fiction. Visit **aacwomen.org** for a list of books or more information.

CHILDREN

Child Dedication Parent Meeting

Monday, Jan. 29 | 6:00-7:00 p.m. Register at **aachur.ch/cpdm12918**

Learn the biblical purpose behind child dedication, and why it is different from infant baptism. Parents who wish to dedicate their child(ren) must attend this class once.

WORSHIP ARTS Night of Worship

Sunday, Feb. 11 | 6:00 p.m. No cost or registration

Come together and worship with likeminded Christians for no other reason than to worship our Creator God! God will be glorified, your spirits will be lifted, and your soul refreshed.

XCEL SPORTS Co-ed Volleyball League

Mondays, Feb. 5-March 26 | 6-9 p.m. Adults 18+ (Post-high school) Cost: \$35 for Xcel members and \$55 for non-members.

Men's Basketball League

Thursdays, Feb. 8-April 5 | 6-9 p.m. Men 18+ (Post-high school)
Cost: \$35 for Xcel members and \$55 for non-members

All skill levels are welcome for both leagues. This is a great opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors to participate at Xcel. Register before Jan. 24. More information is available at xcelsports.org

WELCOME We're glad you're here!

Stop by the Welcome Center in the Hub. We have a gift for you and would love to connect with you. Find out what's happening at AAC at appletonalliance.org

APPLETON ALLIANCE CHURCH — Connecting People with God and One Another

920-968-0700 | 2693 W Grand Chute Blvd, Appleton WI | appletonalliance.org

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Sunday Services: 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.