

### Elders:

John Deffenbaugh  
Wayne Douthitt  
Glen Honeycutt  
Rick Hyder  
Bill Reiboldt

### Deacons:

Pete Babb  
Carl Cobb  
Alan Cook  
Barry Flint  
Casey Flint  
Josh King  
Mike Kidwell  
Tim Murray  
Bryan Reiboldt  
Jim Scott  
Peter Wald  
Don Watson, Jr.

### Local Evangelists:

Danny Boggs  
Salvador Sanchez  
Luke Yates

### Worship Assemblies

10 a.m. Sunday  
6 p.m. Sunday

### Bible Classes

9 a.m. Sunday  
7 p.m. Wednesday

### Phone

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## Know Your Old Testament!

Question – What is the most difficult New Testament book for you to understand? Think about that for a second and then think about which two books are the next hardest to understand. Is the book of Revelation one of them? I guarantee that for most of you this symbolic book is one of those three. In fact, I would venture to say that if we took an actual survey amongst all of those reading this article, the three most challenging New Testament books for us to really know are the books of Revelation, Hebrews, and Romans (in no particular order). Sound close to your list?

When talking about the apostle Paul's writings, Peter told his recipients, "And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. *There are some things in them that are hard to understand*, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures" (II Peter 3:15-16, ESV). Peter told the saints that Paul wrote about some difficult things to grasp. Also, notice that the *unlearned* and *unstable* are the ones who twist these words. What does that mean for us? We need to be learned and stable men and women! Although surely some writings in the Bible are very *challenging* to comprehend, that does not mean that these writings are *impossible* to comprehend. And that brings us to something very interesting concerning one of the three books mentioned above – the book of Romans.

Did you know that the book of Romans contains the most word-for-word quotations of Old Testament passages? In fact, the book contains around 63 Old Testament verses! Time and time again we see the letter to the Roman Christians use phrases like "For the Scripture says" (Romans 9:17; 10:11) or "As it is written" (Romans 3:10;

8:36) to refer to those inspired writings of old. Because of the dense use of the Old Testament throughout the book of Romans (especially chapters 3-4 and 9-10), I surmise that most people do not understand this wonderful epistle (and others) because they do not know their Old Testament like they should! For example, how many times do we hear people say that Christians are no longer under any kind of law, while using Romans 6:14 or Romans 7:4-6 as their proof-texts? If they understood what specific law this speaks about – the Law of Moses (Romans 2:17-18; 3:9-20; 7:7) – they would clearly see the truth that Christians are under law today (cf. Romans 3:27; 4:15; Galatians 6:2). In addition, the Jews in the Roman churches seemingly had a problem in their knowledge of the Old Testament. Some were having struggles accepting the Gentiles as God's people (Romans 3:27-30), but Paul reminds them of four different verses in the Old Testament from four different books that speak about salvation being offered to the Gentiles (Romans 15:9-12). The Jews should have known this!

Brothers and sisters, for our sake and for the sake of others, we need to know our Old Testament. Without the knowledge of God's law in the past, we are hindered from fully understanding God's law for today (cf. Romans 15:4; I Corinthians 10:6, 11; Hebrews 10:1). The books of Romans, Hebrews, Revelation, and others, require that we have knowledge of the Old Testament in order to appreciate and understand them more completely. May we strive to study and know the Old Testament!

*Luke Yates*



Kay Anderson, Mindy Bartley, Frank Carrothers, Glenda Daniels, Lorie Dilworth, Retha Dunn, Wilma Fair, Jerry Faules, Louise Faules, Memphis Ferguson, Leon Fiscus, Joe Freund, Teresa Freund, Gunner Gonzales, Faye Haight, Betty Hill, Wilba Hopkins, David Irvin, Larry Jones, Mike Kidwell, Brenda Kimbrough, Cecile Kimbrough, Wilma Knoll, Eunice Lewis, Pearl McCleary, Brownie McNeely, Phyllis Middleton, Meghan Newsom, Price Naramore, Cindy Patton, Mary Pearson, Michael Richmond, Marcia Robertson, Harriet Shipman, Gordon Stanton, Glenn Strickland, Nadine Stipp, Jeanette Tomlin, Bobbie Tuggle, Andrea Wald, Don Watson, and Treva Wolgamott.

**Rejoice!** Peggie Lyn Pendergraft was baptized into Christ last Wednesday. Peggie Lyn's address is: 105 North Valley, Neosho, MO 64850.

Thanks to recent opportunities to help people in need, **we need to restock some items in the pantry.** Please bring boxed macaroni and cheese, bottled juice, pancake syrup, and canned or dried milk.

**The Ladies' Fall Retreat** will be November 1-2 in Rogers, AR. If you would like to help plan this event, please meet at Heather Reiboldt's house on Thursday, August 29 at 6:30.

**We are going to RUSH at Freed-Hardeman University** this year from September 13-15th! RUSH is a time where 1,500 youth gather together for lessons, worship, classes, and various activities. This year's theme is "Lover of the Light." RUSH is available for those who are currently in grades 7-12. Please let Luke know by September if you plan to go.



**This Sunday's Sermons:**

- A.M. *Since God Is Invisible...*  
(Danny Boggs)
- P.M. *God's Holy Name*  
(Danny Boggs)

**College students and singles** are invited to free dinner in the fellowship room every Wednesday night at 6:00. Ladies, if you would like to help provide food once a month, contact Kristie Deffenbaugh.

**Several of our adult Bible classes will begin new studies this Sunday and next Wednesday.** If you haven't been participating in Bible classes, now is a good time to join in, build your faith, and enjoy the fellowship of fellow Christians discussing God's Word together. A number of our adult classes focus on the spiritual needs of specific age groups, but everyone is welcome in all the classes.

**Sunday Mornings**

- Auditorium: *The Gospel of Matthew* (Wayne Douthitt)
- Senior Ladies: *The Gospel of Matthew* (Karen Honeycutt)
- 20s & 30s: *Baptism 101* (Pete Babb & Danny Boggs)
- 40s-60s: *The Bible* (John Deffenbaugh & Glen Honeycutt)

**Wednesday Nights:**

- Auditorium: *The Bible* (Rick Hyder & Josh King)
- College: *Parable of Jesus* (Luke Yates)
- Parents: *Raising Faithful Children* (Danny Boggs)
- General Adults: *The Book of James* (Troy Risley)

**Thursday Mornings:**

Ladies: *Out of the Shadows* (Danny Boggs). Please pick up a book at the ladies' corner if you want to participate. Class will begin at 10:00 September 5.

**Mens' Breakfast:** All men are invited to eat breakfast at Braum's on Thursday, September 5 at 7 a.m.

**REACH OUT! Ministry:**

If you are involved in the REACH OUT! Ministry or would like to be, please meet in the fellowship room after evening services on Sunday, September 8. We will have finger foods and a meeting to follow.

**Fall Festival:** If you would like to help plan our booth at the Neosho Fall Festival, meet in the fellowship room after services this Sunday night.

Put the music back in marriage  
or  
learn how to keep it there

**Hillcrest CHURCH of CHRIST**

invites you to a weekend seminar:  
*You're Singing My Song*

With  
**Glenn & Cindy Colley**  
-co-authors of the book,  
"You're Singing My Song"

**September 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>**

ASSIGNMENTS	
<b>Prayers Sunday, September 1</b>	<b>Scripture Reading Sunday, September 1</b>
•AM Opening: Dale Privett	• John 17:1-5, Dee Epperson
•AM Closing: Charles Phillips	<b>Prayers Wednesday, September 4</b>
•PM Opening: Troy Risley	•Opening: Pete Babb
•PM Closing: Peter Wald	•Closing: Michael Richmond

RECORDS	08-25-13	08-26-12
Bible Study	154	146
AM Worship	200	189
AM Spanish	7	9
PM Worship	130	140
PM Spanish	9	9
Wednesday	134	139
Contribution	\$8,129.86	\$5,190.84
Budget	\$5,475.75	\$5,220.46