

Strength Illustrated

Men's Ministry News
Issue 1

Do you know
how to
KNOW God?

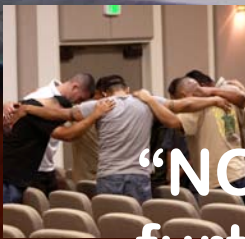
"This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent" (John 17:3).

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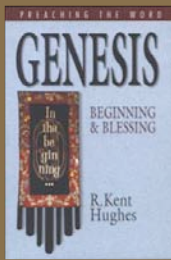
Back in the swing of things!



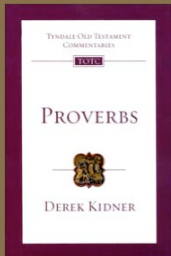
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Resources

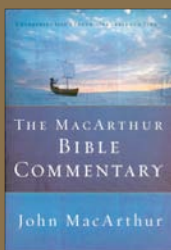
For the upcoming Men's Study, we have listed a few resources to help you gain further insight to the word of God.



R. Kent Hughes, respected pastor and author, takes readers back to the beginning of the Bible and moves through Genesis with careful exegesis. He explores the superbly crafted structure of the book as well as the weighty themes it contains. Hughes covers the main topics of each of the chapters, and gives insight on how we can apply those principles found throughout Genesis.



This commentary on the book of Proverbs is designed to help the reader understand what the text says and what it means. The *Introduction* gives a concise but thorough treatment of its authorship, date, original setting and purpose. Following a structural *Analysis*, the *Commentary* takes the book section by section, drawing out its main themes, and also comments on individual verses and problems of interpretation. *Additional Notes* provide fuller discussion of particular difficulties.



Noted biblical scholar John MacArthur brings you a complete Bible commentary in one volume. *The MacArthur Bible Commentary* treats every passage of the Old and New Testaments phrase by phrase, with hundreds of word studies as sidebars throughout. It offers a broad overview of each Bible book and the internal consistency that results from having a single commentator. This commentary also includes a general introduction to each major division of the Bible, a short introduction covering the author, date, time and setting for each book of the Bible. Each introduction also includes discussion of God's character, how Christ is seen, key doctrines, key words, key people, and key Scripture passages that represent the theme core of each book of the Bible.

New Beginnings!

The World Series is around the corner, football season has just begun and pre-season basketball is just starting...it's time! Time to lay aside the cares and concerns of this world and prepare ourselves for the 2009-2010 Men's Bible Study.

The Men's Ministry at Calvary Chapel Chino Valley would like to encourage you to prepare your hearts for the battle. As the new study season begins, it seems that every excuse in the world comes to mind - why you shouldn't be in a group or why you should drop out. Resist the temptation to give in. 1 Peter 5:8 says, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." He doesn't want us in a group studying God's word, praying with other men, gaining lifelong friendships, conquering sin in our lives and becoming the men of God that we are called to be. He doesn't want us to be the husband that our wives deserve or the dad that our kids can look up to or the spiritual leader of our homes.

Ephesians 6:10-14 says, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day."

So let's put on the armor of God and ready ourselves for the battle. Commit yourselves to the Lord and to your group. Know that God has placed each one of us together for a purpose. Ask yourself why and allow God to show you. Each man in every group is a part of the body of Christ and brings something of value to that group.

What to expect: meet weekly to study the word of God, review study as a group, worship, pray together and serve God together as a group.

Opportunities to serve: Praying during service as a group for Pastor Dave, the service, and everything happening here on campus. Serving at the quarterly Men's Breakfast and the annual Calvary Chapel Chino Valley Men's Conference. Ministering to the single moms and their children at the quarterly Single Moms Oil Change. Some groups will go on mission trips to Mexico and many other wonderful and life changing opportunities to serve the body of Christ.

About This Newsletter

Our desire for the Men's Newsletter is to inform and minister to you by the articles and information we provide. We desire that through this newsletter you would draw closer to the Lord, that your heart would be tugged on and that you would be strengthened in the Lord.

The name "Strength Illustrated" comes from Joshua 1:9 which states, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage, do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go". Joshua encourages you to be "Strong" for God is with YOU!

The Newsletter is designed for ALL the men in our fellowship, whether you are in a small group or any other ministry. Our prayer is that you would enjoy and be filled through this ministry.

If you are interested in submitting an article or would like to be involved in the Newsletter Committee, please contact us at ccvmensministry@gmail.com





As I thumbed through the bulletin during Sunday night service the Night of prayer (NOP) popped out at me. Then on cue my wife nudges me "are you going to NOP tomorrow night?" Trying to appease her I quickly replied yes with a nod, not putting much thought to my response. Come Monday, I got busy at work. I even got a call about some side work; NOP was the furthest thing from my mind. I tried to justify

why I was not going; I pray in my own way and beside the Gideon's groups have not even started. I had all the right excuses, I worked all day, and I even found extra work to provide for my family—besides the Lord understands.

Just when I was feeling good deceiving myself and thinking life was good, I received a call from a brother that had been out of work asking if I would be at the NOP. In our phone conversation I could sense him crying out for help and prayer. As I tried to think of an excuse, the Sunday night service teaching called out to me. I tried to tune it out, yet I could plainly hear Pastor David Trujillo's statement from God's word, "if a man knows to do good and yet does not do it, it is sin." I knew I needed and wanted to be at church. As I raced down the street trying to get to church, I pondered on the great things the Lord has done in my life.

I arrived a little bit after worship started, joined in, but my mind started wandering even though I tried to focus. Sadness quickly came over me as I only saw 50 men of 3000+ men that attend this church there for prayer. Questions rushed through my mind. I was determined to find some answers. Therefore, I set my mind to seek out one of the overseers (Geoffrey Sears). Meanwhile, as I sat there listening, Marco Miranda shared a devotion which included verses from 2 Peter 3:9, Acts 7:57-60, Acts 9:1-19, and Luke 22:39-46. Even more questions filled my mind. Would I be able to be like Steven in Acts 7:60 which states, "Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep."?

Then as we were directed to go in groups of 4 to 5 men to pray and prayers started, my heart broke as I heard the men crying out to the Lord for broken marriages, prodigal children, forgiveness, and lost jobs. I tried to hold back the tears as we tried to mask our iniquities. All I could do was wonder what would happen if we did what the Lord commanded us in 2 Chronicles "if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." That was and is my prayer as I cried out to the Lord, that we would be men that would truly humble ourselves and seek His face and would turn from our wicked ways.

At the conclusion of the night, I caught up with Geoff Sears. I let him know I had the following questions to ask him:

1. What is the Night of Prayer (NOP)

Geoff - It is a night that is set apart for the men to come together to seek God's face, for direction, mercy and grace as one body to make intercession for body of Christ.

2. Why is Night of Prayer (NOP) important

Geoff - There are various types of prayer; individual, petition, intercessory and group prayer. All prayer has its importance, as Paul said "I desire that all men pray everywhere lifting up holy hands." It is important that we the men worship the Lord in prayer calling upon him with one another, showing our love and trust for our heavenly Father and that we are one body united together.

3. If prayer is important, why are so few men attending NOP

Geoff - Many men have a lack of understanding of who they are in Christ and how important prayer is in their lives. It has been said "your spiritual life will never rise above your prayer life". Satan knows this; he also knows he cannot keep God from answering prayers, so he keeps you from asking and seeking God. We are in spiritual warfare and the battle is won through prayer, so the enemy uses ploys to keep the men praying. Unfortunately, I don't believe many men care about making intercession on behalf of their brothers.

4. Given the opportunity to encourage men to attend NOP, what would you say to them?

Geoff - I would say to my brothers, "Come and see that the Lord is good, come and cry out to the Lord - He's ready to hear, come see that you have brother's who love you and want to pray for you. Come that you might rejoice in the Lord and apply Phil 4:6-7 that you may have peace and join your brothers in the battle".

5. How about those men who are embarrassed or say they don't know how to pray.

Geoff - I would tell them the Lord was not embarrassed when He came on our behalf and prayed for us; neither should we be embarrassed. First, we should allow humility to take the place of embarrassment and secondly, if you feel you don't know how to pray, all you have to do is, start thanking God for what He has done for you. In that moment you will experience prayer.

6. Is NOP just for the men in the small groups?

Geoff - No, it is open to all men in the fellowship. If you are a man, you are encouraged to join us on the Night of Prayer (NOP). See CCCV weekly bulletin for the next scheduled NOP.

As I drove away, I reflected in amazement as I realized the Lord's grace and mercy toward His people and the affect it has had in my life. Although, not many of us were there, I knew the only one that mattered was there. Our Lord Jesus was there, attentive to our prayers and making intercession for us to the Father. Thank you Lord for Your faithfulness.

Postings

CCCV is currently in need of the following electronic equipment:

- Projectors
- Digital Cameras
- Video Cameras
- Computers
- Laptops
- Televisions
- DVD Players
- DVD Recorders
- Pro Audio Gear
- Guitars
- Amplifiers

If you would like to contribute any of the items listed, please contact us, via email or text:

Email: contribute@calvaryccv.org
Text: 909.270.0592

Please list the items you have available; once we confirm the item will fill the need, we will respond with a confirmation and our most current options of a drop-off location. Thanks & God Bless.

Keep in prayer:

- Men's Small Group Study
- Missions Philippines Trip 10/17-10/30
- Men would be committed to study as they begin a new year
- Anaheim Men's Conference 10/24
- Women's Conference 10/17
- Men's Breakfast 11/14
- Week of Prayer and Fasting 11/29-12/3

"Ironworkers" - With the help of our Lord, the Men's Ministry at CCCV is starting a new work this 2009-2010 year. **Ironworkers** is a small group Bible study for men between the ages of 18-35. So many men in this age range face difficult decisions regarding the early stages of adulthood and beyond. Men at times feel as a wave of the sea blown and tossed by the wind. At times we may face a challenging circumstance, such as settling into a career, figuring out how to mature in the Lord, building a lasting marriage, or starting a Christ centered family. For this reason, Ironworkers was created. Proverbs 27:17 says, "Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend." (KJV). As this scripture indicates, companionship and fellowship with like-minded men along with the Truth of God's Word is the perfect remedy to help you face those difficult decisions in your life. Take a step of faith and come learn from God's Word how you can "sharpen" a brother in Christ, or allow yourself to be "sharpened".

This year we will study the Book of Proverbs, and uncover some amazing truths relating to the wisdom of King Solomon. Some of the topics we will delve into are: parenting and raising children, personal purity, being a wise worker in your workplace, building character and integrity, finances/stewardship, spiritual leadership, and marriage. Therefore, come join us and help strengthen, encourage, and sharpen your brothers in Christ as we learn of the Lord's wisdom. "Do you want more and more of God's kindness and peace? Then learn to know him better and better. For as you know Him better, He will give, through His great power, everything you need for living a truly good life: He even shares His own glory and goodness with us!" (2 Peter: 1; 2-4, Living Bible).

Things to know: we meet once a week for our study in Proverbs, prayer, and a time of worship. Also, by being a part of Ironworkers, you will have many opportunities to serve the body of Christ at CCCV through various Men's Ministry events. This is a great way to apply what you learned from your weekly study and discover the gifts and talents you can use for God's Glory.....Join Us, In Jesus' Name!

Devotion- Knowing God

What were we made for? To know God.
What aim should we set ourselves in life? To know God.

What is the "eternal life" that Jesus gives? Knowledge of God. "This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent" (John 17:3).

What is the best thing in life, bringing more joy, delight and contentment than anything else? Knowledge of God. "This is what the Lord says: 'Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me'" (Jeremiah 9:23-24).

What, of all the states God ever sees man in, gives God most pleasure? Knowledge of himself. "For I desired...the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings," says God (Hosea 6:6).

In these few sentences we have said a very great deal. Our point is one to which every Christian heart will warm. What we have said provides at once a foundation, shape and goal for our lives, plus a principle of priorities and a scale of values.

Once you become aware that the main business that you are here for is to know God, most of life's problems fall into place of their own accord...

What makes life worthwhile is having a big enough objective, something which catches our imagination and lays hold of our allegiance; and this the Christian has in a way that no other person has. For what higher, more exalted, and more compelling goal can there be than to know God?

As you prepare to begin your Men's study, are you consumed by a desire to know God? Will you make every effort to dig deeper into God's Word than you ever have before? Our prayer is that you allow the Word of God to flow into your heart, nourish your soul, and deepen your knowledge of Him...



WANTED!!

Join our unique team of Christian men and serve the Lord with the talents the Lord has already given you! You'll make new friends, learn valuable skills and have once-in-a-lifetime experiences!

"Men of the Towel"

is looking for men with knowledge in the following areas:

- Construction**
- IT**
- Physical laborers**
- Financial Services**
- Drivers &**
- Much, Much, More!**

"Men of the Towel" is a newly developed ministry within the Men's Ministry at CCCV that is made up of Christian Men to serve others. Why MotT? Jesus gave us the example of serving others in John 13:14-15 "If I then, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you". MotT seeks to minister to single moms, the elderly and/or others in need through construction, repairing and building, so that the love of Christ can be shown through our service. Our goal is to provide man-power with the expertise needed in the construction field.

MotT invites men of all backgrounds (Electricians, framers, concrete finishers and various other trades) to build, repair, and minister together in partnership with families and ministries in need. Individuals are given the opportunity to directly or indirectly provide service for low-income families in need of safe and decent housing. We also seek to serve individuals who have experienced natural disasters.

Ready to sign up? Speak to any of the men at the Men's Ministry window in the Gazebo after service or email us at cccvmensministry@gmail.com. We are taking sign-ups for a resource list to see what trades are available