



# South Florida Avenue CHURCH OF CHRIST MESSENGER



1807 S. Florida Ave.,  
Lakeland, FL 33803

Vol. 77 No. 37 Sep. 12, 2023

## ELDERS

David Anderson  
Brian Kenyon  
Bobby Sheumaker

## DEACONS

Tyler Anderson  
Jason Hendrix  
Stacey Paulin

## MINISTER

### ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Vince Daugherty

### OFFICE PHONE

(863) 682-4702

### EMAIL

[SFA.church@gmail.com](mailto:SFA.church@gmail.com)

## SUNDAY SERVICES

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship.....10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY

Ladies Class.....10:00 a.m.  
Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

## WEB PAGE

[SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com](http://SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com)

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## HOME OF

Florida School of Preaching  
since 1969

Missionary - Huron, SD  
Casey & Emily Paulin

## MISSION FIELDS

Dub Hill ..... Russia  
Don Iverson ..... India  
Marc Veary ..... Malawi, Africa  
Graham McDonald ..... Scotland  
J. Paguaga ..... Honduras  
Ted Wheeler ..... Ghana, W.A.

## Have You Been to Berea?

Vince Daugherty

Recently, my father was asked by a new convert about how to better study the Scriptures. We often bring individuals to Second Timothy 3:16, 17, showing the Bible is inspired by God and equips us, but rarely how to use the equipment. The new convert said, "I got the equipment and I trust in the equipment, but how do I learn how to use the equipment properly?" My dad took her question and developed the lesson, "Have you been to Berea?" The lesson was great and practical for giving any Bible student principles by which we can better study the Bible.

### An Ancient Example (Acts 17:10-12)

First, consider the example of the Bereans. They had a proper *attitude* towards God's word. Luke said they were "fair-minded" (NKJV). Really what is meant by the term is noble-minded or high minded. They were not noble because of their birth but in how they received the word, "with all readiness." They had a mind that was open to what was being presented to them. Not everyone has an open mind or a proper attitude to even begin a study of God's word. The Bereans took the right *action* towards God's word. It says they, "searched the Scriptures daily." When something was presented to them, they did not take another man's word for it, but they went to their own Bible's to see what Scripture had to say on the matter. They also searched for the *accuracy* of the message presented. The text says the reason they searched the Scriptures daily was to "find out whether these things were so." Anyone can say anything on a given topic, but that does not make them right. The Bereans compared what they were being taught with what was already established from God's word. Truth seekers are concerned with accuracy; with what corresponds with reality. Sometimes the things that are said or taught do not align with reality. They are not true, but it is only known through one's investigation or study of the accuracy of what is presented. Finally, the Bereans *achieved* in their study of God's word. As a result of their proper attitude and action towards Scripture, and their scrutiny over the things they were being presented, Luke records, "Therefore many of them believed." This is the example for us to follow in our approach to studying the Scriptures.

### Minding Your P's While Studying Scripture

1. Priority. Make the study of Scripture a top priority in your life. Things that are most important are things that are not overlooked. If we are overlooking study, it may reveal studying is not such a top priority. Matthew 6:33 says one must seek first the kingdom of God.

**2. Personal.** Make the study of Scripture personal, not merely relying on the study of a spouse, a parent, a preacher, etc. Our own study, correct interpretation, and application must be a top priority. Even though there were specific audiences to whom the books of the Bible were addressed, God has perfectly preserved His word for us as well. Make it personal to the point of asking the question, “What does God want me to know from my study?”

**3. Pray.** At the beginning of each study session, pray. Ask God to help you to focus, to understand, and to be obedient to His word.

**4. Purposeful.** God’s word can give us purpose and meaning to life if we will allow it. Jesus said, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God” (Matt. 4:4). We are more than just physical beings.

**5. Practical.** Read God’s word for the practical help it can give for daily life. While we are far removed culturally from those in Bible times, human nature has not changed; sin has not changed; and God’s plans for us have not changed.

**6. Practice.** James 1:21-27 says that if we receive the word with meekness, it is able to save our soul, but He also writes, “be doers of the word, and not hearers only.” The law of Christ is liberating if we “continue in it.”

**7. Ponder.** The Psalms tell the Bible student to “meditate” on God’s word (Ps. 1:2; 119:15; and Phil. 4:8). The practice is to let the word of God wash over us, repeat the phrases, think about them, memorize them. Like a cow who chews on the cud, let those words ruminate in our minds to better understand and better apply.

**8. Private.** Find a place that is quiet and free from distractions. Jesus told His disciples to go in their room and shut the door when they pray (Matt. 6:6). It is true too for study.

**9. Patient.** One illustration says, you cannot scoop out the ocean with a teaspoon. Neither can you know everything in one study. Individuals put in years of effort and energy. Be disciplined in our approach to study. Carve out a specific time and purpose for what and why we are studying. Over time our knowledge will grow; be patient; be persistent.

**10. Precious.** Second Peter 1:4 tells of the precious promises we have in Christ. We can know about them through the study and knowledge of God’s word. We invest in things that are precious to us. Look at God’s word as something that is more precious than gold or silver.

**11. Pleasurable.** The Psalmist said his delight was in the law of the Lord (Ps. 1:2). Things that we enjoy, we find time to spend doing it more. Again, the Psalmist says, “Your Law is my delight” (Ps. 119:92). Further, he says, “How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!” (Ps. 119:103). “O taste and see that the Lord is good” (Ps. 34:8). God says of a study of Him through His word, “Try it, you’ll like it!”

**Join Us for Bible Classes!** Christianity is a taught religion (John 6:44-45). It is impossible for our faith to outgrow our knowledge of God's word (Rom. 10:17). Come and grow spiritually with us!

<b>Cradle Roll</b> (behind tech booth) Sundays: Nikki (Bible basics) Wednesdays: Jagie (Bible basics)	<b>Upper Elementary</b> (Room 17) Sundays: Kathy (EHT) Wednesdays: Marion (EHT)
<b>2-3 Year-Old</b> (Room 18) Sundays: Marissa (EHT) Wednesdays: Becky (EHT)	<b>Teenage</b> (Room 19) Sundays: David A. (EHT) Wednesdays: Vince (Romans)
<b>Lower Elementary</b> (Room 7) Sundays: Anna Clair (EHT) Wednesdays: Olivia (EHT)	<b>Adult</b> (Auditorium) Sundays: SFA men (Prophecies of Christ) Wednesday: Brian (Revelation)

**First Principles Class** (Fellowship Room, any aged adults)  
Wednesdays: Rick

**PRAYER LIST**

**Current** Rachel Zapata is sick at home,  
**Continual:** Wayne Shearer (heath); Declan Potvin (eye); Debbie Bush (struggles); Brian Smith (heart health); Antoine & Marcella Swain (health); Geny Johnson (health); Bill & Carlene Long (health & strength); Ron & Judy Ford (health); Bobby Simpson (health); Annett Phillip (health); Janie Wise (health); Jim Turner (health); Margaret Coone (health); Kathy Nester (health); Melody Baxter (health), Beverly Adams (health), Melissa Craft (health)

**Shut-ins:** Joyce Burbage, Carol Eason, Kenny & Reba French

Also continue to pray for those on the extended family and friends list!

*Helen Albright, the mother of Mark Albright and the aunt of Jeff Childress passed away last week. Let us remember this family in our prayers.*

*We are thrilled to announce that Payton Spears obeyed the gospel on Monday September 11, 2023. Let us welcome her to the family here at SFA and pray for her as she begins her new life as a Christian!*

**Ladies Day at Orange Street church of Christ**  
**September 23, 2023 9:00 am - 12:00PM**  
**"Her Growth, Her Glory"**

**Gospel Meeting at Central Church of Christ in Haines City**  
**September 15-17, 2023**  
**Speaker Forest Antemesaris**  
**See Flyer for topics and times**

**Gospel Meeting at Griffin Rd church of Christ**  
**Sept 17-20, 2023**  
**Theme: Fill the Void**  
**Speaker- Tom Hall**

**Gospel Meeting at Clearwater church of Christ**  
**October 1-5, 2023**  
**Theme: Tell Us Plainly**  
**Speaker: Wade Webster**



**S. Florida Ave. church of Christ**

**Saturday, October 7, 2023 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.**

**Speaker: Nashoka Medley**



To register: call the office or scan the QR Code to the left.

Please register by Saturday, September 23rd.  
 Breakfast & lunch will be provided.

**SCHEDULED TO SERVE**

**September**

Designated Elder..... Brian Kenyon

**Wednesday, September 13, 2023**

Announcements..... Bobby Sheumaker  
 Song Leader/prayer..... Brian Kenyon  
 Devotional..... Jarred Spivey  
 Prayer..... Rick Keyon

**Sunday, September 17, 2023**

**10:30 A.M.**

Sermon..... Brian Kenyon  
 "Complete in Christ" (Col 2:8-10)

**6:00 P.M.**

Sermon..... Vince Daugherty  
 "Faithful in Whatever" (Ill John 5)

**Those to Serve**

**10:30 A.M.**

Song/Prayer before class..... Andre Medley  
 Song Leader (both services)..... Terrance Dindy  
 Announcements (both)..... Jimmy Sweeney  
 Scripture reading/Prayer... David Anderson  
 Lord's Table (both)..... George Beals  
 Closing Prayer..... Tim Croson  
 Open/Close bldg (both)..... Jason Hendrix  
 Greeters..... Mccarters  
 Attendance cards (both)..... Caelan/Camron  
 Sound Booth (both)..... Brian Williams

**6:00 P.M.**

P.M. Song Leader ..... Terrance Dindy  
 Scripture reading/Prayer ..... Joseph Faulk  
 Closing Prayer ..... Josh Potvin  
 Greeters PM..... Nona/Janis

**Wednesday, September 20, 2023**

Announcements..... Frank Hamby  
 Song Leader/prayer..... Tucker Sweeney  
 Devotional..... Wadi Khoury  
 Prayer..... Kyle Bingle

**Upcoming Events 2023**

**September**

- 15-17 Gospel Meeting @ Central in Haines City
- 17-20 Gospel Meeting Griffin Road
- 23 Ladies Day at Orange Street
- 24 Fellowship In Service
- 29 Singing Night at Orange Street 7:00 PM
- 30 Bonfire at the Daugherty's

**October**

- 7 Ladies Day at SFA

**~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~**

Aug 27.....	\$5,590.91
Sep 03.....	\$7,697.00
Sep 10 .....	\$8,067.10
Contribution Average.....	\$7,067.92
<b>Weekly budget .....</b>	<b>\$7,410.00</b>

**9-12-2001**

I miss 9-12-2001

When America decided they did need God's Son!

"Let's pray" they all cried,

When they heard so many had died!

"God Bless America" was plastered all over the place,  
And we all helped one another no matter their race.

We realized that life can change in a flash,  
as we sat in tears and rewatched each crash!

May we never forget the lives that were lost,  
And those who gave all no matter the cost.

But as we look back on that horrific day,  
may we never forget and continue to pray!

As evil continues to surround us with gloom,  
and we even allow children to be killed in the womb!  
Forgive us Lord and please spare us one more day,  
as we strive to bring to Christ those who are astray.

Help us Lord to remember 9-12-2001,  
and never forget the Lord, God's only Son.

Who gave all as well, so we can live free,  
from sin and doubt and inherit victory!

Let's turn from sin and bring Christ back to our nation  
and keep His name on our lips and in each conversation!

John 3:16

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only be-  
gotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not  
perish but have everlasting life."*

Ian Enamorado is moving to Colorado this week. We wish him well in this new adventure and pray for safe travels. God bless you

Ian! We will miss you!



Lessons from Second Timothy  
What to do when you're on lock down.  
II Tim. 4:9-18

There are some times when we cannot get out and about. Hopefully we would not have to be in the same situation as Paul in prison, but occasionally we are sidelined by injuries, feeling under the weather, etc. What should we do in those times to not get down?

1) Reach out to friends. We live in a very connected world. Use those connecting devices when we cannot meet in person.

2) Read and write. Paul told Timothy to "bring the books, and especially the parchment".

3) Pray and worship God.  
Though Paul was physically imprisoned, his mind was not. He said when he was alone, "the Lord stood with me and strengthened me". Further Paul was confident, "And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom". Though our physical bodies have an expiration date, our home in the kingdom of heaven is eternal. Paul looked forward to his eternal home. It helped him through life's difficulties, and it can help you too. May you have a blessed week.



*a sweet little pumpkin is on the way*

please help us honor

**CHARLENE SMITH**

with a sprinkling for baby girl Smith due to arrive November 3rd.

Please place any cards and/or gifts on the designated table at the end of the foyer hall. Thank you!

[www.SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com](http://www.SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com)

Email us: [SFA.church@gmail.com](mailto:SFA.church@gmail.com)

For sermons and podcasts, find us here.



**South Florida Avenue  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1807 South Florida Avenue  
Lakeland, FL 33803-2653

Return Service Requested

**"Happy is he who has the God of Jacob  
for his help, Whose hope is in the LORD  
his God;"**

**Psalm 146:5**



**If you prefer to receive the bulletin via email, contact us.**