

40 DAYS IN THE WORD – KICK OFF

North Pointe Church | 01.29.2012 | Pastor Steve Wells

The Bible:

The Bible is the only completely trustworthy source of knowledge about God. Man can't learn all he needs to know about God from human reason, philosophy, or even experience. God alone is the source of the knowledge about Himself, and He has chosen to reveal Himself in the Bible and in no other book. *John MacArthur*

Why Read The Bible?

- Essential nourishment for growing in our relationship with God.
- Understand God's Character & Heart
- Bible teaches gives us new priorities & values for life. (Romans12:2)
- Overcome temptations (1 Corinthians 10:13)
- Guidance in God's Will for our lives.

The Mystery of the Bible:

God's Word is living & active (Hebrews 4:12) and is packed with endless truths – buried deep like hidden treasure – waiting patiently for the prudent, the diligent and faithful to uncover. His Word is no respecter of persons – student, scholar, adult or child – each have equal access to this unmatched treasure.

Jesus – 40 Days in the Wilderness – Matthew 4:1-11

- Jesus spends 40 Days in the wilderness to prepare for His public ministry. (Matthew 4)
- Prayed & Fasted for 40 Days.
- Satan tried to take advantage of Jesus' physical weakness by tempting Jesus repeatedly.
- Jesus defeats Satan's attacks by *quoting scripture*. (Heb 4:12)
- Satan works hard to distract us all from experiencing the life changing power of God's Word.
- We must prepare our hearts for the 40 Days journey ahead.

40 Days – Planning & Preparation

- Good intentions without INTENTIONALITY lead to MISSED OPPORTUNITY.
- What captures our ATTENTION influences our DIRECTION.
- Guard yourself from the temptation to skim over FAMILIAR verses.
- Things that GRAB my attention are generally BAD for me.
 - This is an EMOTIONAL reaction.
- Things I choose to PAY attention to are usually GOOD for me.
 - This is an INTENTIONAL decision.

Week #1 - Memory Verse:

Colossians 3:16a – *Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly.*

What will be taught during the 40 DITW?

- 6 Sunday Messages (North Pointe Church)
- Daily personal study page (Workbook)
- Daily online video teachings by renown Pastors. (Link Emailed Daily)
- Learn 6 Methods for Personal Bible Study (Wednesday Nights)
- Memorize 6 Bible Verses (1 Each Week)
- Bible Reading: Gospel of Mark, Philipians, James, Psalm 1
- Discover evidences to supports the Bible's origin and accuracy.
 - Archaeological & Historical facts supporting the Bible
 - Who wrote the Bible? What does "inspired" mean?
 - Prophetic Accuracy
 - Understand how the Bible was copied, and translated without error or addition.
 - The Bible consists of 66 books. How were these selected?
- Discover tools for Effective Bible Study
- Advanced – Independent Studies:
 - How to do a Character Based Bible Study.
 - How to do a Chapter Summary Bible Study.
 - Additional 20 Memory Verses, every believer should know.
 - The bookstore has 100's of Bibles, formats, styles, references, and translations... Which one is right for me?

Getting Started: 40 Days In The Word - This Week

- Jan 29th – 40DITW Kick- Off Message
- Jan 30th – NPC Email: *Preparing our Hearts - Colossians 3*
- Jan 31st – NPC Email: *Preparing our Hearts - Colossians 4*
- **Feb 1st – Official Start of 40 Days**
 - Open **DAY 1** email from NPC
 - Click on link - *Day 1 Video* teaching
 - Create a personal login and password (very simple)
 - Watch Day 1 Video Teaching (7mins)
 - Read Philipians 1:1-6
 - Complete Day 1 in your workbook (page 11)
 - Attend Church – Wednesday @ 6:45pm – 8pm
 - Video Teaching 40DITW Workbook (pages 1-5)
 - Small Group Discussion (pages 5-10)
- **Feb 2nd – Day Two**
 - Open **DAY 2** email from NPC
 - Click on link to the *Day 2 Video* teaching
 - Enter login and password (from yesterday)
 - Watch Video Session (9mins)
 - Read Philipians 1:7-27
 - Complete Day 2 in your workbook (page 12)
- Feb 3rd – Feb 4th: Day 3 & 4
 - Repeat steps from Day 2
- Feb 5th – Sunday 40 DITW Worship Service
 - Replay – DVD Session 1 (NPC Sunday 10:20 -10:45am)

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURES & NOTES – STEVE WELLS

40 Days in Scripture:

- Noah & The Ark - It rained for 40 days and 40 nights. (*Gen 7:12*)
- Noah waited 40 days after the flood of rain. (*Gen 8:6*)
- Moses was on the mountain with God for 40 days. (*Exodus 24:18*)
- It took the spies 40 days to search out the Promised Land. (*Num 13:25*)
- The Israelites spent 40 years in the wilderness. (*Exodus 16:35*)
- Goliath taunted Israel for 40 days before David killed him. (*1Sam 17:16*)
- Jonah warned City of Nineveh to repent or in 40 days God would destroy the city. (*Jonah 3:4*)
- Jesus fasted 40 days in wilderness enduring Satan's temptation. (*Mat 3*)
- Jesus was seen in the earth for 40 days after His Resurrection. (*Acts 1:3*)
- Interesting: 40 Days – NPC relocates from Wharton High School 2008.

Hebrews 4:12

New International Version 1984 (NIV1984)

¹² For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Romans 12:2

New International Version 1984 (NIV1984)

² Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

1 Corinthians 10:13

New International Version 1984 (NIV1984)

¹³ No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

Matthew 4:1-11

New International Version 1984 (NIV1984)

The Temptation of Jesus

¹ Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. ² After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'^[a]"

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ⁶ "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you,

and they will lift you up in their hands,

so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'^[b]"

⁷ Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'^[c]"

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹ "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'^[d]"

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.