

BIDDEFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

266 POOL STREET - P.O. BOX 331 - BIDDEFORD, ME 04005

FEBRUARY 23, 2020

MEDITATION PROMOTES PROGRESS
BY DENNIS GODIN

You may have noticed that each Sunday our Scripture Reading is coming from Psalm 119, and for good reason. With our theme for this year focusing on the idea of mediation; more specifically, mediating on God's Word, this chapter in Psalms is rich with insight. Seven times, depending on your translation, you will find the word meditation or meditate in this chapter. I found these words to be powerful, *"Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day. You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; for they are ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Your testimonies are my meditation"* (Psalm 119:97-99). This caused me to ask myself, "Just how important is this whole idea of meditation?" I then came across the following verse.

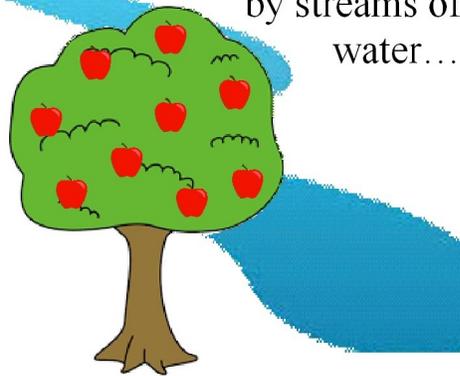
*Meditate on these things;
give yourself entirely to
them,
that your progress may be
evident to all.*

1st Timothy 4:15

The evangelist Timothy had

Psalm 1:3

He is like a tree planted
by streams of
water...



... which yields its
fruit in season...

a challenging work as he ministers to the church in Ephesus. From the onset, we know he is battling against false teaching (1:3). He also is given the task of organizing the leadership, establishing elders and deacons (3). Paul exhorts him saying, *"If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ..."* (4:6). His effectiveness in accomplishing these and many other objectives which were intended to mature and help grow the Lord's church, is linked in part to his ability to remain focused. Isaiah writes, *"You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You"* (Isaiah 26:3). As one person writes, "The battle of the mind is for focus." Now your

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY
BIBLE CLASS 9:30 A.M.

WORSHIP 10:45 A.M.

MID-WEEK STUDY

TUESDAY 7-8 P.M.
(BIDDEFORD)

Elders

Tony Lemay (207)651-3369
Dennis Godin (207)651-3588

Deacons

John Carter (207)229-8516
Matt Sampson (207)251-3030

Ministry Leaders & Staff

Education - Antonio Balsamo
(207)286-0514
Youth - Angel Velez
(207)730-9889
Worship - Abe Damuth
(207)608-1784
Building - Joe Romano
(207)281-3929
Grounds - Lenny Spano
(207)569-8800
Fin./Benev. - John Carter
(207)229-8516
Fellowship - Matt Sampson
(207)251-3030
Secretary - Mike Wickwar
(207) 432-2272

Ladies Ministry

Debbie Godin (207)286-4821
Barbara Lemay (207)850-0084

BIDDEFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

AS EACH PART DOES ITS WORK

How important is encouragement to you? Note someone you have not seen in worship lately and give them a call or send them a card. Who knows, your words of encouragement could make an eternal difference.

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" - Acts 16:30

Hear the Gospel - John 6:44-45; Romans 10:14, 17

Believe [trust in] God - John 3:16; 8:24; Ac 16:31; Heb 11:6

Repent of sins - Luke 13:1-5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30

Confess Christ - Mt 10:32-33; Ac 8:36-37; Rom 10:8-10

Be baptized - Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; 8:36; 22:16; 1 Pet 3:21

Be faithful unto death - Mt 7:21; 10:22; Heb 5:9; Rev 2:10

† † † † † † † † † † † † † †

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

~ Acts 4:12 ~

Ladies Corner

Ladies Day is March 21!!!

We can use your help.

Thank You,
Debbie and Barbara

Last Week's Numbers:

Attendance: 34 Contribution: \$ 1603.00

"MEDITATION PROMOTES PROGRESS" (CONTINUED)

translation may read like this, "***Be diligent (NKJV, meditate) in these matters...***" The Greek word here means *to care for, attend carefully, practice, to meditate i. q. devise, contrive.* FOCUS!!! The very idea of focusing demands that there be something to focus on, and in Timothy's case, it was the work before him. He was given a task not to do anything he wanted, but rather a particular thing which was to "***give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine***" (1st Timothy 4:14). And this focus was not just about him. Listen to what Paul says, "***Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you***" (1st Timothy 4:16).

One final thought about this whole idea of mediation; that is, being focused. How was Timothy going to give himself "entirely to them" (his ministry) without being focused? I have, and a number of occasions, attempted to complete an important project only to become distracted by other things around me. I can show you many of those very projects. This brings me to these words from v15, "***... that your progress may be evident to all.***" It is true to say, "We are works in progress as long as we progress in the work." What could help us in this journey? Focus (i.e., meditation)! Not on anything, but on God and His word. May He bless you this day.

Dennis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We're on Facebook– Biddeford church of Christ is on Facebook! There is a profile, which is public, and there is a closed group, for current Biddeford church family only, where we can share photos, prayer requests, announcements, etc. The public cannot see posts in the BCOC FB group. Only members can.

Men Leading in Worship - The men who serve in worship are asked to meet in the cry room or, if it is in use, a classroom promptly at 10:30 to confirm assignments and go to God in prayer.

Building Lights - If you are the last person leaving the building, please be sure to turn off all the lights, check that all windows are shut, and the doors are locked.

Bulletin /- Prayer List - If you have a prayer request or an announcement for the bulletin, please contact Mike Wickwar at 432-2272 or email him at mickwick@yahoo.com by Friday of each week. Anything given after Friday may not make it into that Sunday's bulletin.

Reminder: Please turn off your cell phone or place it on vibrate during Bible study and worship.

We care what you think - If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, feel free to write them down on a piece of paper, then sign it and place it in the box. We will get back to you as soon as possible. Thanks for your help.

Monthly Bulletins– One per family, please. If you would like another copy, you can find it on our website, biddefordchurchofchrist.com. You can also listen to sermons on the website.

Updating the Prayer List - Please review the prayer list. If there is a prayer request initiated by you, it is important you contact Mike Wickwar with updates. Thank you.

Upcoming Events - Please check your calendars

Life Groups– March 1st and March 15th.

Congregational Breakfast - March 14th at 8:30 am.

Singing Nights - February 25th and March 24th.

Happy Birthday!	Brenda Horowitz	February 20th
	Lisa Sampson	February 28th
	John Carter	March 1st
	Brad Shaw	March 12th
	Angel Velez	March 24th
	Gavin Sampson	March 24th

Happy Anniversary!	Joe & Laura Romano	March 2nd
	Stephen & Glory Parker	March 17th

Ladies Day with Cindy Colley March 21!!!

Box tops for Education - Douglas Marescot -Container Upstairs - Ongoing

Notes: _____

MID-WEEK BIBLE CLASSES

Biddeford
Tuesdays
7:00-8:00 p.m.



YOUR ATTENDANCE WOULD BE SUCH AN ENCOURAGEMENT!

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR TODAY

Song 611 *Heavenly Sunlight*

Announcements - Angel Velez

Opening Prayer - John Marescot

Song 315 *When I Survey The Wondrous Cross*

Song 31 *Be Still And Know*

Lord's Supper - John Carter, Erik Cote,
Jacob Romano

Song 226 *O Thou Fount Of Every Blessing*

Contribution

Song 960 *It's Me*

Prayer - Matthew Sampson

Song 634 *We'll Work Till Jesus Comes*

Scripture Reading - Jon Erickson

Text - Psalm 119:57-64

Lesson - Dennis Godin

Meditation Promotes Progress

Lesson Text: *1 Timothy 4:15*

Song 148 *I Keep Falling In Love With Him*

Closing Prayer - Tony Lemay



Song Leader: James Butler

Greeter: Jessica Damuth

Communion Prep: Amanda Bitton

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Song Leader - Antonio Balsamo

Opening Prayer - Elder

Lord's Supper - Angel Velez, Erik Cote,
David Lawrance

Prayer - Joe Romano

Scripture Reading - Lenny Spano

Greeter - Brenda Horowitz

Communion Prep - Brenda Butler

WELCOME VISITORS



We here at the Biddeford church of Christ pray your visit with us today is enjoyable and uplifting. Please stay around after services so that we can get to know you better. We all strive to put Christ first in our lives and make the Bible our principle guide for living.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.BIDDEFORDCHURCHOFCHRIST.COM
