

What's Good To Read Around Here?

It is a great blessing to know we have good things to read! Television among other things, can serve as distractions to the avid pursuit of knowledge. A good thought can go a long way! Reading an article here or a book there is a wonderful way to excite the mind for more knowledge and understanding.

Bible study for the child of God is a must. The Psalmist said, "Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path," Psalm 119:105. Feasting upon the Word of God builds steadfast faith when the mind's ear hears it while being read. The development of sound thought processes begin with a personal commitment to study of the Bible. A book that was written by forty different men, over a 1500 year period, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, ought to cause us to seek times to study it.

In addition to the Bible, there are other things that can be used to stimulate positive Christian development. Reading things like church related magazines, bulletins, and Bible Study lessons help to firmly connect us with the Lord and His body, the church.

A caution to the wise comes in the way of an admonition. Anything in print other than the Bible is open to scrutiny. Any publication purporting to speak the truth should be considered in light of Scripture. A good example of this is our church library. It is a great source that needs to be used. However, as you enter our library, the elders have placed a disclaimer outside the door expressing that the content of the books in our library do not necessarily represent the views held by the leadership in our congregation. The same could be said about any publication made available to the congregation. Responsibility remains on the shoulders of the reader to weigh out the soundness of anything read to insure it is in keeping with God's will for man. Remember, just because it is in print does not make anything true.

So, what good things do we have to read around here? Well, to begin with, what about the *Gospel Minutes*? It is a little bulletin that comes to us each week from Fort Worth, Texas. Clem Thurman is the editor of this publication. Often articles on various points of subject matter appear in a scriptural, well-defined way. One of the most enjoyable things that appear in this journal is the questions and answers that appear. This little paper is thought provoking, and only takes about 10 minutes to read.

Another journal made available here at Buford is the *Spiritual Sword*. Alan Highers, gospel preacher and former Tennessee judge, edits this magazine. For years now this journal has appeared throughout this country as a great resource for sound and solid articles, by some of the brotherhood's finest scholars. If you like to get into the meat of the word this is the monthly for you. It is free, and it is in the tract rack toward the south entrance of the foyer.

Speaking of the tract racks, there are numerous tracts available covering a wide range of topics that appeal to present needs. Brief studies on marriage

problems, Islam, and social issues, provide good information for the inquisitive spirit within us.

This congregation is very information friendly. A number of different avenues are available to you to find out about what is happening at Buford. Our website is available at <http://www.bufordcoc.com>. The "members" section is loaded with valuable information that can keep you informed. That part of the site is password protected for the benefit of your privacy as a member. Just send the office an email requesting access information and Pam can get it to you.

There is a weekly *Ladies News Sheet* available at the information desk. This is edited by Mary Freeman. We have a very active group of women in the congregation, and this fine publication gives detailed and up to date information on various areas of interest. Also available is our weekly bulletin, *Glad Tidings*, that you are now reading, filled with scheduled events and up to date news of things going on here at Buford C/C.

Also be aware that there are bulletin boards in the west hall around the auditorium. One features a pictorial directory of members of the congregation. Next to it is a board featuring pictures of new members. Next to it is a section especially with news, notes and advertisements of upcoming events. Then still further down the hall and across from the restrooms are bulletin boards especially dedicated to women's ministry, and a section for men's ministry. Be sure to see the Men's ministry section to see an ongoing update on attendance trends throughout the year, as well as an up to date version of the church budget.

We are living in the information age! Be informed! Read!
-Scott