

Study & Worship Schedule

Sunday

Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.
Worship - 10:20 a.m.
Afternoon Worship - 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

Guy To Montana...

This Wednesday and next Sunday **Guy** will be speaking at West Yellowstone, Montana. This is **Guy's** last speaking appointment of a busy year.

Preachers Meeting...

On Tuesday, December 13, we will have our monthly preachers meeting here in Durango. However, anyone is invited to participate. We will have a study from God's Word at 10:00, followed by dutch-treat lunch.

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Bible Reading For This Week

"Thy word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path..."
Psalm 119:105

Mon	1 John 4	Daniel 1-2
Tues	1 John 5	Daniel 3-4
Wed	2 John	Daniel 5-7
Thur	3 John	Daniel 8-10
Fri	Jude	Daniel 11-12
Sat	Revelation 1	Hosea 1-4
Sun	Revelation 2	Hosea 5-8

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Encourage One Another

It doesn't take much to "discourage" a brother. Let me give you a few ideas on how that can happen...

1. Be overly critical of him.
2. Bring up his past mistakes.
3. Exclude him from your group.
4. Never compliment him about anything.

Doing these things doesn't require much thought and it seems like people just naturally engage in these activities. I wonder why that is?

However, what is needed for the long walk toward eternity is encouragement, which requires a little more effort. In order to accomplish this, you might do just the opposite of the listing above. The road to heaven is a difficult one to travel and many have thoughts of just giving up or quitting. That was the problem the Hebrews writer faced with the Christians to whom he wrote. So, he reminded them to "*encourage one another day after day*" (Heb. 3:13). Since some were losing heart to the extent that they were negligent of their attendance when the church came together, he exhorts them to not forsake "*our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more, as you see the day drawing near*" (Heb. 10:25). Coming together as a church is one way to be encouraged to "keep on keeping on." Aren't you glad you came this Sunday?

Guy Orbison, Jr.
Durango, CO

On The Calendar...

December

- 3 Men's Business Meeting
- 4 Steven Hill's graduation
and POT LUCK
- 8-11 - Guy to speak at
West Yellowstone, MT
- 10 "Come and Go" at
Steve and Darla's house
- 13 Area Preachers meet
here in Durango
- 15 Annual preachers
Holiday Dinner
at Durango
- 18 Steve Hill to preach
at Price, Utah
- 21 Ladies Bible Class will
NOT meet
- 21 Singing night before
Christmas holiday
- 25 Merry Christmas!
- 25 There will be **no** pot
luck this day
- 28 Ladies Bible Class will
NOT MEET

January

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 9 Area Preachers meet
here in Durango

Prayer List:

Robert Watson... Koben Puckett... DeeAnn Bishopp... Ruth Sutherlin... Eliana Uribbari... Kitty Farrell... Ronnie Sautor... Shirley O'Hare... Joan Heller is in a nursing home recovering from a broken hip. Her address is 13840 N. Desert Harbor Dr., Peoria, AZ 85381, PH:623-271-9100

Brothers in the military:

Michael Ogle and Jason Reed

Today Is A Special Pot Luck Sunday Join Us For Lunch

Graduation Day...

Today is the graduation day for **Steven Hill**. He will complete his work with us today and the **Hill** family will be leaving this evening in their move to Van, Texas. We wish them well in their first ministry with the Lord's church.

Sympathy...

This past week **Larry's** grandmother passed away in Oklahoma. **Larry** and **Keitha** have gone to Elk City for the funeral. Our sympathy is extended to this good family.

Focus On Heaven In 2011...

"Verbal" Versus "Visible" Faith

Faith is indispensable to our relationship with God. Yet, a fellow Christian might actually have an unacceptable faith. James discusses this in his well-known treatise on faith in James 2:14-26. Here, we learn that some people have only a "verbal" faith. This is a brother who *"says he has faith, but he has no works"* (v. 14). *"Works,"* here refers to actions taken as a result of one's faith. A "verbal," faith then is when someone simply believes there is a God or that Christ died to save mankind, but it does not lead him or her to really commit his or her life to the Lord. People with only "verbal" faith become pew-sitting Christians who are not involved in the work of the Lord.

On the other hand, James speaks of what we might call a "visible" faith when he says, *"I will show you my faith by my works"* (v. 18). In other words, people can actually see this kind of faith in a brother by the actions he or she takes. James says this is the kind of faith that Abraham had because he did what the Lord commanded in offering up Isaac as a sacrifice (vs. 21-23). James also notes that Rahab had a "visible" faith *"when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way"* (v. 25). She acted in such a way that indicated her belief in the God of Israel.

James writes his epistle to Christians, so he is concerned that some might only have a "verbal" faith. He is warning not only the folks in the first century, but in our century as well. We must make sure that our faith is "visible" by what we do with our lives. So, let's keep acting on our faith by doing those things we know that God expects of us. It is easy to say "I believe," but it is something else entirely to show it.

Guy Orbison, Jr.
Durango, Colorado