

East Foothill
 Church of Christ
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Bible Word of the Week

ἐξεπυνάω- exereunao – search
 (ex-er-yoo-nah'-o)

Definition: to search out, search anxiously and diligently

Sentence: “Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and ἐξεπυνάω carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you.”

1 Peter 1:10

(Verbs and nouns are not used in their proper tense. They are just to show where they are used in scripture)

BIBLE FACTS:

The Bible attributes more than 3,000 proverbs to King Solomon. These are not all written in the book of Proverbs. However, most of that book is said to be the proverbs of Solomon.



“In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was on the earth forty days and forty nights.”

~ Genesis 7:11-12

“We may seek God by our intellect, but we can only find Him with our heart”

Discovering Truth

Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk and live in Your truth” - Psalm 86:11

An 8-Cow Wife

On an isolated Pacific island, it was the custom for a young man to announce his intention of marriage to the entire village. After the announcement, he and the whole community went to the young woman’s home. Her father would come outside and then, in front of the whole community, the father and the future groom would barter.

The main item of value on the island was the cow. Therefore, a suitor would offer the father a certain number of cows for his daughter. The typical marriage would bring two cows to the bride’s father. On rare occasions, he might get three. The record was four cows, going to the father of a bride who had finished school.

Johnny Lingo was the island’s most eligible bachelor. He came from a wealthy family. Talented and good looking, Johnny was the dream of most young girls on the island. One day, Johnny announced that he had selected a wife. He announced that her name was Lisa. Everyone was shocked. Lisa seemed rather plain and was very shy. The community thought Johnny could have done better. Some even suggested that Lisa’s father might have to give Johnny a cow or two. The community gathered at Lisa’s house for the bartering. Johnny’s opening bid for Lisa was eight cows! Her father almost fainted, but managed to say ‘yes.’

That evening, Johnny and Lisa were married. They departed to another island where they were to live. For a full year no one saw Johnny or Lisa. Then on their first anniversary, they returned to visit their parents. From the moment they arrived at the dock, the news spread. Everybody said, “Come and see Johnny and Lisa! You won’t believe it!”

Everybody came, but nobody noticed Johnny. All eyes were on Lisa. She had been transformed! She was a vision of loveliness. She was poised, warm, friendly, and confident. At the end of the day, as Johnny and Lisa were preparing to return to their home, one of Johnny’s friends pulled him aside and said, “I want to know the secret of this amazing transformation.”

Johnny said, “I will tell you. From the time Lisa was born, she had been treated as though she was not worth very much. She had begun to believe that about herself. But I announced to the community that she was an 8-cow wife, and I have treated her just that way. She has become the vision of herself that she sees every day in my eyes.”

“You husbands likewise, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with a weaker vessel, since she is a woman; and grant her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered” -1 Pet 3:7

If you want an 8-cow wife or husband, start treating her or him that way. Give it a year and see what happens.

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Our Services

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 am
 Worship: 10:45 am
 Evening: 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Class: 7:00 pm

Our Elders:

Calvin Cooper.....408-258-3607
 Lalo Enriquez.....408-270-7327
 V. R. Hogan.....408-629-3055
 Charles Williamson.....408-926-9957

Our Deacons:

Derrick Carbin.....408-238-5507
 Lenard Boesch.....408-226-0867
 Gus Rodriquez.....408-914-5762

Our Evangelist:

Kevin Harrington.....714-364-7428
408-966-0727

- ❖ If you would like a Bible study or have any questions, please contact Kevin Harrington.
- ❖ Estudios biblicos en Español disponibles durante la semana. Por favor llamen a Lalo Enriquez.

Strengthening God's Leaders

Scripture Reading: Acts 20:28-32

- ❖ God Needs Leaders Who _____ To Lead
 - 1 Pet. 5:2; 1 Tim. 3:1
 - Does not lead for _____, _____, or hidden _____
 - Instead he leads because he has a _____ heart
- ❖ God Needs Leaders Who _____ About His People
 - Leaders lead because they have an intense _____ for God's people
 - 1 Peter 5:2a; Acts 20:29-32; Heb. 13:17
 - Jesus was the _____ shepherd – John 10:11
- ❖ God Needs Leaders Who Are _____
 - Jesus' vision – "Upon this rock I will build..." - Matt. 16:18
 - God's vision – Isaiah 2:2-4
 - As good leader's vision will be the _____ as God's vision
- ❖ What About You?
 - _____/Fathers
 - _____/Mothers
 - _____ in the church
 - _____ on the job
 - Teachers in the classroom
 - _____ with influence
 - _____ among peers

This Morning's Sermon:
Strengthening God's Leaders
Kevin Harrington

This Evening's Sermon:
Does God Exist?
Video Series

Reminder that all sermons are available online! Visit www.efoothill.org



"Men make history and not the other way around. In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better." ~ Harry S. Truman

Daily Spark #13

Matthew 1:23 "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel--which means, 'God with us.'"



The birth of Jesus is one of the most popular stories of all time. Almost everyone has heard of Mary, a virgin, giving birth to Jesus Christ. It's a story many Christians learn from the time they are a child. Sadly, in today's world the emphasis is put on Mary. Mary was an ordinary girl who gave birth to the chosen Messiah. Some denominations have raised Mary to deity status. She is god-like, she is worshiped, people pray to her. Some people even claim she appeared to them by appearing in water stains, burnt pieces of toast, and mold on the side of a house so she can bless them. People say their "Hail Mary's" instead of praying to God. I think when we look at the story of Mary, we put the emphasis in the wrong place.

The first thing we see in our verse is that a virgin will be with child and she will have a son. How incredible of a miracle is that? I don't want this to become an anatomy lesson, but there is only one way to get pregnant and it's not by being a virgin. But yet Mary became pregnant with a son. Did she do this herself? Did she just want to get pregnant so bad that it just magically happened? There is only one way something this amazing could happen: a miracle from God. Sadly, the focus is normally turned to Mary, instead of seeing the great power of God. We fail to see that God's hand was in this whole situation. God picked Mary to carry *His* Son. God impregnated Mary when she had not been with a man. Who else can do something that incredible?

Think about some of the great things God has done in your life? We are all more blessed than we could ever imagine. Who do we give the credit to? Do we give it to ourselves? Do we tell ourselves that we've worked hard, we've prayed for this, we've wanted this for so long, etc.? Do we lose focus that God can do **anything** in our lives? All the glory and all the thanks need to go to God. God is responsible for everything good that happens in our lives.

The second thing we see from our verse today is that Jesus' Hebrew name of "Immanuel" literally means "God with us." Again, do we understand the true blessing of that meaning? So many times people in today's world want to focus on Mary making an appearance to them and what Mary can do for their lives, and we lose focus that Mary gave birth to our Lord and Savior. Jesus was God in the flesh. God Himself walked around on earth with His people. Living among His people. Suffering with His people. The Presidents of the United States try to put themselves in the "common folk's" shoes, they try to relate to the voter. Kings used to walk through their kingdoms and make appearances in public, but never before has a leader lowered themselves to the common status. God physically came down to earth to live with His people.

I wonder sometimes what it would have been like to sit at Jesus' feet and listen to Him teach, listen to Him pray, witness Him walk on water or perform any number of His miracles. I wonder how many people knew who Jesus Christ *really* was. He was God. He was perfect. He was all knowing and all powerful. He was loving and caring.

Mary could never do the things Jesus did. Mary could never give us the blessings that God gives us. Mary was remarkable in her own way: she was a devout and loyal follower of God. Many lessons can be learned from Mary, but as we see in today's verse, it's God from who all true blessings flow. How are you going to thank Him today?

~ Kevin (orig. email: 10/26/2011)

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