

From Pastor Jim's Desk:

“The Cure for Anxiety”

Do you ever worry? That's a ridiculous question, right? Everyone worries at some time, and some people are serious worriers. Life surely confronts us with plenty of things about which to worry, if we want to. There are those things that **might** happen!?! And then, on the other hand, there are those things that **might NOT** happen!?!

The truth is, however, no amount of worry had ever really contributed to the solution to any of our problems. Worry can be best compared to a rocking chair. Rocking requires energy, but doesn't get you anywhere.

Is there a cure for anxiety, something that will help us overcome our tendency to worry? The Bible offers the ultimate prescription when it encourages us to “cast all your care upon God, because He cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7).

That sounds about right, doesn't it? But how do we know for sure? Listen to the One who is God's guarantee that He cares for you and will care for you eternally: “Do not let your hearts be troubled (worried). Trust in God; trust also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms. I am going to prepare a place for you, and I will come back and take you to be with Me so you may be where I am” (John 14:1-3).

That's the Good News of Jesus Christ, who gave Himself in an atoning death for sin and rose again in victory on the third day, so that you and I may have forgiveness of sins and eternal life in His Name. Trusting Jesus dismisses anxiety about eternity. St. Paul says it this way, “If God did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, will He not along with Jesus give us all we need?” (Romans 8:32) The answer he is looking for is “Yes!”

If our eternity is assured by a loving God, then can we count on Him to care for us in the “meanwhile” of our earthly lives? The answer I am looking for is “Yes!” Jesus said it very clearly in His sermon on the mount. “Do not worry about your life. Is not life more important than food and the body more important than clothing? Don't worry about your daily needs. Your heavenly Father know that you need them. Seek first God's kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well” (Matthew 6:25-34).

The cure for anxiety is a faith which turns life over to God. That kind of faith is a gracious gift received from Jesus Christ through His Holy Spirit. It becomes a process to be repeated throughout life. It is the secret of focus: Will you look at what you **need**, or at the **One** who can supply all your needs?

St. Paul wrote to the Philippian Christians: “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6-7). What Paul is really saying is it is time to get out of the rocking chair and down on our knees.

Here is the old story of “Why Worry?” Did you know that there are only two things to worry about: Either you are well or you are sick. If you are well, there is nothing to worry about. But if you are sick... There are only two things to worry about: Either you get well or you die. If you get well, there is nothing to worry about. But if you die... There are only two things to worry about: Either you go to heaven or hell. If you go to heaven, there is nothing to worry about. But

if you go to hell... then you got something to worry about! But then, it will be TOO late, so why worry!

Blessing to you
Pastor Jim

“Mexico’s Love of Hellmann’s Mayonnaise”

Most people don't know that back in 1912, Hellmann's mayonnaise was manufactured in England. In fact, the Titanic was carrying 12,000 jars of the condiment scheduled for delivery in Vera Cruz, Mexico, which was to be the next port of call for the great ship after its stop in New York. This would have been the largest single shipment of mayonnaise ever delivered to Mexico. But as we know, the great ship did not make it to New York. The ship hit an iceberg and sank.

The people of Mexico, who were crazy about mayonnaise, and were eagerly awaiting its delivery, were disconsolate at the loss. Their anguish was so great, that they declared a National Day of Mourning. The National Day of Mourning occurs each year on May 5th and is known, of course, as - Sinko De Mayo.



Ascension Day Service May 9th at 7 PM St. Paul Lutheran Church – Amherst

Our circuit will host a combined Ascension Day Service at St. Paul's in Amherst. Various circuit Pastors will be involved, including Pastor Jim conducting the liturgy for that service.

If you would like to go, Pastor Jim will be at St. John to set up car pools, leaving St. John by 6 PM. Join us if you would like to go.

Servant Sundays throughout the Month of May

Our Ohio District and Lutheran Social Service unite to sponsor a servant event for the Caldwell, Ohio community to repair and maintain safe and secure housing. You can help – here's how!

Throughout the month of May we will be receiving monetary donations or gift cards to Wal-Mart, Lowe's or Home Depot in whatever denomination you would like. These donations will be used to purchase building supplies that will be used by volunteers to repair and rebuild homes in Caldwell, Ohio, a very poor part of our state. Besides, many of the residents are still dealing with the aftermath of the tornado that went through back in March of 2012.





Walk Through the Bible Class

We continue our walk through the Bible on the second and fourth Tuesdays in May (May 14th and May 28th) at either 1:00 PM or 7:00 PM. We will try and finish the books of 1st and 2nd Samuel before we break for the summer months.

If you are not involved in Pastor Jim's Tuesday Bible study, please consider joining. Not only will you learn lots, but the study is both fun and enjoyable. Having fun and studying the Bible – what a combination?

Next Teaching Event will be on Sunday, May 19th at 7:00 PM

Learn the truth about the Theory of Evolution and Darwinism. Learn how Science today has all but rejected the notion of Evolution.

Learn how Science today has rejected the notion of Evolution!

On Sunday, May 19th at 7 pm, Pastor Jim will present "Answers to Evolution" 16 Reasons to Doubt Darwinism

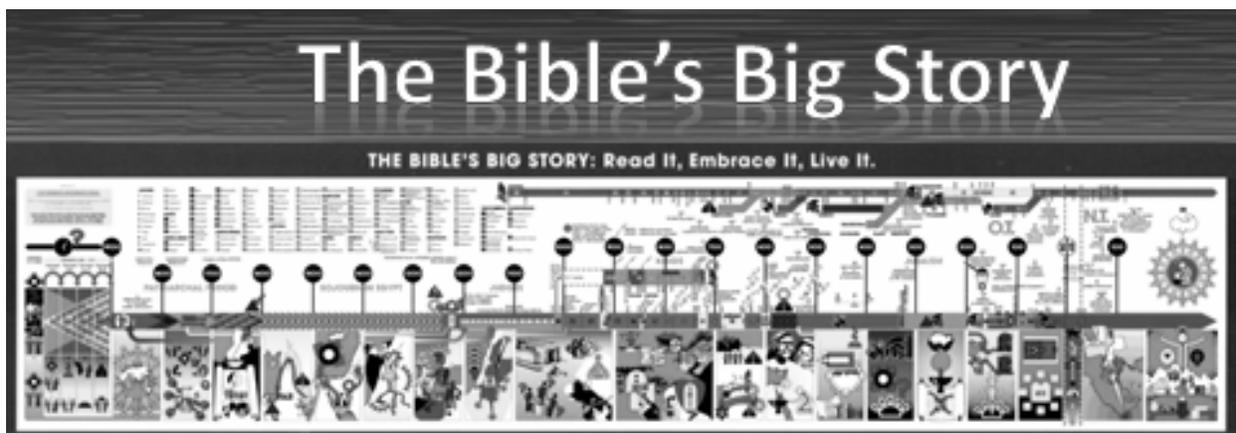
- Is Evolution fact?
- Is there any proof that Evolution happened?
- What about the "missing links?"
- What's the "Big Bang Theory?"
- Can non-living matter produce living organisms?

Summer Adult Bible Studies

As the summer is fast approaching, and many outdoor activities get planned from picnics and Bar-B-Q's, it is important that we enjoy the rest from the normal schedule of events. But that rest ought not include a "rest FROM God's Word." Rather, the summer months can afford us time to "rest ON God's Word," in special and unique ways.

This summer, Pastor Jim is offering a variety of Bible studies that can help you grow in understanding God's Word and help you appreciate this great gift that our God has provided. As many of you already know, Pastor Jim's Bible Studies are anything but boring, but rather are fun, enjoyable and full of lots of learning. What a great way to study the Bible? Why not make use of Pastor Jim's teaching gifts and commit to summer growth in God's Word.

Below are listed the three classes Pastor Jim will conduct this summer. You may sign up for any or all of these studies. Please note that registration is required, so those proper amounts of materials are prepared. Also note, there is a cost associated with these studies which is due on the first class time. Please fill out the registration below and return it to the Church Office or give it to Pastor Jim.



In just three nights, Pastor Jim will lead you through the Bible's BIG Story – *A Time Line.*

See the complete sweep of the biblical narrative from creation to the end of time, with Jesus at the very center.

**Tuesday through Thursday
June 11 - 13, 2013**

At 1 PM or 7 PM

Register 2 Weeks Prior
Book & Time Line = \$15.00

Registration for Summer Bible Studies

Registration for Summer Bible Studies is necessary so that enough materials are ordered for each participant. Registration deadline is 2 weeks prior to the beginning of each study. Registration costs are due at the first class. Please keep the top half of this registration form for your records, and return the bottom portion to register. Thank you.

Study #1—The Bible's Big Story

Dates: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, June 11-13, 2013

Times: Either at 1:00 PM or 7:00 PM Cost: \$15.00/per set of materials.

Study #2—What is the Kingdom of God?

Dates: Tuesday and Wednesday, July 23 and 24, 2013

Times: Either at 1:00 PM or 7:00 PM Cost: \$10.00/per set of materials.

Study #3—The Life of the Apostle Paul

Dates: Tuesday and Wednesday, August 6 and 7, 2013

Times: Either at 1:00 PM or 7:00 PM Cost: \$10.00/per set of materials.

Name _____ **Best Phone** _____

Please check marked the studies that will be attended, number of people attending and the number of Sets of Materials desired. Couples may share materials.

_____ **Study #1—The Bible's Big Story**

Number of people attending _____ Number of Material Sets _____

_____ **Study #2—What is the Kingdom of God?**

Number of people attending _____ Number of Material Sets _____

_____ **Study #3—The Life of the Apostle Paul**

Number of people attending _____ Number of Material Sets _____

Please Return this portion to Church Office or to Pastor Jim

What is the "Kingdom of God?"

Jesus came preaching, "The Kingdom of God is at hand." How does the Kingdom of God show itself? Are you part of the Kingdom? Pastor Jim will lead you through a study of Jesus' Redemptive Kingdom and Key Bible Themes of that Kingdom. It will transform your life!



Classes will be held on Tues. & Wed. July 23rd and 24th at 1 PM and 7 PM for your convenience. You will need to register for this class. Cost for the materials is \$10/set and a couple may share materials.



The LIFE of the **APOSTLE PAUL**

On Tues. & Wed.
Aug. 6th & 7th at 1 PM
and 7 PM, Pastor Jim
will lead the study of
the greatest missionary
ever seen – St. Paul!

You will need to
register for this class
and materials are
\$10/set (a couple may
share one set).



**His life, Conversion, Writings
and Missionary Journeys**