



Receives and Examines



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What is the Bible and why was it given to the Church?

The Bible is the record of God's self-revelation to his people. In the Scriptures we discover the specifics of who God is, what God is like, what his plan is, how to receive forgiveness, what it means to live a holy life, our responsibility for those who are suffering, and our obligations to a lost world. The Bible is the standard by which all true Christian belief and practice must be judged and evaluated. However, the Bible was not designed to be merely a rule book or a how-to manual. Rather, the Bible gives us God's self-revelation in the midst of specific situations and contexts, whether in the life of Israel or the challenges of first-century churches.

As we read the Bible, we begin to capture a glimpse of God's majestic plan. Since God's character and ways do not change, we are able to see more of who he is. We capture glimpses of his holiness and his majestic purity and righteousness. In fact, whenever we sit down to read the Bible or hear someone reading Scripture in a public service, we should always picture ourselves as reading the Bible in the presence of the Risen Christ. We should never read the Bible in isolation from the presence of the Triune God. The Holy Spirit is present teaching us and applying the work of Christ to our lives. As we read we are brought into the presence of Christ himself in new and remarkable ways.

God declares that the Bible is "God-breathed." This is much more than the word "inspiration" normally conveys to the human mind. When we think of "inspiration" we think of Bach writing a beautiful musical composition or a painter who is "inspired" to paint a beautiful painting or an architect who is "inspired" to create an amazing new design. The Bible rises above this use of the word "inspiration." In fact, the phrase "God-breathed" implies more of an ex-spuration than an in-spuration—the Scriptures are the very words of God breathed out of his mouth.

Sometimes people speak of several words which together describe the sources of authority in the church—namely, Scripture, experience, reason, and tradition. It is certainly true that our own personal experience with God is very important, that we are called to bring our mind and reason to the reading of Scripture, and that we should listen to the voice of the church through the ages. However, these are not four equal sources of authority. Rather, we should understand that the Bible is the sole source of authority in the life of the church, and the other three should be seen as guides which help us in our understanding and interpretation of Scripture. Our experience, human reasoning, and even church tradition will fail us from time to time. However, Scripture alone is without error and is the only infallible guide to the church's faith and practice. Whenever the people of God lose their confidence in the Scriptures, the church suffers and the gospel becomes obscured by other agendas. The Bible, as the Word of God, must always be honored by the church of Jesus Christ if we are to be faithful to Christ.

Announcements

A full list of announcements is available at www.asburytulsa.org/announcements.

Asbury VBS 2015 DIGGIN' IT



**June 9–12,
9:00 am–
12:30 pm**

6 WEEKS–6TH GRADE

Time to roll up our sleeves and dig into God's Word! We're planting the seeds so that our kids will know that God's love keeps us rooted and growing strong.

Register online at
www.asburytulsa.org.



**INVITE ALL OF
YOUR FRIENDS!**



God & Country

— Patriotic Concert —

Celebrate God and country at Asbury, on June 28 at 4:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Our choir, orchestra, special guests and soloists will present patriotic classics and songs of faith.

Sermon Journal



May 20–June 30



July 1–7



July 8–August 4



August 5–September 8

Asbury
United Methodist Church

Free sermon journals are available TODAY at all Guest Services desks.

These are the best approach to spiritual growth available. Pastor Tom developed the journal several years ago to offer a structured daily reading plan because he wants everyone to learn how to feed themselves spiritually.

Be sure to bring your journal every Sunday to take notes.

Journals are free, but a \$5 donation is appreciated.



What Will YOU Say?

We're glad you're here today. The next time someone asks you where you go to church, we hope you'll say "Asbury!" But what will you say when they ask why? The fellowship? The worship? The teaching? The opportunities for service and discipleship? We hope you'll discover all those things at Asbury and more. It's our job to develop all generations for significant lives in Christ. It's your job to get involved, seek God, and see the transformation!

Worship *with us*
on **Sunday**

8:00 am—Traditional Service In Mason Chapel

9:15 am—Traditional Service in Sanctuary

11:00 am—Modern Service in Sanctuary

Order of Worship | May 31, 2015

9:15 AM

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sean Groombridge

WELCOME

Rev. Gloria McGee-Denton

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY

BAPTISMS

Dr. Tom Harrison

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS *Come, Thou Almighty King*
Hymn #61

Trust and Obey
Hymn #467

SOLO

The Word is Living
Beth Groombridge

PASTORAL PRAYER

Dr. Tom Harrison

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY

Rosanna Corrales

SCRIPTURE

Acts 17:10–12

MESSAGE

Receives and Examines
Dr. Tom Harrison

CHORAL BENEDICTION *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Rosanna Corrales

Connect with our pastor:

Rev. Gloria McGee-Denton | gmcgee-denton@asburytulsa.org
twitter.com/runthehumanrace

Daily scripture readings for the upcoming week:

June 1: 2 Timothy 3:10–17

June 2: Proverbs 1:1–7

June 3: Acts 17:13–15

June 4: John 5:16–30

June 5: Luke 24:46–49

June 6: Acts 13:1–5

Next Week: Ekklesia: Sends and Stays

Order of Worship | May 31, 2015

11:00 AM

SCRIPTURE

Acts 17:10–12

MESSAGE

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Todd Craig

SONGS HEARD TODAY

*Hands To The Heavens
In Christ Alone
Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)*

Worship Pastor: Jon Odom

Worship Leader: Chris Cleveland

Connect with our pastors:

Todd Craig | tcraig@asburytulsa.org | twitter.com/tcraig135

Jon Odom | jodom@asburytulsa.org | twitter.com/jonodom

Dick Read | rdread@asburytulsa.org

Notes:

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*Next Week: **Ekklesia: Sends and Stays***