

Announcements

- If you would like to be added to the phone list or have updates to make, please fill out the household information form; the Business office will update the phone list shortly.
- We are covering week 3 of the *Holy Word for Morning Revival* on “The Reality of the Body of Christ.” Copies are available in the bookroom.
- The parents of the young people will meet together for prayer and fellowship today after the meeting.
- Final online registration for the high school retreat is due today.
- Junior High retreat registration is due by next Lord’s day (2/25). There will be no late registration. Visit the church in Boise’s website, www.churchinboise.org to register.
- All saints burdened for Bellevue College will meet after the prophesying meeting on February 24th for prayer and fellowship.
- We are reading messages 45 and 46 from the *Life-Study of Numbers*. The reading schedule is posted on the church website.
- If you would like a tax report for 2018, please email bellevuefinanceservice@googlegroups.com

Burdens for Prayer

- London Training Center
- Gospel trips around Europe and America
- Germany
- Meeting hall modifications (parking permit)
- Prayer meeting
- Northwest localities
- How to get into the matters of the experience of life to bring us to maturity

This Week: February 18 – February 24

Morning Revival: *The Reality of the Body of Christ*, week 3

Hall Cleaning: Downstairs – Redmond
Upstairs – Hall Team

Tuesday	7:30pm	Prayer Meeting
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Saturday	8:30am	Breakfast
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Lord's Day	9:30am	Lord's Table
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March

1-3	High School Retreat
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8-10	Junior High Girls Retreat
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22-24	Junior High Boys Retreat
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29-31	Conference in Missoula, MT
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LIFE-STUDY OF NUMBERS

MESSAGE FORTY-FIVE

FIGHTING (14)

1. The Request of the Two Tribes, Reuben and Gad

a. A Desire to Receive What God Had Promised

The request of the two tribes, Reuben and Gad (vv. 1-5), was not wrong, but neither was it right. Their desire was to receive what God had promised, according to their choice as the best, not according to God's choice as the best. The desire to receive what God had promised was not wrong. However, they were not right in wanting to receive this according to their choice as the best. Eventually, their land was the first part of the land of Israel to be taken over by the Gentile invaders from the east. The tribes of Reuben and Gad suffered, and this suffering was related to their having their own choice.

In spiritual matters it is terrible to do things according to our choice. Whatever is according to our choice will not turn out to be profitable. We may think that our choice is the best, but it is actually the worst. Therefore, in spiritual matters we should try not to act according to our choice. It is much better for us to leave matters in the hand of the Lord and let Him do according to His choice.

b. Because of What They Had and of What They Saw

The two tribes made their request because of what they had (a very great multitude of cattle—v. 1) and because of what they saw (a land good for livestock—v. 4). This was the reason for their choice.

Self-choice, even in the church life, comes from two things—considering what we have and need and considering how a particular situation or opportunity that we see in front of us fits in with our needs. This should not be our situation in the church life or in the service of the Lord. Both in the church life and in the Lord's work, we need to resist the temptation to have our self-choice for the purpose of taking care of our own welfare.

We need to learn the lesson of not considering what we have or what is in front of us but leaving our future in the hand of the Lord. We should not try to have our own choice in the church life or in the Lord's service. If you insist on having your own choice, be prepared to suffer as a result. Our choice is not the best selection. We are shortsighted and somewhat selfish, so it is difficult for us to be pure in motive, desire, intention, goal, and purpose. We should be willing to give up our choice and tell the Lord that we do not have any choice of our own.

c. Without Crossing the River Jordan

The land requested by Reuben and Gad could be reached without crossing the river Jordan. Without crossing the Jordan signifies without having the old man dealt with and buried. Only after we have had the old man dealt with and buried are we in a position to talk about possessing the good land for our enjoyment.

d. Receiving the Promise of the Good Land

Not with the Body of the Children of Israel
Reuben and Gad did not receive the promise of the good land with the body of the children of Israel. This signifies receiving the enjoyment of Christ separately, without the Body of Christ.

Bible Reading Schedule with Footnotes

Lord's Day, February 17 th	2 Cor. 1:1-4
Monday, February 18 th	2 Cor. 1:5-14
Tuesday, February 19 th	2 Cor. 1:15-22
Wednesday, February 20 th	2 Cor. 1:23 – 2:11
Thursday, February 21 st	2 Cor. 2:12-17
Friday, February 22 nd	2 Cor. 3:1-6
Saturday, February 23 rd	2 Cor. 3:7-11