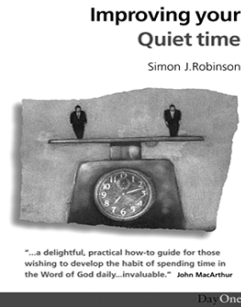


Take and Read

From Our Library

'Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where He prayed' (Mark 1:35) The Lord Jesus deliberately withdrew not only for the crowds, but also from His disciples, in order to be alone with His Father. If the Lord Jesus needed quiet times of fellowship and prayer, how much more do we?



There are no rules laid down in the Bible for organizing our times of quiet, and so often we gain from the experience and advice of others. *Simon Robinson's* *Improving your Quiet Time* is full of practical advice which should encourage many who are struggling to achieve a better balance in their spiritual walk. It also contains ideas for personal study plans, together with a two-year Bible reading plan.

By looking after our walk with God, our public and private life will not be in conflict and opposition. Instead, our life will show how attractive the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is.

For more information ; contact André Camilleri

Quote of the Month

*"Beware of burying your one talent because it is not five.
Beware of despising the grain of mustard seed,
because it is not yet a tree."*

(John Fletcher)

Calendar of Events

*"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing,
but let us encourage one another..." Hebrews 10:25*

May 2009

- Sunday's Church Services — 3rd,10th,17th,24th, 31st.
- Tuesday's Women's Bible Study — 12th,26th
- Wednesday's Bible Study — 6th, 20th, 27th.
- Thursday's Prayer Meeting — 14th, 28th.
- Experience Meeting — Wed. 13th.



"More Than Conquerors"

Issue 9
May 2009

"...in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us" - Romans 8:37.

The Pastor's Letter

Dear Brethren,

I am very pleased to notice how a good number among us have been touched by the Spirit to share their joy with others, who still need to hear the wondrous news about God's redemption through his Son Jesus. I am looking forward for our weekly tracting ministry to be established as one of our strengths as a fellowship of believers. We are not orators, but we do have a tongue for the Risen Saviour, and we do have a pair of feet. And as the Scripture says, "How beautiful are the feet of them that bring good news..."

We do not originate the message. As Christ's disciples, we deliver the message as received from him, and are responsible to him for its delivery only. We must continue to deliver the message clearly and deliver it faithfully, and it is indeed a serious responsibility.

Whenever we reach out to the lost, we are to be careful that we speak the Truth of the Gospel to them in sincere and fervent love, not as a mechanical exercise. Prayer for success is essential, for it is always imperative to speak to God about men before we speak to men about God. Let us seek God's grace, to bless our labour with the conviction of the Spirit so that we may see more precious souls gathered into his kingdom.

Grace, mercy and peace be with you all.
Paul

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**Every Saturday
3:00pm to 4:30pm**

For more details
Contact Pastor Paul

Catechism Corner

Question 37 What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection?

At the resurrection, believers being raised up in glory, (1Corinthians 15:43) shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted in the day of judgment, (Matthew 10:32) and made perfectly blessed both in soul and body in the full enjoying of God (1 John 3:2) to all eternity. (1Thessalonians 4:17)

Question 38 What shall be done to the wicked at their death?

The souls of the wicked shall at their death be cast into the torments of hell, (Luke 16:22-24) and their bodies lie in their graves till the resurrection, and judgment of the great day. (Psalms 49:14)

Question 39 What shall be done to the wicked at the day of judgment?

At the day of judgment the bodies of the wicked being raised out of their graves, shall be sentenced, together with their souls, to unspeakable torments with the devil and his angels for ever. (Daniel 12:2; John 5:28,29; 2Thessalonians 1:9; Matthew 25:41)

Question 40 What did God reveal to man for the rule of his obedience?

The rule which God first revealed to man for his obedience, is the moral law, (Deuteronomy 10:4; Matthew 19:17) which is summarized in the ten commandments

Remember and Learn

REMEMBER the four lepers (2 Kgs. 7:3-11) and how after they found the food which the Syrians had cast away realized that it was not right for them 'to hold their peace' but decided to return back to Samaria and tell the others about it, **and LEARN** that if you have really 'found Christ', you will not keep Him to yourself but will want to tell others about him and be anxious that they should find Him too.



Sayings of: Andrew Murray. (1828-1917)

- God never speaks to His people of sin **except** with a view of saving them from it.
- As in the OT there is no higher word than the word HOLY, so in the NT there is no deeper word than IN CHRIST.
- Men seek to do themselves what grace **alone** can do in them.
- There is in the Christian life **great need** of watchfulness and of prayer, of self denial and of striving, of obedience and of diligence.
- One Scripture verse chosen to meet our needs, read ten times and then laid up in the heart, is better than ten verses read only once



Experimental Christianity

The Value of Reading Good Books.

On his deathbed Matthew Henry said: 'If God spares my life I will read less and pray more'. More time spent in prayer is what many Christians need the most, but if we are not mistaken few Christians today need to **read less!** On the contrary, we think that sadly many are failing to recognize the value of reading good books, and so are giving little importance to it. No wonder their spiritual progress is so stunted! Others despise books and condemn all reading, boasting and relying only in their 'enthusiasmos'; their private experiences from God. John Calvin commenting on 2 Tim.4:13 responds with vigour to such foolishness and affirms that this passage refutes the madness of these fanatics, noting that this passage commends continual reading to all godly men as a thing from which they can profit. Spurgeon too said: 'Even the great apostle Paul wants books! Even an apostle must read, and so rebukes those who do not!' We agree. The reading of good books, not forgetting the good old Book; the Bible, helps us much and so we want to highly recommend it to you. You need books! You must read!

But why is it that only few Christians read, and those who do read, read so little? The reasons are many, we mention four. Sheer worldliness, a lack of conviction that such reading strengthens faith and increases joy, a disorderly life that cannot find time for the best things and no desire that stimulates our minds and makes us want to know more. If only we could realize how many Christians, throughout the centuries, have attributed their conversion and spiritual progress to the reading of a good book as the means that God was pleased to use!

What should you read? Read what most affects your heart and leads it to **spiritual vitality**; i.e. good books! And what is it that makes a book 'good'? A good book should start us on a train of thought that carries us far beyond the book itself, it should not only inform but inspire, it should serve as a ramp from which our minds can take off, it should not only comfort but challenge. In this short article we have only space to recommend to you the reading of the Biographies of the great Christian men and women. Read the Puritans, it is like having a thorough examination, followed by surgery, treatment and recovery. It is not always the most pleasant of experiences but you are all the better for it! You can also ask your pastor or a mature Christian brother or sister to recommend to you a 'good' book or a good author.

How should you read? Read devotionally! This is unlike any other reading which you do, and it is the most difficult type of reading but the most profitable. Rushing will never enable you to receive the truths contained in the books you read and so you must read slowly, always beginning with prayer. When a word or thought seizes your attention or imagination stop reading and give full attention to it. Think, meditate, pray, learn and apply to your daily life. Finally, remember that books and reading are only a means and not an end. The Greek philosopher, Epicretus, understood well the difference between means and end, and was not impressed by the number of books his students read; 'show me your progress in this point' he demanded! Therefore read and think and pray – and through His grace your reading shall be useful and profitable to you. Remember not to make reading a substitute for thinking, and never let it replace your personal prayer time or your Bible reading and meditation.

Dear reader, please take our advice and read a good book! Make a resolution today to start reading one good book in the coming weeks.

Why not contact us and borrow one of **thousands** of good books we have in our Library!