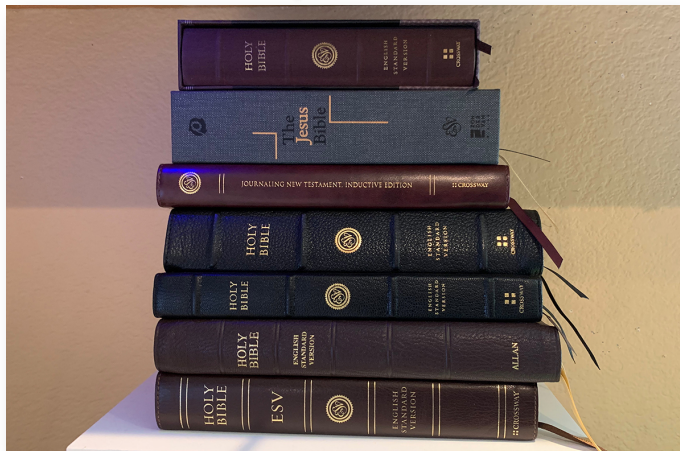


Daily View

"But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called 'today'" Hebrews 3:13

July 2, 2020



Internet or no internet, I'm still a big fan of the printed page. Here are a few of my ESV Bibles; I have several in other versions... and a few on my devices, just in case.

The Internet

The other day, Christie was talking to Josie Brown and Christie thought Josie was saying "act silly" so Christie was making faces and... acting silly. Josie looked at her like she was crazy. Josie finally said, "I said *ask Siri*." Kids can ask questions to an inanimate object and it will answer. How cool is that?! In our day, if you said "siri..." we would wait for the "ous." Many of you have no idea what life was like without the Internet. We do.

We were here long before "Google" was even a thing, let alone a verb. When I was in school, if I wanted to fact check my teachers, I couldn't "Google" it. I would have loved that. Instead, I had to go to something called a "library" and look at an "encyclopedia" to see if what they told me was true. Actually, I didn't bother. Teachers could say anything they wanted in those days; that's why some of us are so messed up.

If you chose to read, you had to read printed and bound books. I loved going to bookstores. There was a book store in Pasadena called "Archives" that served as a subsidiary bookstore for Fuller Theological Seminary but also had lots of new and used books. I spent hours there, often while Christie was shopping at the fabric district in LA.

Today it's hard to imagine life without the Internet. No social media; no ready access to information; no virtual meetings; no selfies or vacation shots sent immediately to friends (*we bored people with slide shows*); no need to carry a printed Bible into Bible class or worship; just look on your phone. It's hard to imagine life without a phone/camera in your pocket.

I have to say that the internet has, mostly, been a good thing. It makes research easier though you have to be very careful. And now, I can read my Bible anytime and anywhere. While I still favor — strongly — using a printed Bible that is bound,

usually, in leather, I can't deny that it's great to have ready access to the scriptures.

That means, though, that we have no excuse for not reading our Bibles. *Theoretically, we should be the most well-read Christians ever!* You can even listen to the Bible if you want to.

God's word is our life-blood as disciples. Paul said,

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. [II Timothy 3:16-17]

"Teaching, reproof, correction, training in righteousness." Those are important outcomes and the word does that for us if we are following Jesus' direction in Matthew 6:33 to "seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." Peter tells us,

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

II Peter 1:3-4

With the ease of accessing the word, we have no excuse if we become "dull of hearing" (Hebrews 5:11).

Update: Preaching

In an attempt to bring some consistency to our preaching service, I'll be preaching three services each Sunday and Scott will preach three services on the last Sunday of each month. I'll be preaching primarily out of Romans — we've had classes but it's been at least 11 years since I preached a series from that book, so we're due. Scott will be preaching a series from Galatians which deals with some similar themes.

It would be really helpful if you would read through those books and, if you have any questions, send them to us so we can address them in the sermons.