

Living Lent | Saturday, March 2

Clint Purser – Schell & Hogan CPAs – Donor

For Lent...Stop Reading the Bible

Today's Reading: Psalm 103:1-4;9-12

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy..."

Psalm 103:1-4 ESV

Encouragement for the Lenten Journey:

Before you search for my contact information to send a lengthy, scathing email denoting the eternal benefits of Scripture – and copying it to social media – please hear me out. Scripture is POWERFUL! But how do you read Scripture, or what is the purpose of your reading? We often fall into the habitual trap of reading Scripture to learn about God as opposed to encountering God. Is your total view of God a summation of what you have read about Him with your current view of the most recent article, podcast, or sermon you heard?

Most of you do not know me. You can search the internet to find out about me and find a few facts about my life, but you cannot get experiential knowledge of me by reading about me. My wife knows me. My daughter knows me.

My close friends and coworkers know me. Experience over time brings real knowledge. Have you/ Do you regularly and knowingly experience God? May I be so bold as to suggest that for one week (starting Easter Day), put aside your daily devotion, prayer list, and Bible - all good things - and spend ten minutes with the Holy Spirit of Almighty God? The Spirit of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and the One Who gave His life on the cross so that we could spend this time with our Wonderful Counselor. If you are like me, you will find out on day one that spending a few minutes in a deep search encounter with God is not easy; distractions abound, both externally and internally. It will take an exerted effort to focus on, and listen to, the Holy Spirit. Do not allow your mind to speak. Listen. Let the Holy Spirit have complete control to blend with your spirit,

and make a difference for The Kingdom in your life and the lives of all you encounter. The God of Psalm 103 will become real...heart knowledge as opposed to head knowledge:

Experience praise from the soul

"Remember-ize" all His benefits

Experience complete forgiveness, healing, redemption, love, and compassion

Experience the reality of grace... God's undeserved favor

Contributor and Contributing Body of Christ:

Clint Purser lives on the GA coast with his wife Lynn and their four-legged companion, Blue Baloo, where they partner in ministry with The Chapel, becoming more like Jesus for the sake of others. Clint is in vocational ministry in the accounting field (Schell & Hogan CPAs), where the harvest is ripe.