

# DALE EBEL MINISTRIES

## To Be His Disciples and To Make Disciples

### Linda

In two of my groups, over forty women, studied a 540 page textbook on the Biblical sequence of prophetic events. Along with the textbook they filled out a 355 page workbook! More women participated than in previous years even with the intense study schedule. All were amazed with the inspiration of God's Word and the detail included in it. We rely on Creator God who has fulfilled His promises in the past, recent ones in this past century, and will also fulfill His detailed future promises.

In our previous newsletter we mentioned that I led one of my mother's caregiver's, Kathleen, age 45, to Christ during our Bible study at the care home in Silverton. Kathleen showed evidence of true faith in that she was reading the Bible I gave her every day and never missed a study after that. Sadly, after the publication of our last newsletter, four weeks to the day after her conversion, God unexpectedly took this precious woman home to be with Him while she was caring for the residents. I am so glad she came to know her Lord!

### Dale

My groups have studied Genesis 1-11 and the accompanying notes from the Henry Morris Study Bible, and the articles from the Founder's Bible along with the accompanying Scriptures.

In February and March of 2016 there will be a great opportunity for me. Like the Apostle Paul said, *"There is a wide-open door for a great work here,..."* (1 Corinthians 16:9). The Shoreline Church of San Clemente has asked me to come and teach an eight week mid-week series (and services one weekend) titled: *The Truth About the World*. This truly is an *"open door"* as Pastor George Hulse recognizes the huge need for the church to be able to integrate the Faith into every aspect of our culture. If you feel led, would you please pray for me as I am at the present time writing the curriculum that will be communicated throughout every ministry of the church during the eight weeks?



### Disciples' Comments

Through out this newsletter we will be communicating a few of the comments we have received from our discipleship gatherings. The men and women we meet with are our joy before the Lord. Notice what the Apostle Paul considered to be his joy and reward: Philippians 4:1 NLT, *"... my dear brothers and sisters, ... you are my joy and the crown I receive for my work."*

#### Comments from Dale's disciples:

- Most Tuesday nights I drive away from our men's group wishing that portions of our time could be broadcast out for the world to see. For the tired and perhaps jaded older generation of Christians out there, I think they would see our group of 10 - 15 energetic and optimistic men in the prime of their lives as a ray of hope. We're uncompromising on the historicity and authority of Scripture. We believe prayer can change the course of history. We study the Scriptures to continue moving forward the light of the gospel that has been carried by men before us. This generation is not "lost" as some have said. I think others that are not followers of Christ would be shocked to see young, successful men studying an old religious text. I think they might be taken aback that our group of men is normal, thoughtful, and importantly compassionate in communicating the truths of the Bible, contrary to what they might see in other venues. In fact, I think that most non-believers would be intrigued by our discussion and compelled to study the Scriptures beyond what cursory knowledge they held previously. **Kevin**
- Over the last few years we have had the opportunity to share the good and bad, bringing us closer together, and also opening up rational, real world conversations about how we can best live each day. **Jesse**
- As the Young Life Area Director in Portland, Dale's influence in my life has not only changed me but our volunteers' lives forever. Being spurred on to love and good deeds by a friend is something that I cherish and do not take for granted. We are led well, into hard ball questions and encouraged to find the answers that we want for ourselves using Scripture and multiple commentaries. Being taught to ask the right questions that lead conversations to Jesus has been my favorite part of Tuesday nights! **Phil**
- God has used Dale's ministry to educate me on the Scriptures, their context, and apologetics, while empowering me to detect opportunities for steering everyday conversations into higher discussions about the truth of God with ease and confidence. Dale has a refreshing style of leadership that does not hesitate to address taboo issues our Christian culture has come to fear. **Nate**

Thank you for your prayers and contributions. If you would like to invest in our ministry we would very much appreciate it. Your gifts are tax-deductible according to the law, as we are a 501(c)(3). You may donate online at our website at [www.daleebel.org](http://www.daleebel.org) or by sending a check made out to Dale Ebel Ministries to the address below. I am frequently posting teachings on our website. Linda and I find great joy in discipling others and in teaching the Bible.

## Reproduction

One of the most sobering questions I ask myself is *Am I reproducing Christ-like behaviors in the men that I am discipling with God's Word?*

Jesus Christ said, *"Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by [his] fruit."* Matthew 12:33 KJV

### Examples of bearing fruit:

- After studying the notes from the Henry Morris Study Bible two guys told me of their conversations with in-laws and associates about evolution and the Bible. They said they felt equipped to dialogue intelligently with them.
- After involvement in our study, two men decided to become involved in negotiations with school unions about their accountability with spending public funds.
- After studying the articles in the Founders' Bible together, along with the Scriptures, men are initiating conversations based on this knowledge.
- One friend said that these studies are so informative that he has started teaching these truths with another group of men.
- Men are learning to be the spiritual leaders of their homes by leading discussions with their wives around the Word of God, protecting and empowering their kids to be salt and light in this convoluted culture, and taking time to build Truth into their lives.



## Organic Home Church

The New Testament church primarily met daily from house to house. Act 5:42 NLT, *"And every day, in the Temple courts and from house to house, they continued to teach and preach this message: 'Jesus is the Messiah.'"*

God's original educational plan is found in Deuteronomy 6:4-7, *"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God [is] one Lord: and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words, which I command you this day, shall be in your heart: And you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up."*

We have outsourced our Christianity so extensively to the local church that we think it is normal and that our pastors and youth pastors are to be the primary teachers of our kids. If you would ask the average family how much effort they put into teaching their children from the Word of God, or spontaneously talk about the Lord and what He is doing, most would say they seldom if ever do. Actually the most organic expression of the local church is the family opening up the Word of God with Dad and Mom leading the discussion. Here are some of the ways we have done this.

- Each person has his or her own Bible and opens to the particular passage, with a fine-point pen in hand to underline. Some read the text out loud and all comment on what they have learned or have observed. I cannot tell you what a thrill it is for me to hear our grandchildren read the Bible aloud and make comments.



## Disciples' Comments

### Comments from Linda's disciples:

- More than anything this study has helped me grow in the Word more than any other Bible Study I have ever done. I have matured as a Christian which is reflected in my ability to understand and comprehend all of the Bible, particularly the Old Testament. My goal is to reread the entire Bible this year, I am on day 159, and I am experiencing ease of study unlike any I've had before. The Word is being revealed! **Joanne**
- It is so interesting to realize that the promises God made to Israel are indeed for the redeemed Israel and that the Church, because it is grafted in, is also to be blessed, but not to replace Israel. I am glad to have the order of events in my mind. I am amazed to see where the Old Testament nations are on today's map. Wow! Israel is right in the middle geographically of ... the world. And to see those same nations prominent in today's current events. Hmmm. Much to ponder. **Carolyn**
- This study has been such a blessing to me. I never knew much about the Millennial Kingdom. But more than anything, I have a totally new appreciation for the Old Testament. The study has truly changed me. Thanks so much, Linda, for being our teacher. **Jeri**
- This study has made a great difference in my walk with Jesus. It is so exciting. I am understanding my position as a believer. God has a perfect plan for His followers and I have a peace. Because of this study I have a desire to go to Israel. **Charlotte**



- We have shown short videos from ICR.org called *That's A Fact* about various scientific subjects like the wonder of God creating our hands based on Psalm 139:14 and Isaiah 41:10. We viewed how the Ice Age took place after the Great Flood, and in the video scientists talked about *aerosols* which are particles released from volcanoes. One of our grandsons said, *"We just learned about aerosols in science this week!"*

- We showed a video about the rise of civilizations and languages based on Genesis 4 and 10. This led us to a two-week study of the powerful 17th chapter of Acts when Paul addressed the Athenians how God placed each of us where we live so we might best find Him.

- Each of us, including adults, draw pictures of what the Lord has shown us in the Bible study and discussion and then stand up and present our drawings. I save all of the pictures with their names and dates.

- Each person prays at times. When was the last time you prayed out loud publicly at church service on a Sunday with your family or with others? You can do church in your PJs, without make up, being dressed up or being cleaned shaven! Gear your Bible study portion to apply to the ages of your children and their interests.

I would suggest you give it a try with your immediate family. Perhaps a few relatives and friends could be invited and make it a monthly gathering. You will be amazed at what everyone learns and retains. The personal connection with your kids will probably be the most powerful long-term benefit in the years to come.