

# OUR KINGDOM MINISTRY

October 2008

For United States of America

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## New Congregation Meeting Schedule

<sup>1</sup> During the week of April 21-27, 2008, the worldwide brotherhood heard an exciting announcement. “Commencing January 1, 2009, the Congregation Book Study will be held at the same time as the Theocratic Ministry School and the Service Meeting. The name of the Congregation Book Study will be changed to Congregation Bible Study.”

<sup>2</sup> **Schedule for This Weekly Meeting:** The total time for this meeting, including the songs and prayers, will be 1 hour and 45 minutes. The meeting will begin with song and prayer (5 min.), followed by the Congregation Bible Study (25 min.). The Theocratic Ministry School (30 min.) will follow directly thereafter. Then, a song (5 min.) introduces the Service Meeting (35 min.). The meeting concludes with song and prayer (5 min.). To assist you in preparing for these meetings, the schedule for the Congregation Bible Study, the Theocratic Ministry School, and the Service Meeting will be published month by month in *Our Kingdom Ministry*.

<sup>3</sup> **Congregation Bible Study:** This meeting will be patterned after the *Watchtower* Study. There will be no need to begin with a review of the previous week’s material. Rather, the meeting should have only a very brief introduction. This will allow sufficient time for all present to give brief comments. The presiding overseer will supervise the assigning of elders to take turns conducting this meeting, a different elder each week.

<sup>4</sup> **Service Meeting:** The Service Meeting will remain the same but with shorter parts. Announcements will usually take five minutes. This should be sufficient time for essential announcements and certain letters from the branch. Such announcements as field service arrangements, cleaning schedules, accounts reports, and routine letters from the branch office do not need to be read from the platform but will be posted on the information board for the

brothers to read. Those with assigned program parts should prepare well and adhere closely to the time allotted and to the instructions provided.

<sup>5</sup> **Circuit Overseer’s Visit:** The circuit overseer’s weekly schedule will not be adjusted. On Tuesday the Theocratic Ministry School and Service Meeting will be held followed by a song. Then the circuit overseer will give a 30-minute talk. As is currently done during the week of his visit, another evening will be designated for the Congregation Bible Study followed by a song and the circuit overseer’s service talk. The meeting will close with a song and prayer.

<sup>6</sup> **Meetings for Field Service:** Group overseers will be assigned by the body of elders to care for field service groups and shepherd the individuals making up the group. When a ministerial servant is needed to fill that role, he should be designated as the “group servant.”

<sup>7</sup> As outlined, we will have the opportunity to enjoy an instructive, upbuilding evening of spiritual banqueting. This will enable us to be effective preachers and teachers, trained for a more fruitful ministry.—Eph. 4:13, 14; 2 Tim. 3:17.

<sup>8</sup> Studying in advance for these meetings will help us focus clearly on the main points highlighted during each meeting. We will all have opportunity to share in commenting, contributing to a fine interchange of encouragement. (Rom. 1:11, 12; Heb. 10:24) Our aim should be to “make our advancement manifest” by “handling the word of the truth aright.”—1 Tim. 4:15; 2 Tim. 2:15.

<sup>9</sup> We rejoice in this significant change of our congregation meetings. May we all keep on availing ourselves of the guidance that “the faithful and discreet slave” provides and stay close to our Great Shepherd as he prepares us for the great “tribulation” now on the horizon.—Matt. 24:21, 45; Heb. 13:20, 21; Rev. 7:14.

5. During the week of the circuit overseer’s visit, what will be the congregation meeting schedule?

6. What is the role of the group overseer?

7. What can we anticipate with our new congregation meeting schedule?

8. How will advance individual preparation benefit us as well as others?

9. What is our resolve, and why?

1. 2. What changes to the meetings will take place beginning in January 2009?

3. How will the Congregation Bible Study be conducted?

4. To what extent will the Service Meeting change?



## SERVICE MEETING SCHEDULE

### Week Starting October 13

Song 174

**10 min:** Local announcements. Outline local arrangements for the special tract campaign to begin on October 20, and encourage all to pick up a supply of tracts if they have not already done so. Briefly review the sample presentations for the October 1 *Watchtower* and the October *Awake!* found on page 8. Since many publishers have been offering these magazines for a few weeks, invite those in the audience to relate an experience they have had.

**35 min:** "New Congregation Meeting Schedule."\* As time permits, read cited scriptures and invite audience to comment on them.

Song 216

### Week Starting October 20

Song 113

**5 min:** Local announcements. Selected Announcements from *Our Kingdom Ministry*.

**20 min:** Maintain Joy in the Ministry. Encouraging talk based on material from paragraphs 11-17 on pages 24-25 of *The Watchtower* of July 1, 2005. Include an interview of one or two longtime faithful servants of Jehovah. What has enabled them to maintain joy when people are unresponsive?

**20 min:** Prepare to Offer the November 1 *Watchtower* and the November *Awake!* After giving a brief overview of the magazines, ask the audience which articles they think

might be of special interest to many people in the local territory. Have them relate why. Invite the audience to suggest an appropriate question that they plan to use to start a conversation and a scripture from the article to use before offering the magazines. Speaker concludes by demonstrating how each magazine might be offered, using the sample presentations on page 8 or another presentation designed to appeal to people in the local territory.

Song 148

### Week Starting October 27

Song 30

**5 min:** Local announcements. Read accounts report and donation acknowledgments.

**10 min:** Local needs.

**30 min:** "Personal and Family Bible Study Are Vital!"\* As time permits, read cited scriptures and invite audience to comment on them.

Song 142

### Week Starting November 3

Song 100

**10 min:** Local announcements. Remind publishers to turn in field service reports for October.

**20 min:** The Theocratic Ministry School for 2009. The school overseer discusses with audience the new Theocratic Ministry School as outlined under "Instructions" in the Theocratic Ministry School Schedule insert. Focus on adjustments being made. En-

courage all to be diligent in fulfilling assignments, in preparing to comment on Bible highlights, and in applying the comments given weekly by the school overseer based on *Benefit From Theocratic Ministry School Education*.

**15 min:** Enhance Your "Art of Teaching." Service overseer or other qualified elder identifies and comments briefly on five key factors involved in effective teaching as set forth in paragraphs 5-18 on pages 9-12 of the January 15, 2008, *Watchtower*. Interview one or two publishers who feel that this information has helped them improve their teaching ability.

\* Limit introductory comments to less than a minute, and follow with a question-and-answer discussion.

### JUNE SERVICE REPORT

Number of:	Av. Hrs.	Av. Mags.	Av. R.V.	Av. Bt.St.
<b>United States</b>				
Sp'l Pios.	533	107.6	56.8	40.8
Pios.	107,061	62.2	33.9	19.0
Aux. Pios.	37,000	49.5	29.5	11.3
Pubs.	895,436	9.9	7.5	3.5
TOTAL	1,040,030			Baptized: 4,677

<b>Bermuda</b>				
Pios.	70	65.7	33.4	21.1
Aux. Pios.	10	43.9	20.2	12.1
Pubs.	372	10.2	9.1	4.2
TOTAL	452			

<b>Turks &amp; Caicos</b>				
Sp'l Pios.	2	120.0	55.0	63.0
Pios.	17	75.8	26.8	29.8
Aux. Pios.	12	56.6	28.8	14.5
Pubs.	146	12.2	7.3	5.2
TOTAL	177			

We are happy to report a new peak in the number of regular pioneers in Bermuda! The total of 70 regular pioneers reporting is an increase of one over the previous peak of 69 set in February 2008.



# THEOCRATIC MINISTRY SCHOOL SCHEDULE FOR 2008

## INSTRUCTIONS

During 2008 the following will be the arrangements for conducting the Theocratic Ministry School.

**SOURCE MATERIAL:** *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures* [b12], *Benefit From Theocratic Ministry School Education* [be], *"All Scripture Is Inspired of God and Beneficial"* (1990 Edition) [st], and *Reasoning From the Scriptures* (1989 Edition) [rs].

The school should begin ON TIME with song, prayer, and remarks of welcome and then proceed as outlined below. After each part, the school overseer will introduce the next part.

**SPEECH QUALITY:** 5 minutes. The school overseer, the auxiliary counselor, or another qualified elder will discuss a speech quality based on the *Ministry School* textbook. (In congregations with a limited number of elders, qualified ministerial servants may be used.)

**ASSIGNMENT NO. 1:** 10 minutes. This should be handled by a qualified elder or ministerial servant, and it will be based on *Benefit From Theocratic Ministry School Education* or *"All Scripture Is Inspired of God and Beneficial."* It is to be delivered as a ten-minute instruction talk. The objective should be not just to cover the material but to focus attention on the *practical value* of the information being discussed, highlighting what will be most helpful to the congregation. The theme shown should be used. It is expected that brothers assigned this talk will be careful to *keep within the time limit*. Private counsel may be given as needed.

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM BIBLE READING:** 10 minutes. For the first five minutes, a qualified elder or ministerial servant should apply the material in a way that will be beneficial to the congregation. He may comment on any portion of the assigned Bible reading for the week. This should not be just a summary of the assigned reading. The principal objective is to help the audience to appreciate *why* and *how* the information is of value. The speaker should be careful not to exceed the five minutes allotted for the opening portion. He should ensure that five minutes are set aside for audience participation. The audience should be invited to offer *brief* comments (30 seconds or less) on what they have appreciated in the Bible reading and its benefits. The school overseer will then dismiss the students who are assigned to other classrooms.

**ASSIGNMENT NO. 2:** 4 minutes or less. This is a reading to be given by a brother. The student should read the assigned material without giving an introduction or a conclusion. The school overseer will be especially interested in helping students to read with understanding, fluency, proper sense stress, modulation, appropriate pausing, and naturalness.

**ASSIGNMENT NO. 3:** 5 minutes. This will be assigned to a sister. Sisters receiving this assignment either will be assigned a setting or will select one from the list appearing on page 82 of the *Ministry School* textbook. The student should use the assigned theme and apply it to an aspect of field service that is realistic and practical for the local territory. When no references are indicated as source material, the student will need to gather material for this part by doing research in our publications. Newer students should be given assignments for which references are supplied. The school overseer will be particularly interested in the way the student develops the material and the way she helps the householder to reason on the Scriptures and to understand the key points of the presentation. The school overseer will assign one assistant.

**ASSIGNMENT NO. 4:** 5 minutes. The student should develop the assigned theme. When no references are indicated as source material, the student will need to gather material for this part by doing research in our publications. When assigned to a brother, this part should be given as a talk with the Kingdom Hall audience in mind. When a sister is given this part, it should always be presented as outlined for Assignment No. 3. The school overseer may give a brother Assignment No. 4 whenever he sees fit to do so. Please note that themes with an asterisk next to them should always be assigned to brothers to develop as talks. If there are more than enough elders and ministerial servants in your congregation to handle the various parts on the Theocratic Ministry School and Service Meeting, then it is preferred that themes with asterisks be assigned to an elder or a ministerial servant whenever possible.

**COUNSEL:** 1 minute. The school overseer will not announce in advance the speech quality that a student is working on. After Assignments No. 2, No. 3, and No. 4, the school overseer will offer positive observations on an aspect of the talk that was commendable. His aim is not simply to say "well done" but, rather, to draw attention to specific reasons why that aspect of the presentation was effective. According to the need of each student, additional constructive counsel may be given privately after the meeting or at another time.

**TIMING:** No talk should go overtime, nor should the remarks of the counselor. Assignments No. 2 through 4 should tactfully be stopped when the time is up. If brothers handling the opening talk on a speech quality, Assignment No. 1, or highlights from the Bible reading go overtime, they should be given private counsel. All should watch their timing carefully. Total program: 45 minutes, excluding song and prayer.

**COUNSEL FORM:** In textbook.

**AUXILIARY COUNSELOR:** The body of elders may select a capable elder, if one is available in addition to the school overseer, to handle the assignment as auxiliary counselor. If there are a number of elders in the congregation, then a different qualified elder may care for this assignment each year. The auxiliary counselor's responsibility will be to give private counsel, if needed, to brothers who present Assignment No. 1 and Bible highlights. It is not necessary that he offer counsel after each of such talks by fellow elders or by ministerial servants.

**THEOCRATIC MINISTRY SCHOOL REVIEW:** 30 minutes. Every two months, the school overseer will conduct a review. It will be preceded by the consideration of a speech quality and highlights from the Bible reading as outlined above. The review will be based on material considered in the school during the preceding two months, including the current week. If your congregation has a circuit assembly during the week of the Theocratic Ministry School Review, then the review (and the rest of the weekly schedule) should be postponed one week and the subsequent week's schedule should be used one week early. If the circuit overseer will be visiting your congregation during the week of a review, then the song, the speech quality talk, and Bible highlights should be presented as scheduled. The instruction talk (given after the speech quality talk) should be drawn from the following week's schedule. The Theocratic Ministry School for the next week will proceed with the speech quality talk and Bible highlights as scheduled, followed by the review.



# SCHEDULE

**Jan. 7 Bible reading: Matthew 1-6** **Song 62**  
**Speech Quality:** Providing Needed Explanation (be p. 228 ¶2-3)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to Matthew (si pp. 175-7 ¶1-10)  
**No. 2:** Matthew 5:1-20  
**No. 3:** Why Do Humans Die? (rs pp. 98-9 ¶6)  
**No. 4:** Ways in Which God's Holy Spirit Helps Us

**Jan. 14 Bible reading: Matthew 7-11** **Song 224**  
**Speech Quality:** How the Heart Is Involved (be p. 228 ¶4-p. 229 ¶1)  
**No. 1:** Take Delight in God's Word (be p. 9 ¶1-5)  
**No. 2:** Matthew 10:1-23  
**No. 3:** Why It Pays to Be Honest  
**No. 4:** Where Are the Dead, and What Is Their Condition? (rs p. 99 ¶7-p. 101 ¶4)

**Jan. 21 Bible reading: Matthew 12-15** **Song 133**  
**Speech Quality:** Informative to Your Audience (be p. 230 ¶1-6)  
**No. 1:** Read the Bible Daily (be p. 10 ¶1-p. 12 ¶4)  
**No. 2:** Matthew 14:1-22  
**No. 3:** Why Do Jehovah's Witnesses Not Share in Traditional Mourning Customs? (rs p. 102 ¶1-p. 103 ¶2)  
**No. 4:** What or Who Is the Antichrist?

**Jan. 28 Bible reading: Matthew 16-21** **Song 176**  
**Speech Quality:** Making a Talk Informative Through Research (be p. 231 ¶1-3)  
**No. 1:** "Pay Attention to How You Listen" (be p. 13 ¶1-p. 14 ¶5)  
**No. 2:** Matthew 17:1-20  
**No. 3:** Responding to Incorrect Viewpoints About Death (rs p. 103 ¶3-p. 104 ¶1)  
**No. 4:** Things That Christians Hold Sacred

**Feb. 4 Bible reading: Matthew 22-25** **Song 151**  
**Speech Quality:** Explaining Scriptures (be p. 231 ¶4-5)  
**No. 1:** Listening at Meetings and Assemblies (be p. 15 ¶1-p. 16 ¶5)  
**No. 2:** Matthew 23:1-24  
**No. 3:** Everlasting Life Will Not Be Boring  
**No. 4:** Dreams—Inspired and Otherwise (rs pp. 104-6 ¶3)

**Feb. 11 Bible reading: Matthew 26-28** **Song 110**  
**Speech Quality:** Explaining the Meaning of Terms (be p. 232 ¶1)  
**No. 1:** Matthew—Why Beneficial (si pp. 180-1 ¶29-33)  
**No. 2:** Matthew 27:1-22  
**No. 3:** Why Exercising Faith Is More Than Just Believing  
**No. 4:** Drugs—When Forbidden to Christians (rs pp. 106-8 ¶1)

**Feb. 18 Bible reading: Mark 1-4** **Song 167**  
**Speech Quality:** Reasoning on Texts (be p. 232 ¶2-4)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to Mark (si pp. 181-3 ¶1-11)  
**No. 2:** Mark 2:1-17  
**No. 3:** Why Christians Avoid Marijuana (rs p. 108 ¶2-p. 109 ¶2)  
**No. 4:** How Love Strengthens Courage

**Feb. 25 Bible reading: Mark 5-8** **Song 72**  
**Speech Quality:** Choosing Information That Will Benefit Your Audience (be p. 233 ¶1-5)

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**Mar. 3 Bible reading: Mark 9-12** **Song 195**  
**Speech Quality:** Use of Assigned Material (be p. 234 ¶1-p. 235 ¶3)  
**No. 1:** You Can Improve Your Memory (be p. 17 ¶1-p. 19 ¶1)  
**No. 2:** Mark 11:1-18  
**No. 3:** Why God Cannot Lie  
**No. 4:** Why Christians Avoid Tobacco (rs p. 109 ¶3-p. 111 ¶3)

**Mar. 10 Bible reading: Mark 13-16** **Song 87**  
**Speech Quality:** Effective Use of Questions (be p. 236 ¶1-5)  
**No. 1:** Mark—Why Beneficial (si p. 186 ¶31-3)  
**No. 2:** Mark 14:1-21  
**No. 3:** Overcoming Bad Habits—How? (rs p. 111 ¶4-p. 112 ¶3)  
**No. 4:** Why "Man's Wrath Does Not Work Out God's Righteousness" (Jas. 1:20)

**Mar. 17 Bible reading: Luke 1-3** **Song 13**  
**Speech Quality:** Questions to Introduce Important Thoughts (be p. 237 ¶1-2)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to Luke (si pp. 187-8 ¶1-9)  
**No. 2:** Luke 1:1-23  
**No. 3:** Why "Faith Apart From Works Is Inactive" (Jas. 2:20)  
**No. 4:** Nations Will Not Frustrate God's Purpose Regarding Earth (rs pp. 112-13 ¶5)

**Mar. 24 Bible reading: Luke 4-6** **Song 156**  
**Speech Quality:** Questions to Reason on a Subject (be p. 237 ¶3-p. 238 ¶2)  
**No. 1:** The Role of God's Spirit in Remembering (be p. 19 ¶2-p. 20 ¶3)  
**No. 2:** Luke 4:1-21  
**No. 3:** Will Jehovah Destroy the Earth by Fire? (rs p. 113 ¶6-p. 115 ¶1)  
**No. 4:** The Fear of God Can Restrain Us From Sinning

**Mar. 31 Bible reading: Luke 7-9** **Song 122**  
**Speech Quality:** Questions to Draw Out Inner Feelings (be p. 238 ¶3-5)  
**No. 1:** Why Apply Yourself to Reading? (be p. 21 ¶1-p. 23 ¶3)  
**No. 2:** Luke 7:1-17  
**No. 3:** Evidence That God Loves Us and Wants Us to Be Happy  
**No. 4:** Members of New Jerusalem Are Not to Return to Earth After Wicked Are Destroyed (rs p. 115 ¶2-p. 116 ¶1)

**Apr. 7 Bible reading: Luke 10-12** **Song 68**  
**Speech Quality:** Questions to Add Emphasis (be p. 239 ¶1-2)  
**No. 1:** How to Apply Yourself to Reading (be p. 23 ¶4-p. 26 ¶5)  
**No. 2:** Luke 11:37-54  
**No. 3:** Has God's Purpose for the Earth Changed? (rs p. 116 ¶2-p. 117 ¶2)  
**No. 4:** How Are We to Understand Revelation 17:17?

**Apr. 14 Bible reading: Luke 13-17** **Song 86**  
**Speech Quality:** Questions to Expose Wrong Thinking (be p. 239 ¶3-5)  
**No. 1:** How to Study (be p. 27 ¶1-p. 31 ¶2)  
**No. 2:** Luke 16:1-15  
**No. 3:** What God's Law on Gleaning Teaches Us (Lev. 19:9, 10)  
**No. 4:** How Can We Encourage Sick Ones? (rs pp. 117-18 ¶1)

**Apr. 21 Bible reading: Luke 18-21** **Song 182**  
**Speech Quality:** Similes and Metaphors That Teach (be p. 240 ¶1-p. 241 ¶1)  
**No. 1:** Luke—Why Beneficial (si pp. 192-3 ¶30-5)  
**No. 2:** Luke 18:1-17  
**No. 3:** How We Can Encourage Bereaved Ones (rs p. 118 ¶2-6)  
**No. 4:** What It Means to 'Keep Free From Murmurings' (Phil. 2:14)

**Apr. 28 Bible reading: Luke 22-24** **Song 218**  
**Speech Quality:** Using Examples (be p. 241 ¶2-4)

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**May 5 Bible reading: John 1-4** **Song 31**  
**Speech Quality:** Examples in Scripture (be p. 242 ¶1-2)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to John (si pp. 193-5 ¶1-9)  
**No. 2:** John 3:1-21  
**No. 3:** What We Learn From David's Refusal to Have King Saul Killed  
**No. 4:** Encouragement for Those Persecuted for Doing God's Will (rs p. 118 ¶7-p. 119 ¶4)



**May 12 Bible reading: John 5-7** **Song 150**

**Speech Quality:** Will It Be Understood? (be p. 242 ¶3-p. 243 ¶1)

**No. 1:** Study Is Rewarding (be p. 31 ¶3-p. 32 ¶4)

**No. 2:** John 6:1-21

**No. 3:** What the Account About Ananias and Sapphira Teaches Us

**No. 4:** How Can You Encourage Those Disheartened by Injustices? (rs p. 119 ¶5-p. 120 ¶2)

**May 19 Bible reading: John 8-11** **Song 102**

**Speech Quality:** Illustrations From Familiar Situations (be p. 244 ¶1-2)

**No. 1:** How to Do Research With the Bible (be p. 33 ¶1-p. 35 ¶2)

**No. 2:** John 11:38-57

**No. 3:** What Encouragement for Those Pressed by Economic Problems? (rs p. 120 ¶3-7)

**No. 4:** Since It Was Not Possible to Enforce the Tenth Commandment, Why Was It Given?

**May 26 Bible reading: John 12-16** **Song 3**

**Speech Quality:** Illustrations Appropriate for Your Audience (be p. 244 ¶3-p. 245 ¶4)

**No. 1:** Learning to Use Other Research Tools (be p. 35 ¶3-p. 38 ¶4)

**No. 2:** John 12:1-19

**No. 3:** Encouragement for Those Disheartened by Shortcomings (rs p. 120 ¶8-p. 121 ¶3)

**No. 4:** How We Throw Our Burden Upon Jehovah (Ps. 55:22)

**June 2 Bible reading: John 17-21** **Song 198**

**Speech Quality:** Effective Use of Visual Aids (be p. 247 ¶1-2)

**No. 1:** John—Why Beneficial (si pp. 198-9 ¶30-5)

**No. 2:** John 21:1-14

**No. 3:** Why Believe in God, Whom We Cannot See?

**No. 4:** Evolution—A Scientific Dilemma (rs pp. 121-3 ¶1)

**June 9 Bible reading: Acts 1-4** **Song 92**

**Speech Quality:** How Jesus Employed Visual Aids (be p. 247 ¶3)

**No. 1:** Introduction to Acts (si pp. 199-200 ¶1-8)

**No. 2:** Acts 1:1-14

**No. 3:** Evolution, the Fossil Record, and Reasonableness (rs p. 123 ¶2-p. 126 ¶2)

**No. 4:** What Does "Freeness of Speech" Involve? (Heb. 3:6)

**June 16 Bible reading: Acts 5-7** **Song 2**

**Speech Quality:** Ways to Employ Visual Aids (be p. 248 ¶1-3)

**No. 1:** Making an Outline (be pp. 39-42)

**No. 2:** Acts 5:1-16

**No. 3:** Responding to Assertions by Evolutionists (rs p. 126 ¶3-p. 128 ¶3)

**No. 4:** Why Is the Fear of Jehovah the Beginning of Wisdom? (Ps. 111:10)

**June 23 Bible reading: Acts 8-10** **Song 116**

**Speech Quality:** Using Maps, Printed Assembly Programs, and Videos (be p. 248 ¶4-p. 249 ¶2)

**No. 1:** Preparing Student Assignments for the School (be p. 43 ¶1-p. 44 ¶3)

**No. 2:** Acts 8:1-17

**No. 3:** How Jesus Will "Deliver the Poor One" (Ps. 72:12)

**No. 4:** Why Many People Lack Faith (rs pp. 129-30 ¶2)

**June 30 Bible reading: Acts 11-14** **Song 79**

**Speech Quality:** Using Visual Aids for Larger Groups (be p. 249 ¶3-p. 250 ¶1)

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**July 7 Bible reading: Acts 15-17** **Song 203**

**Speech Quality:** Why a Reasoning Manner Is Important (be p. 251 ¶1-3)

**No. 1:** Working With a Subject and a Setting (be p. 44 ¶4-p. 46 ¶2)

**No. 2:** Acts 16:1-15

**No. 3:** Reasons for Serving Jehovah Fearlessly

**No. 4:** How Can a Person Acquire Faith? (rs p. 130 ¶3-p. 131 ¶3)

**July 14 Bible reading: Acts 18-21** **Song 32**

**Speech Quality:** Where to Begin (be p. 251 ¶4-p. 252 ¶3)

**No. 1:** Preparing Talks for the Congregation (be p. 47 ¶1-p. 49 ¶1)

**No. 2:** Acts 20:1-16

**No. 3:** Faith in Prospect of Righteous New System Proved by Works (rs p. 131 ¶5-p. 132 ¶2)

**No. 4:** What Can We Learn From the Prohibition Found at Exodus 23:19b?

**July 21 Bible reading: Acts 22-25** **Song 200**

**Speech Quality:** When to Yield (be p. 252 ¶4-p. 253 ¶2)

**No. 1:** Preparing Service Meeting Parts and Other Talks (be p. 49 ¶2-p. 51 ¶2)

**No. 2:** Acts 22:1-16

**No. 3:** In What Ways Do Jehovah's Witnesses Fulfill John 13:34, 35?

**No. 4:** How Can False Prophets Be Identified? (rs pp. 132-4 ¶2)

**July 28 Bible reading: Acts 26-28** **Song 29**

**Speech Quality:** Asking Questions and Giving Reasons (be p. 253 ¶3-p. 254 ¶2)

**No. 1:** Acts—Why Beneficial (si pp. 204-5 ¶32-40)

**No. 2:** Acts 26:1-18

**No. 3:** True Prophets Did Not Always Understand How and When Things Foretold Would Happen (rs p. 134 ¶3-8)

**No. 4:** Why Jehovah Shows Patience

**Aug. 4 Bible reading: Romans 1-4** **Song 170**

**Speech Quality:** Sound Arguments Based Firmly on God's Word (be p. 255 ¶1-p. 256 ¶2)

**No. 1:** Introduction to Romans (si pp. 205-6 ¶1-7)

**No. 2:** Romans 3:1-20

**No. 3:** How Angels Protect and Strengthen God's Servants

**No. 4:** Jehovah's Witnesses Promote True Worship (rs p. 135 ¶1-2)

**Aug. 11 Bible reading: Romans 5-8** **Song 207**

**Speech Quality:** Support Arguments by Corroborative Evidence (be p. 256 ¶3-5)

**No. 1:** Preparing Discourses for the Public (be p. 52 ¶1-p. 54 ¶1)

**No. 2:** Romans 6:1-20

**No. 3:** Jehovah's Witnesses Identified by Fruits Produced (rs p. 135 ¶3-p. 137 ¶1)

**No. 4:** How Righteousness Can Protect Us

**Aug. 18 Bible reading: Romans 9-12** **Song 152**

**Speech Quality:** Presenting Sufficient Evidence (be p. 256 ¶6-p. 257 ¶3)

**No. 1:** Romans—Why Beneficial (si pp. 208-9 ¶20-5)

**No. 2:** Romans 9:1-18

**No. 3:** What Are the Dangers of Gossiping and Spreading Rumors?

**No. 4:** Responding to Those Who Call Us False Prophets (rs p. 137 ¶2-4)

**Aug. 25 Bible reading: Romans 13-16** **Song 16**

**Speech Quality:** Effort to Reach the Heart (be p. 258 ¶1-5)

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**Sept. 1 Bible reading: 1 Corinthians 1-9** **Song 199**

**Speech Quality:** Drawing People Out (be p. 259 ¶1-3)

**No. 1:** Introduction to 1 Corinthians (si pp. 210-11 ¶1-7)

**No. 2:** 1 Corinthians 4:1-17

**No. 3:** God Does Not Predestinate When Each Person Will Die (rs p. 138 ¶1-3)

**No. 4:** Is Having Material Riches Evidence of God's Blessing?



**Sept. 8 Bible reading: 1 Corinthians 10-16** **Song 35**  
**Speech Quality:** Stirring Up Beneficial Feelings (be p. 259  
 ¶4-p. 260 ¶1)  
**No. 1:** 1 Corinthians—Why Beneficial (si pp. 213-14 ¶23-6)  
**No. 2:** 1 Corinthians 13:1-14:6  
**No. 3:** Why Doers of the Word Are Happy  
**No. 4:** Not Everything That Happens Is God's Will (rs p. 139  
 ¶1-1-p. 140 ¶2)

**Sept. 15 Bible reading: 2 Corinthians 1-7** **Song 58**  
**Speech Quality:** Helping Others to Cultivate Godly Fear (be  
 p. 260 ¶2-3)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to 2 Corinthians (si p. 214 ¶1-4)  
**No. 2:** 2 Corinthians 1:1-14  
**No. 3:** God Does Not Foreknow and Foreordain Everything  
 (rs p. 140 ¶3-5)  
**No. 4:** Why True Christians Rejoice When Persecuted

**Sept. 22 Bible reading: 2 Corinthians 8-13** **Song 12**  
**Speech Quality:** Our Conduct Matters to God (be p. 260  
 ¶4-p. 261 ¶1)  
**No. 1:** 2 Corinthians—Why Beneficial (si pp. 216-17 ¶18-20)  
**No. 2:** 2 Corinthians 9:1-15  
**No. 3:** Why True Christians Are No Part of the World  
**No. 4:** God's Ability to Foreknow and Foreordain Events (rs  
 p. 141 ¶1-4)

**Sept. 29 Bible reading: Galatians 1-6** **Song 163**  
**Speech Quality:** Helping Others to Make an Examination (be  
 p. 261 ¶2-4)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to Galatians and Why Beneficial (si  
 pp. 217-20 ¶1-6, 14-18)  
**No. 2:** Galatians 1:1-17  
**No. 3:** Why God Did Not Exercise His Foreknowledge  
 Regarding Adam (rs p. 142 ¶1-3)  
**No. 4:** How Love Can Conquer Fear of Man

**Oct. 6 Bible reading: Ephesians 1-6** **Song 99**  
**Speech Quality:** Promoting Heartfelt Obedience (be p. 262  
 ¶1-4)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to Ephesians and Why Beneficial (si  
 pp. 220-3 ¶1-8, 16-19)  
**No. 2:** Ephesians 3:1-19  
**No. 3:** It Is Not a Sign of Weakness to Apologize  
**No. 4:** God Did Not Predestinate Jacob, Esau, or Judas (rs  
 p. 142 ¶4-p. 143 ¶2)

**Oct. 13 Bible reading: Philippians 1-Colossians 4** **Song 123**  
**Speech Quality:** Cooperating With Jehovah in Reaching  
 People's Hearts (be p. 262 ¶5)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to Philippians and Why Beneficial (si  
 pp. 223-5 ¶1-7, 12-14)  
**No. 2:** Philippians 3:1-16  
**No. 3:** In What Way Was the Christian Congregation  
 Predestinated? (rs p. 143 ¶3-p. 144 ¶1)  
**No. 4:** \* Colossians—Why Beneficial (si p. 228 ¶12-14)

**Oct. 20 Bible reading: 1 Thessalonians 1-2 Thessalonians 3** **Song 161**  
**Speech Quality:** Achieving Good Timing (be p. 263  
 ¶1-1-p. 264 ¶4)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to 1 and 2 Thessalonians and Why Bene-  
 ficial (si pp. 229-31 ¶1-5, 13-15; pp. 232-3 ¶1-4, 10-11)  
**No. 2:** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-2:8  
**No. 3:** What Is the Scriptural View of Astrology? (rs p. 144  
 ¶2-p. 145 ¶2)  
**No. 4:** \* 1 and 2 Timothy—Why Beneficial (si pp. 236-7 ¶15-19;  
 pp. 238-9 ¶10-12)

**Oct. 27 Bible reading: 1 Timothy 1-2 Timothy 4** **Song 69**  
**Speech Quality:** Effective Exhortation (be p. 265 ¶1-3)  
**Theocratic Ministry School Review**

**Nov. 3 Bible reading: Titus 1-Philemon** **Song 149**  
**Speech Quality:** Exhorting on the Basis of Love (be p. 266  
 ¶1-4)

**No. 1:** Introduction to Titus and Why Beneficial (si pp. 239-41  
 ¶1-4, 8-10)  
**No. 2:** Titus 1:1-16  
**No. 3:** What Are Some Sound Reasons for Believing in God?  
 (rs pp. 145-6 ¶5)  
**No. 4:** \* Philemon—Why Beneficial (si pp. 242-3 ¶7-10)

**Nov. 10 Bible reading: Hebrews 1-8** **Song 144**  
**Speech Quality:** Exhortation Rooted in Scripture (be p. 267  
 ¶1-2)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to Hebrews (si pp. 243-4 ¶1-9)  
**No. 2:** Hebrews 3:1-19  
**No. 3:** Wickedness and Suffering Do Not Disprove God's  
 Existence (rs p. 146 ¶6-p. 147 ¶1)  
**No. 4:** The Differences Between True and False Humility

**Nov. 17 Bible reading: Hebrews 9-13** **Song 28**  
**Speech Quality:** Having Freeness of Speech (be p. 267 ¶3-4)  
**No. 1:** Hebrews—Why Beneficial (si p. 247 ¶23-7)  
**No. 2:** Hebrews 10:1-17  
**No. 3:** God Is a Real Person With Feelings (rs p. 147  
 ¶2-p. 148 ¶3)  
**No. 4:** How Forgiveness Promotes Unity

**Nov. 24 Bible reading: James 1-5** **Song 88**  
**Speech Quality:** Why It Is Important to Be Encouraging (be  
 p. 268 ¶1-3)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to James and Why Beneficial (si pp. 248-  
 50 ¶1-7, 15-17)  
**No. 2:** James 1:1-21  
**No. 3:** God Had No Beginning (rs p. 148 ¶4-7)  
**No. 4:** How "Mercy Exalts Triumphantly Over Judgment"  
 (Jas. 2:13)

**Dec. 1 Bible reading: 1 Peter 1-2 Peter 3** **Song 18**  
**Speech Quality:** Calling to Mind What Jehovah Has Done (be  
 p. 268 ¶4-p. 269 ¶2)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to 1 Peter and Why Beneficial (si  
 pp. 251-3 ¶1-5, 11-13)  
**No. 2:** 1 Peter 2:1-17  
**No. 3:** Use of God's Name Essential for Salvation (rs p. 149  
 ¶1-4)  
**No. 4:** \* 2 Peter—Why Beneficial (si p. 255 ¶8-10)

**Dec. 8 Bible reading: 1 John 1-Jude** **Song 50**  
**Speech Quality:** Showing How Jehovah Has Helped His  
 People (be p. 269 ¶3-5)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to 1, 2, and 3 John and Why Beneficial  
 (si pp. 256-8 ¶1-5, 11-13; p. 259 ¶1-3, 5; pp. 260-1  
 ¶1-3, 5)  
**No. 2:** 1 John 4:1-16  
**No. 3:** Are All Religions Good? (rs p. 149 ¶5-8)  
**No. 4:** \* Jude—Why Beneficial (si pp. 262-3 ¶8-10)

**Dec. 15 Bible reading: Revelation 1-6** **Song 219**  
**Speech Quality:** Showing Delight in What God Is Doing Now  
 (be p. 270 ¶1-p. 271 ¶2)  
**No. 1:** Introduction to Revelation (si pp. 263-4 ¶1-6)  
**No. 2:** Revelation 3:1-13  
**No. 3:** What Kind of "God" Is Jesus? (rs p. 150 ¶1-2)  
**No. 4:** Why Patience and Mercy Have Limits

**Dec. 22 Bible reading: Revelation 7-14** **Song 21**  
**Speech Quality:** Benefit Fully From the Theocratic Ministry  
 School (be p. 5 ¶1-p. 8 ¶1)  
**No. 1:** Revelation—Why Beneficial (si pp. 268-9 ¶28-34)  
**No. 2:** Revelation 8:1-13  
**No. 3:** Responding to Objections About Belief in God (rs  
 p. 150 ¶3-p. 151 ¶3)  
**No. 4:** What Is Meant by the Phrase "God Is Greater Than  
 Our Hearts"? (1 John 3:20)

**Dec. 29 Bible reading: Revelation 15-22** **Song 60**  
**Speech Quality:** Accurate Reading (be p. 83 ¶1-5)  
**Theocratic Ministry School Review**

\* Assign to brothers only, preferably elders or ministerial servants.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ Literature offer for **October 1-19**: The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines. Where interest is shown, present and discuss the tract *Would You Like to Know More About the Bible?* with a view to starting a Bible study. **October 20–November 16**: Special campaign distribution of the tract *Would You Like to Know the Truth?* **November 17-30**: *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* Make a diligent effort to start Bible studies. **December**: *The Greatest Man Who Ever Lived*. If individuals say they have children, offer *Learn From*

*the Great Teacher*. **January 2009**: *What Does the Bible Really Teach?* If householders already have the book, publishers may offer any 192-page book printed on paper that discolors or any book published prior to 1992 with the exception of *Creation, Greatest Man, Mankind's Search for God*, and *Young People Ask*.

■ Since November has five full weekends, it would be an excellent month to auxiliary pioneer.

■ Note to presiding overseer and Theocratic Ministry School overseer: The new congregation meeting schedule begins the week of December 29, 2008, and this ad-

justed schedule will be noted as such in the December 2008 *Our Kingdom Ministry*. When conducting the Theocratic Ministry School Review for that week, be sure to adhere to the instructions under Theocratic Ministry School Review in the Theocratic Ministry School Schedule for 2009. There will be no consideration of a speech quality on that evening.

■ The video program *No Blood—Medicine Meets the Challenge* will be considered at a Service Meeting in January. If needed, copies should be requested through the congregation as soon as possible.

## THEOCRATIC MINISTRY SCHOOL REVIEW

The following questions will be considered at the Theocratic Ministry School during the week beginning October 27, 2008. The school overseer will conduct a 30-minute review based on material covered in assignments for the weeks of September 1 through October 27, 2008.

### SPEECH QUALITIES

1. How can we find out why other people believe as they do? [*be* p. 259 pars. 1, 2]
2. How might we help a person to remove prejudice or hatred from his heart? [*be* p. 260 par. 2]
3. How might we assist our students to examine their own heart with a view to continued spiritual growth? [*be* p. 261 par. 3]
4. What should we bear in mind as we strive to reach the heart of our listeners? [*be* p. 262 par. 5]
5. Why should we give attention to timing at congregation meetings? [*be* p. 263 pars. 1, 3, box]

### ASSIGNMENT NO. 1

6. What moved Paul to write his first letter to the Corinthians? [*si* p. 210 par. 3]
7. What were some of the reasons for Paul's writing his second letter to the Corinthians? [*si* p. 214 pars. 1-2]
8. What view should Christians have of the ministry? [*si* pp. 216-217 par. 18]
9. How can we today, like the brothers at Philippi, gain God's approval and become a joy to our brothers? [*si* p. 225 par. 12]

10. What positive effects did Paul and his companions have on the congregation in Thessalonica? [*si* p. 231 par. 13]

### WEEKLY BIBLE READING

11. What does it mean to "hand [the wicked] man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, in order that the spirit may be saved"? (1 Cor. 5:5) [*w08* 7/15 "Jehovah's Word Is Alive—Highlights From the Letters to the Corinthians"]
12. How "often" is Jesus' death to be commemorated, and "until" when? (1 Cor. 11:26) [*w08* 7/15 "Jehovah's Word Is Alive—Highlights From the Letters to the Corinthians"]
13. What vision does 2 Corinthians 12:2-4 mention, and who likely had it? [*w04* 10/15 p. 8 par. 4; p. 10 par. 9]
14. Why did Paul liken the Law of Moses to a "tutor leading to Christ"? (Gal. 3:24) [*w08* 3/1 pp. 18-21]
15. What did Paul mean when he prayed that "the spirit and soul and body of you brothers be preserved"? (1 Thess. 5:23) [*w08* 9/15 "Jehovah's Word Is Alive—Highlights From the Letters to the Thessalonians and to Timothy"]



## Personal and Family Bible Study Are Vital!

<sup>1</sup>As in the first century, the Governing Body has deep concern for the welfare of Jehovah's people. (Acts 15:6, 28) As the dark clouds of the great tribulation draw closer, it is vital that every Kingdom publisher have a solid relationship with Jehovah. How will you use the time previously allocated to the Congregation Book Study? All are encouraged to use this time for family worship. Wise use of this time will permit us to dig deeper into God's inspired Word and draw from its life-giving waters.—Ps. 1:1-3; Rom. 11:33, 34.

<sup>2</sup>**Family Worship Evening:** Family heads are encouraged to shoulder their responsibility before Jehovah to ensure that a meaningful, regular program of family Bible study is followed. (Deut. 6: 6, 7) Single brothers and sisters with no family responsibilities will be able to use this time for personal Bible study and research. It is vital for all of us to 'buy out the opportunity time' for study and meditation in order to maintain the spiritual strength needed in the face of 'wicked days.'—Eph. 5:15, 16.

<sup>3</sup>**What to Consider:** The *Watch Tower Publications Index* or *Watchtower Library* on

1. What special concern does the Governing Body have for us at this time, and why so?

2. How might our personal family worship evening be arranged?

3, 4. What suggestions are offered as to material that we may use, and with what focus in mind?

CD-ROM can help you locate information that will make your Bible study periods a delight. Families may consider articles from *The Watchtower*, such as the regular features "Keys to Family Happiness," "Teach Your Children," and "For Our Young People." Also, *Awake!* contains the "Young People Ask" series and fascinating articles about the wonders of creation.

<sup>4</sup>Unhurried Bible reading can impress godly principles and lessons on the minds and hearts of all in the family. (Heb. 4:12) On other occasions, you might watch and discuss one of the videos produced by the organization. There is ample opportunity for ingenuity and creativity. Why not ask your family members what they would enjoy?

<sup>5</sup>**Why Important Now:** Strengthening our spirituality will prepare us to "stand firm and see the salvation of Jehovah." (Ex. 14:13) Parents need divine guidance for raising children "in among a crooked and twisted generation." (Phil. 2:15) Children need help to deal with the deteriorating moral climate in schools today. (Prov. 22:3, 6) Couples do well to strengthen their "threefold cord" with Jehovah. (Eccl. 4:12) Let us, then, make wise use of the time remaining to build ourselves up on our "most holy faith!"—Jude 20.

5. Why is personal and family Bible study so important in our life now?

## What to Say About the Magazines

THE WATCHTOWER® Oct. 1  
ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM

"Experts recognize the importance of the father's role in family life. What do you think makes a good father? [Allow for response.] Jesus stressed how the example of his Father helped him. [Read John 5:19.] This article isolates six important aspects of a father's role." Feature the article that begins on page 18.

### **Awake!® Oct.**

"People of various religions have conflicting views about the true nature of God. But how did the Son of God describe Him? Notice Jesus' words at John 4: 24. [Read.] In just two pages, this article presents the Bible's viewpoint on the question, 'What is the nature of God?' Feature the article on pages 24 and 25.

THE WATCHTOWER® Nov. 1  
ANNOUNCING JEHOVAH'S KINGDOM

"Many people are unable to reconcile their belief in a loving God with the teaching of eternal torment. What are your thoughts? [Allow for response.] The Bible clearly teaches that God is not malicious or vindictive. [Read Ezekiel 18:23.] You will appreciate the Scriptural reasoning presented in this magazine."

### **Awake!® Nov.**

"People often associate success with fame, fortune, or power. How would you define success? [Allow for response.] Note what leads to success according to the Bible. [Read Psalm 1:1-3.] This article discusses six keys to success." Highlight the article that begins on page 6.