

*Ridgecrest Baptist Church exists to glorify God
by leading people to follow Jesus Christ*

We primarily meet on Sundays & Wednesdays:

Sundays

9:15 – Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

Connect Groups for all ages

10:30 – Contemporary Worship in the Gym

Connect Groups / Children's Church for all ages

Wednesdays

AWANA clubs (Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed)

Age 3 through grade 4

Bridge Ministry for grades 5-6

Student Ministry for grades 7-12

Worship Choir practice

Various discipleship and prayer group meetings

Please connect with us:

www.ridgecrest.cc



Facebook Live: Ridgecrest Baptist Durham

919-477-5426

1104 Milton Road, Durham, NC 27712

Lead Pastor: Dr. Marc A Francis



Ridgecrest Baptist Church

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2022 Pondering Challenge

Let's read and ponder God's word! And let's do it together!

To "ponder" means to "think about something carefully, especially before making a decision or reaching a conclusion."

The Bible itself encourages us to ponder God's Word:

** **Psalm 119:11** testifies, **11** I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

** **Romans 10:8** says, "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim)"

** **2 Timothy 2:16-17** says, **16** All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, **17** that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

Christian leaders encourage us to ponder God's Word:

** **Evangelist Billy Graham** once said, "We are the Bibles the world is reading; we are the creeds the world is needing; we are the sermons the world is heeding."

** **Bible teacher Lysa TerKeurst** encourages believers, "When the world beats you down, open your Bible up."

** **Former child star Kirk Cameron** says, "Put your nose into the Bible everyday. It is your spiritual food. Then share it. Make a vow not to be a lukewarm Christian."

Ridgecrest leaders encourage us to ponder God's Word:

** **Student Pastor Austin Tsumas**: Your time in the Word is the most important, most productive time of the day. There, in the stillness and quiet, in the living pages of the Word, you hear God speak, & you are invited to commune & abide with God Himself. Anything that separates you from that, however big or small it may be, is your enemy.

** **Connect Group leader Robin King**: Be in the Word everyday. Study it for yourself. Don't let someone else study it for you.

** **Deacon Tommy Simmons**: Scripture every day will keep the devil at bay!

2022 Scripture Pondering Challenge:

Practical tips to help you to ponder God's Word:

- **Read** the Word daily – give the Truth of Scripture access to your mind
- **Ponder** the Word – Don't just read Scripture, take some time and think about what it is saying.
- **Apply** the Word – Make sure that you are putting the commands of God into practice. If God says to do something, do it. If God says not to do something, don't do it.
- **Memorize** the Word – Find a passage of Scripture that you really like and take the time to commit it to memory.
- **Talk** about the Word – As you go about your day find someone that you can have a conversation with about what you have been reading.

Suggestions as you approach each week's pondering passage:

At the beginning of the week read the whole passage to get a feel for it. Then on subsequent days, read a section (as it is broken down in your Bible) and ponder it:

- 1) what really speaks to your soul?
- 2) what action does this text prompt you to take?
- 3) pray the passage back to God and thank Him for His Word.
- 4) journal your thoughts and write out specific applications.
- 5) what questions come to mind as you read – how will you get them answered?

Connect to others as you participate in the pondering challenge:

** **Facebook Live** each Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM on Facebook at "Ridgecrest Baptist Durham." Pastors and church leaders dive into the week's passage for some pondering thoughts and suggestions. Each week's pondering remains on Facebook for future access.

** **Connect Groups.** Some of our groups use the pondering challenge for group discussion and teaching.

** **Create a Group!** Gather some friends / church members, family together to read and discuss the week's passage. Watch Facebook Live on Wednesday (or later) together or separately and add input.

Week Of	Chapter	Week Of	Chapter
1/3	Mark 1	7/4	Genesis 41
1/10	Mark 2	7/11	Genesis 42
1/17	Mark 3	7/18	Genesis 43
1/24	Mark 4	7/25	Genesis 44
1/31	Mark 5	8/1	Genesis 45
2/7	Mark 6	8/8	Genesis 46
2/14	Mark 7	8/15	Genesis 47
2/21	Mark 8	8/22	Genesis 48
2/28	Mark 9	8/29	Genesis 49
3/7	Mark 10	9/5	Genesis 50
3/14	Mark 11	9/12	Psalms 19
3/21	Mark 12	9/19	James 1
3/28	Mark 13	9/26	James 2
4/4	Mark 14	10/3	James 3
4/11	Mark 15	10/10	James 4
4/18	Mark 16	10/17	James 5
4/25	Psalms 136	10/24	Psalms 18
5/2	Philippians 1	10/31	Daniel 1
5/9	Philippians 2	11/7	Daniel 2
5/16	Philippians 3	11/14	Daniel 3
5/23	Philippians 4	11/21	Daniel 4
5/30	Psalms 27	11/28	Daniel 5
6/6	Genesis 37	12/5	Daniel 6
6/13	Genesis 38	12/12	Luke 1:5-25, 39-45
6/20	Genesis 39	12/19	Luke 1:26-38, 46-55, Matt 1:18-25
6/27	Genesis 40	12/26	Luke 2:8-20, Matt 2:1-12