



"Outside of the Gospels, what is your favorite book in the Bible?"

That's a tough question, because the answer is going to vary depending on the day.

I like the book of Philippians, because it is short, easy to read and is a book that highlights "Joy." (And makes it very clear that "joy" is not dependent on the circumstances you find yourself in. Joy is a choice!)

I also like the book of James, because it is filled with practical wisdom for everyday life - very similar to another favorite, the book of Proverbs, only a lot shorter. (If you are starting to get the idea that my attention span is limited, you would be correct!)

The book of Acts is definitely a favorite - even though it's not short! It's an amazing narrative of the power the Holy Spirit has for us to be bold witnesses for Jesus.

I really like the book of Esther in the Old Testament, because it is such a vivid reminder of how God purposefully puts us in situations "for such a time as this." Plus, it is a great example of why revenge is always best left in God's hands.

But on this particular day, my answer to the question above was, "The book of Romans." There's a passage toward the end of Romans that reads, "For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope." (Romans 15:4) You could easily substitute "the book of Romans" for "the past," in that passage.

With that in mind, I decided it would be a great time to go through the book of Romans for our Daily Devotions this month. You will learn (or be reminded of) lots of ways that your faith in Jesus gives you hope - no matter what situation you find yourself in.

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net