

# Make Church a Part of Your Life

## WEEKLY SERMONETTE

### "Effective Mortification"

By Preacher/Teacher Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

Mortification is a word that has for some reason been forgotten in the Body of Christ. However, it is a key Biblical truth to overcoming the bondages of sin. Colossians 3:5 says, "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth..." (King James Bible) The New International Bible has this translation, "Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature..."


walk in the holiness of God. The second step to effective mortification is systematic prayerful study of God's Word. The Word of God is Holy Spirit inspired and is the sword He uses to teach you about the Lord Jesus Christ and to help you know God's will. Selective memorizing of promise Scriptures is good, but could cause you to have unrealistic expectations.

The more you understand the whole of Scripture about God's holiness, money, spiritual gifts, marriage, etc. the more equipped you will be to follow the example of Christ when He overcame the devil's temptations. (Matthew 4:1-11) You must be striving to learn what you should and should not do according to the Bible.

Effective mortification involves understanding Satan's schemes. He does not break down the Christian's defenses by first coming with thoughts of murder and adultery, bitterness and jealousy. He starts eating away at your relationship with Christ through compromise. This is why the Apostle Paul wrote, "Everything is permissible for me - but not everything is beneficial. Everything is permissible for me - but I will not be mastered by anything." (1 Corinthians 6:12)

While reading, "The Pursuit of Holiness" written by Jerry Bridges and after prayerfully studying 1 Corinthians 6:12 I came up with these questions that help me stay ahead of compromise: 1.) Is what I am about to do helpful spiritually, physically and mentally? 2.) Is what I am thinking and doing helping me get done what I am called to do? 3.) Is what I am doing going to hurt others and 4.) Is what I am doing going to glorify God in and through my life?

Mortifying sin is our responsibility. The Lord is not looking for intellectuals but for Christians who prayerfully study and meditate upon the Word of God so they may determine what is beneficial, not letting anything in this world master them. Mortification is this: Stop thinking about, reading, watching and participating in anything which is displeasing to the Lord! Your holiness depends on this.



## Always Available

The fire hydrant is a permanent fixture; it's a canine convenience or a motorist's inconvenience if a parking space is the objective. Its availability is crucial when flames tear through a home or building, threatening lives and property. In Isaiah 43:20 our Lord promises, "I provide water in the desert and streams in the wasteland..." God is available to us at all times. Visit your house of worship each week, whether or not there's an emergency, **make Him a permanent fixture in your life.**

Weekly Scripture Reading						
Esther	Esther	Esther	Esther	Daniel	Daniel	John
4.1-17	5.1-14	6.1-7.10	8.1-17	3.1-30	6.1-28	5.1-18

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society  
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## Awana Sunday April 10 at the Norton Christian Church



If you would like to learn more about Awana, we would love to have you attend our services on **Sunday, April 10 at 10:40 p.m.** Our services will begin with a demonstration by all of the students sampling the things they learn each week. The church will also honor and recognize the many volunteers that work with the program.

The Norton Christian Church invites any of the area children to visit any Wednesday evening September through April at 6:15 p.m.

To learn more about the program or get additional information call: 785-877-2871 NORTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH