

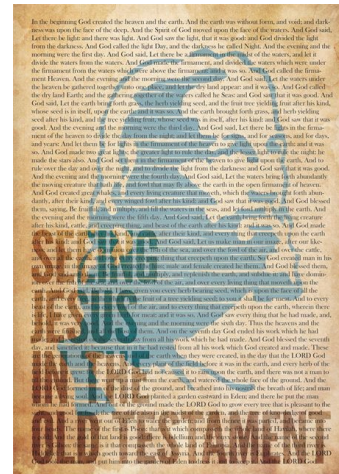


CONCORDIA  
BIBLE INSTITUTE  
*Christ in Every Word*

# CBI e-Bulletin September 2018

Welcome to this month's edition of the Concordia Bible Institute (CBI) e-Bulletin.

CBI exists to provide Christ-centered Bible instruction through distinguished experts who teach "Christ in Every Word" of the Old and New Testaments. Under the direction of Dr. Brian German and in cooperation with the Department of Theology at Concordia University Wisconsin, CBI offers podcasts, face-to-face seminars, and other special events to strengthen faith and spread belief in the one true God.



"For the whole Christ is in every word and wholly in each individual word. When He is denied, therefore, in one word, He is totally denied, for He is in every word."

-Martin Luther (*Luther's Works*, 25:238).

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## The Solitude of Jesus

Have you ever noticed how often the gospel writers tell us that Jesus went off by himself to be alone for a while? Usually this was for the sake of prayer. Mark, for example, writes the following in his opening chapter: “And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed” (Mk. 1:35). Luke informs us that this kind of retreat happened regularly, especially when “great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities;” Jesus “would withdraw to desolate places and pray” (Lk. 5:15-16; see also Mt. 14:23; 15:29; Lk. 9:18; 11:1). In fact, sometimes Jesus would spend all night in prayer (Lk. 6:12).

Recently I was asked what this solitude of Jesus might imply about the Christian life, so I thought I’d include a few thoughts below.

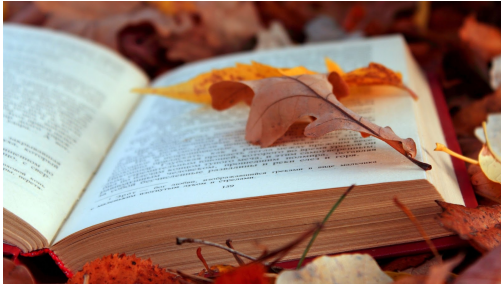
First and probably most obvious is the importance of setting aside some personal time for prayer in our own lives. In the midst of hectic schedules and busy lifestyles, what are some ways that you have carved out time alone for prayer? What works for you and what doesn’t?

Next, it intrigues me that sometimes when Jesus wanted to be left alone, *it didn’t happen as planned*. A great example of this occurs in Mk. 7:24: “[Jesus] entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet *he could not be hidden*” (see also Mk. 1:45: “Jesus could no longer openly enter a town, but was out in desolate places, and people were coming to him from every quarter”). As we strive to serve the Lord in the midst of our hectic schedules and busy lifestyles, his plans may not line up with our own. At times we may be called upon to tackle some rather unexpected tasks, right when we were planning to be alone. When this happens, however, we share in the same experiences of our Lord himself.

Finally, perhaps one of the most famous instances of Jesus going off by himself to pray is after the Last Supper with his disciples. Mark tells us that “they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, ‘Sit here while I pray’” (Mk. 14:32). Luke adds that this location on the Mount of Olives was actually Jesus’ favorite place to pray (see Lk. 22:39: “as was his custom”). This fascinates me, because it means that *Jesus’ preferred place of prayer was the very place where he would be betrayed and arrested*. In this way, Christian prayer has a distinctly cruciform shape to it, meaning that it confesses how the Lord draws near to us in our own sufferings, how our prayer is for his will be done and not ours, and how the very act of praying is a reminder that we will one day be with our dear Father in heaven.

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# Upcoming Events!



## **Fall In-Depth Bible Studies**

September 10, 17, and 24 from 6:30-8:30pm

October 1, 8, 15 from 3:00-5:30pm

Friends of Concordia Room

Concordia University Wisconsin

\$10 per class, per person

**FREE for CUW Students/Faculty/Staff**

Bring a Bible and a Friend!

These In-Depth Bible Studies are wonderful opportunities to learn from university professors and special guest lecturers about important topics related to the Bible and the Christian faith. We pray that you would consider joining us for this Christ-centered instruction.

## **Fall One-Day Seminar with Rev. Dr. Timothy Saleska**

Saturday, October 13, 2018

9:00am-2:30pm

Pharmacy Building PH008

Concordia University Wisconsin

\$20 per person

**\$10 for CUW Students/Faculty/Staff**

Don't miss this rare opportunity!







For more information on any of our upcoming events, please visit our website [www.concordiabile.org](http://www.concordiabile.org)

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# Read the Bible in a Year

Looking to add to your devotions this year? Or simply want to accomplish the goal of reading the Bible in a year? Follow along with the calendar below! A new calendar will be sent in each newsletter.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 1 Chron. 29:10-13 Job 31-33
<b>2</b> Psalm 86 Job 34-36	<b>3</b> Psalm 87 Job 37-39 Happy Labor Day!	<b>4</b> Psalm 88 Job 40-42	<b>5</b> Psalm 89 Proverbs 1-3	<b>6</b> Psalm 90 Proverbs 4-7	<b>7</b> Psalm 91 Proverbs 8-10	<b>8</b> Psalm 92 Proverbs 11-13
<b>9</b> Psalm 93 Proverbs 14-16	<b>10</b> Psalm 94 Proverbs 17-19	<b>11</b> Psalm 95 Prov. 20-22	<b>12</b> Psalm 96 Prov. 23-25	<b>13</b> Psalm 97 Prov. 26-28	<b>14</b> Psalm 98 Prov. 29-31	<b>15</b> Psalm 99 Ecclesiastes 1-3
<b>16</b> Psalm 100 Eccl. 4-6	<b>17</b> Psalm 101 Eccl. 7-9	<b>18</b> Psalm 102 Eccl. 10-12	<b>19</b> Psalm 103 Song of Solomon 1-4	<b>20</b> Psalm 104 Song of Solomon 5-8	<b>21</b> Psalm 105 Jeremiah 1-3	<b>22</b> Psalm 106 Jeremiah 4-6
<b>23</b> Psalm 107 Jeremiah 7-9	<b>24</b> Psalm 108 Jeremiah 10-12	<b>25</b> Psalm 109 Jeremiah 13-15	<b>26</b> Psalm 110 Jeremiah 16-18	<b>27</b> Psalm 111 Jeremiah 19-22	<b>28</b> Psalm 112 Jeremiah 23-25	<b>29</b> Psalm 113 Jeremiah 26-28
<b>30</b> 1 Chron. 29:10-13 Jeremiah 29-31						

## Website

Visit our website at [concordiabile.org](http://concordiabile.org) to learn more about CBI.

## Podcasts

CBI offers thirty- to forty-minute long podcasts on biblical passages and religious issues that you can listen to any time through the [CBI website](#).

## Now Streaming on iTunes & Google Play!

You can listen to our weekly podcasts by subscribing on iTunes or Google Play.

When new episodes become available they will be automatically be downloaded to your device. Just click [here](#) to subscribe through our website or click the image below!



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## Contribute

If you find value in this e-Bulletin and other CBI offerings and would like to support our mutual desire to spread God's Word to wide audiences, please consider writing a check to **CUW**

**Foundation** with **CBI e-Bulletin** on the memo line, or follow the link to contribute online: [Support Concordia Bible Institute](#).

### **Mail checks to:**

Concordia University Wisconsin  
Attn: Office of Advancement  
12800 North Lake Shore Drive  
Mequon, WI 53097

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"Seeing Jesus in the Old Testament" photo courtesy of <http://www.prayercollege.org/tag/messiah>

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