

Valley Views



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Pastor Mike Hill

Back to School: A Biblical Perspective

By John Piper

Reading, writing and 'rithmetic have to do with *thinking*.

- *Reading* well does not mean moving the eyes quickly over letters on a page. It means grasping facts and ideas accurately, assessing their truth and beauty correctly, and making use of them to lead a good life.
- *Arithmetic* at the simplest levels means stocking the mind with tools for thought (the tables of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). At more advanced levels math is the exercise of logic for building things and living wisely: which is the better buy, three 8 ounce boxes at \$1.00 each or two 12 ounce boxes at \$1.40 each?

- *Writing* is what you learn so that you can preserve for yourself and communicate to others what you are thinking.

This business of education is God's business. He gave us the minds that think. He created the world we think about. He wrote the book of nature. He made the rules of logic. He is the standard of true and false, good and bad, beautiful and ugly. To ignore him is to be profoundly uneducated. Meditate (and help the children meditate) on the following biblical truths.

We are commanded to love the Lord with our *minds*.

Matthew 22:37 – And [Jesus] said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your *mind*.'

Without God as the highest value of education all *thinking* becomes futile and dark and sordid.

Romans 1:20-21,28 – Although they knew God they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their *thinking* and their senseless *minds* were darkened . . . Since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a base *mind* and to improper conduct.

We are commanded to be mature in our *thinking*.

1 Corinthians 14:20 – Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; be babes in evil, but in thinking be mature.

The failure to *love truth* will lead to destruction.

2 Thessalonians 2:10 – They refused to love the truth and so be saved.

Wise people seek to grow in *knowledge*.

Proverbs 15:14 – The mind of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouths of fools feed on folly.

Proverbs 18:15 – An intelligent mind acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.

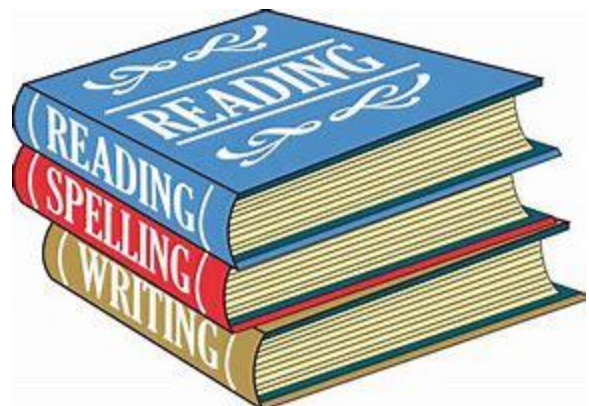
Proverbs 22:17 – Incline your ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply your mind to my knowledge. (cf. Proverbs 2:1-6; 23:12)

***Thinking* does not replace God, and God does not replace *thinking*.**

2 Timothy 2:7 – *Think* over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything.

Thinking with you for the glory of God,

Pastor John



Please be sure to check the church website evpumc.org and Elimsport United Methodist Parish face book for up to date church news.



Community breakfast is on Wednesday mornings from 7-9 in the church Fellowship Hall. Masks required.



There will be a blood drive on August 4th from 2-7 in the Fellowship Hall.



- Items for September's newsletter are due August **20th**.
- Items for the weekly bulletin's need to be to the church office by **Wednesday morning** each week.

(Items received after these dates are not guaranteed to be printed.)

Various means to keep updated:

website: evpumc.org

Face book: Elimsport United Methodist Parish

Electronic sign at Elimsport church

email Pastor Mike: hjebm@comcast.net

email church: elimsportumc@gmail.com

Call Pastor Mike: 570-547-1386

Text Pastor Mike: 570-974-8590 (please identify yourself when texting)

Be pro-active in getting the word out to others in the church.

Hal Drick is in basic training in Georgia. He misses church and would love to hear from his church family.



PV2 Drick, Hal, Roster #145

Baker Company 1-19 IN

8775 Albanese Drive

Fort Benning, GA. 31905

Please include the roster #145 on the back of the envelope too.



Elimsport Administrative Council will meet Monday, August 10th at 6:30.

Kid's Corner



ELIMSPORT VALLEY UNITED METHODIST PARISH

Worship Schedule:

Elimsport UMC

Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:30 am

St. John's UMC

Sunday School 9:15 am
Worship 10:30 am

Parish Youth Group

Check weekly Bulletin for current schedule and events
(at Elimsport)

Parish Bible Study

Varies according to the season.

Parish Office:

16145S. RT 44 HWY
Allenwood, PA 17810

Parsonage Phone:

(570) 547-1386

Pastor Mike's Cell:

(570) 974-8590

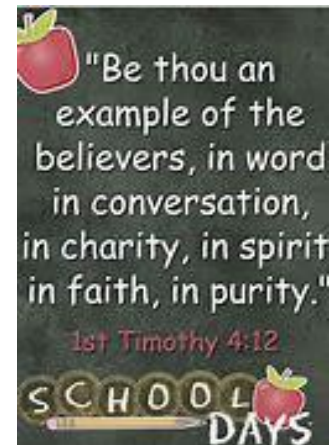
Parish Website:

www.evpumc.org

Parish email:

elimsportumc@gmail.com

www.evpumc.org



Our Mission Statement at Elimsport UMC



We gather together as a community of Christian believers to worship, fellowship, and to learn more about God. By the unity of the Spirit and the support of each other, we are able to reach out to the community and the world.

Our Mission Statement at St. John's UMC



The purpose of St. John's is to both evangelize and nurture. We are called to show God's love in our world by giving aid and by spreading the Good News of Christ. We in turn provide an atmosphere for nurturing where Biblical truths are shared enabling people to become spiritually enriched. By providing this, people will learn and through learning, become more effective witnesses.