

- On average, 85% of U.S. households own a Bible; the average amount of Bibles per household is 4.3
- 36% of Americans read the Bible less than once a year or never while 33% read the Bible once a week or more
- Americans' beliefs about the Bible are highly varied by age. Only 34% of those age 18-27 vs. 62% age 66 and older believe the Bible contains everything a person needs to know about living a meaningful life.

<http://uncover.americanbible.org/state-bible>

Singing to Drown Out...

Leadership Magazine, Summer 2012

In his book *When a Nation Forgets God*, Erwin Lutzer retells one Christian's story of living in Hitler's Germany. The man wrote:

"I lived in Germany during the Nazi Holocaust. I considered myself a Christian. We heard stories of what was happening to the Jews, but we tried to distance ourselves from it, because what could anyone do to stop it? A railroad track ran behind our small church, and each Sunday morning we could hear the whistle in the distance and then the wheels coming over the tracks. We became disturbed when we heard the cries coming from the train as it passed by. We realized that it was carrying Jews like cattle in the cars!

"Week after week the whistle would blow. We dreaded to hear the sound of those wheels because we knew that we would hear the cries of the Jews en route to a death camp. Their screams tormented us.

"We knew the time the train was coming, and when we heard the whistle blow we began singing hymns. By the time the train came past our church, we were

singing at the top of our voices. If we heard the screams, we sang more loudly, and soon we heard them no more.

"Years have passed, and no one talks about it anymore. But I still hear that train whistle in my sleep. God forgive me; forgive all of us who called ourselves Christians yet did nothing to intervene."

AFTER EDEN



'Tell me again why I should trust scientists' ability to be accurate about life on Earth "millions of years" ago ...'

-----News-----

Mary Dudek, one of the winter visitors who attended our Ladies Bible Class last winter, called from Nebraska to let us know she is going in for a Hip Replacement Surgery this coming Friday and she wants us to keep her on our prayer list. She said her husband, who has a blood cancer condition similar to the one Douglas Gardner has, is now in remission. She said if all goes well she and her husband and Wayne and Sheila Miller (who also attended services with us in the past) will be back in Safford in December.

Diane Cocke has a friend Terrie Griffith whose daughter **Amber Hale** (as of Wednesday 22) was having treatment complications at Mt. Graham Hospital. As treatment for extreme asthma, she was induced into a coma and the doctors were having trouble bringing her out of the coma while keeping her blood oxygen level up. Griffith has her hands full caring for Hale's children and disabled husband. This morning we'll probably need an update on this development.

Chuck Brooks (Cody Bo's dad) is scheduled for surgery on September 5.

Family Reunion III in Mammoth, AZ will be Saturday, September 29. Jeff Taylor will speak and Cecil Price will lead singing. It will be held at the San Pedro Lion's Club, 115 S Main Street, Mammoth, AZ 85618

Prayer List

Healing: Amber Hale (and family), Mary Dudek, Deanna Armenta's daughter April and sister Patsy; Chuck Brooks, Faye Atchley, Ben Atchley, Nicolas Self, Douglas Gardner, Brandon (Gerry Clark's grandson), Diane Cocke's brother-in-law Dave Smith, Dave Morse, Richard Tuey. **Travels:** John and Sharon Cunningham.

Safford Church of Christ

3888 S Hwy 191, Safford, AZ 85546

26 August 2012

Sermon Topics

A.M. How are we Influenced? Greg Briggs

Matthew 5:13-16, 33

P.M. Raising Our Children: Neil Short

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Evangelist

Ken Knowlton: 428-5974

Elders

Ben Atchley: 428-2246

Greg Briggs: 428-8756

John Cunningham: 428-0895

Services

Sunday Bible Class	10:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship	11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship	6:30 P.M.
Wednesday Evening Class	6:30 P.M.

The Bible in American Culture

The annual State of the Bible 2012 survey, conducted by Barna Group on behalf of American Bible Society, found:

- 47% of American adults believe the Bible has too little influence in society today
- 55% read the Bible to be closer to God, down 9% (from 64%) in 2011
- 79% believe they are knowledgeable about the Bible but 54% were unable to correctly identify the first five books of the Bible
- 46% believe the Bible, the Koran and the Book of Mormon are different expressions of the same spiritual truths, 46% disagree

continued...