

Have passion, perspective, priority for God's Word in 2012

What is your resolution for 2012? Spend more time with the family, get out of debt, or lose 15 pounds? For some, they determine to read through the Bible in one year. It is a worthy but challenging goal for us all. I have personally committed to the endeavor and have encouraged those around me to join me in the task. In order to meet this objective, we need the right passion for God's Word.

The Right Passion

When you speak of spiritual passion, it seems only right to turn to the Psalms. Within these passages, you find tremendous energy and emotion for God's character and word. Listen to the Psalmist: "The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb" (19:8-10 NIV). Can't you hear the passion within the text? The writer yearned for God's Word; he desired its sweet insight. If we are to follow through with our commitment to read through the Scripture this year, we must share the same type of passion. Our reading should not be just a duty for the day but a craving for the moment.

The Right Perspective

What I have found is that this passion is directly associated with our perspective. The Psalmist believed God's Word to be "perfect, trustworthy, right, and sure." In other words, he held that Scripture was completely sufficient and trustworthy in all that it teaches. I have absolute certainty in when I read the Bible that God is speaking truth to me. In addition I know that His Word is relevant to my life.



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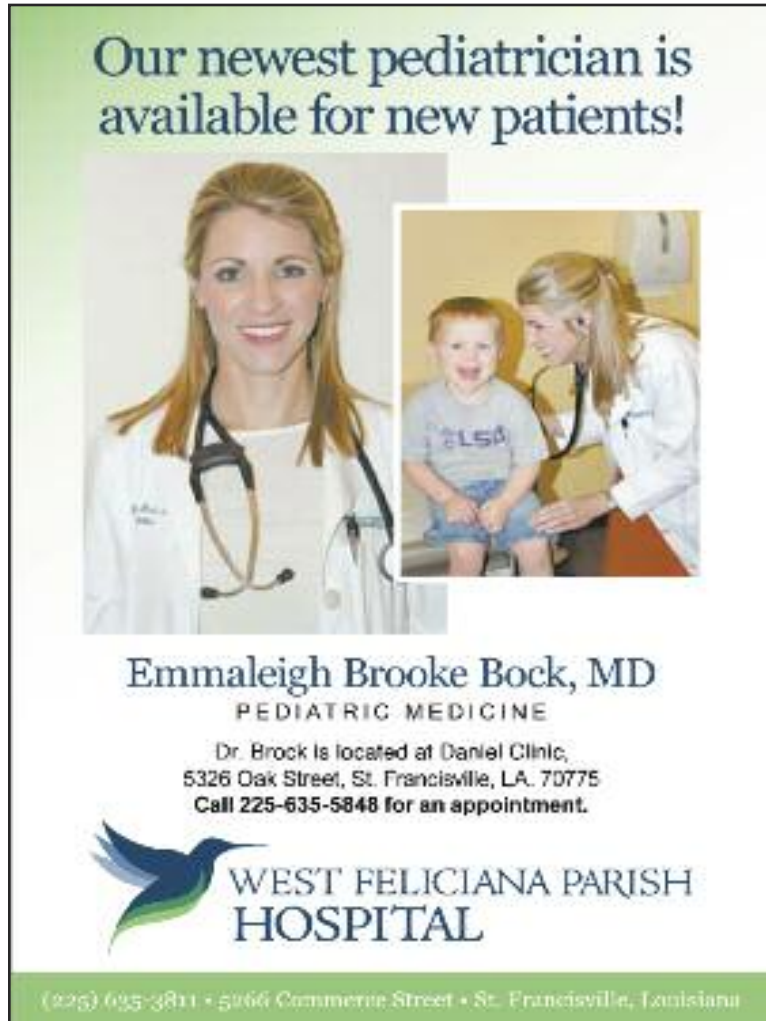
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