

Enjoy a Cup of Coffee with Miruska from Montenegro!



Dear Brothers, Sisters, Colleagues, and Pray-ers,
If I would ask you today what the Bible means to and for you, what would your answer be? Parents, what would be your answer?

Here are some answers to that question from some well-known people:

James (J.I.) Packer, known worldwide as a man of God and of the Bible, said, „By studying the doctrine of the Bible for generations, it could most appropriately be described as a collection of God's messages.“

B. B. Warfield said:

„God has said what is written in the Word. It is the voice of God.“

Martin Luther has stated:

„The Bible is living. It answers me.“

Dwight Moody has said:

„Sin will keep you away from this book. This book will keep you away from sin.“

American president Abraham Lincoln has emphasized:

„This book is the best gift that God has given man. Without it, we would not know what is right and what is wrong.“

And here are words from the twenty-sixth American president, Theodore Roosevelt:

„Understanding of the Bible is more valuable than an academic degree.“

Let's look at what God's Word says about itself:

In Psalm 119:105, it is written, ***“Your Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”***

Hebrews 4:12 says, ***“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”***

It is written in Jeremiah 23:29: ***“Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?”***

These are only some of the many verses that tell us what God's Word is. It is a huge privilege for us to have this wonderful Book in our mother tongue, and to have it in various translations from which we can choose. The question is, though, do we read it enough? Are we reading it to our children? Do we read it in our Sunday School classes with children, in our Good News Clubs, at our Christian camps? Are the children seeing us holding this precious book in our hands and reading from it?



In the preceding summer months, God has given me many opportunities to speak with children and teenagers, as well as adults, about this wonderful Book through which we can see what God says.

Some of those opportunities were presented to me at our summer camps. I love to go to camp and to spend time with the children and the teens. This summer I was at one children's camp, and two camps for teenagers. The time was great, very enjoyable, interesting, tiring, and a learning time.

My attention was especially drawn to children and teenagers who wanted to read God's Word. At the children's camp, one example was a boy, age 7, who navigated his Bible very well when asked to find certain

verses. He was almost always the first one to find the verse, even though he is not from Montenegro, and Serbian is not his first language, and also his ability to read the Cyrillic script is something he has had to learn. He is from a Christian family, but, even with that fact, it was exciting and encouraging to see him learning to use his Bible so well. I want to encourage you, too, to teach your children to use the Word, and to read it for themselves.

Often with the camps and work with children and teenagers, I ask myself, „Will the kids be interested in what I am saying? Will it just leave their heads as soon as they hear it?“ But, over and over, God pleasantly surprises me. Some teenagers asked me if I could give them a Bible, and, if not, could I give them a New Testament. When I gave them each an entire Bible, they were so very happy! One of the teens got up early, earlier than all the rest, so that she could have a peaceful time for her personal devotions. Isn't that just wonderful?!

The Three-Day Club that we held in Podgorica was yet another place I could speak about our wonderful Saviour who has spoken to us through His Word. Each time I asked someone to help me by reading something from the Bible, they did so willingly and with joy.

I often ask them if they are reading their Bibles. I love that they are so honest. Usually they say they don't read it very regularly. However, and especially because of this, we as teachers and leaders of children and teens need to be using our Bibles as we teach to show that it is God's Word from which we are instructing, as well as where we are learning ourselves about what God is saying to us. As we are modeling our own reading of the Word and living according to what the Word says, with God's help, we are a good example to those to whom we are ministering.

There are yet many things that I could share with you, but I will save them for another time. For now, I ask you to please pray for these children and teenagers with whom I am sharing God's Word, that what they are hearing would speak to their hearts, and they would accept Jesus Christ as their only Saviour.

Once again, I want to say thank you for your support for the work here, whether it is through your prayers, or through financial support. Child Evangelism Fellowship, PO Box 348, Warrenton, Missouri 63383. Please send all financial gifts to: Child Evangelism Fellowship, PO Box 348, Warrenton, MO 63383, making to sure to mark your gift “Miruska Cmelik-Montenegro: E2ME 2570-000.” Or, you may give on-line at www.cefonline.com, clicking on the link “Donate,” and then “Donate Now.” Follow the instructions on the secure donation form, making sure to include Miruska's name and account number in the box to specify the recipient of your gift.

In Europe, you may send your gifts to: CEF Centre, 4438 Langenbruck, Kilchzimmer, Switzerland, making sure to mark you gift “Miruska Cmelik-Montenegro.” Or, you may also find, on-line, bank transfer information for several currencies at www.cefurope.com, clicking on the link “Donate.”



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