Bible Study on September 17, 2017

This week's lesson is about the paranormal (remember the X-files. Mulder?), ghosts, psychics.

It should be the Bible study lesson for Halloween. Oops, almost forgot, can't use the word Halloween, it is now the Fall Harvest Festival. Just like Christmas (Happy Holidays, Seasons Greetings, the Holiday Season).

Everyone's heard of ghost stories. In fact, among Americans, 71% claim to have had a paranormal experience; 34% believe in ghosts; 56% believe ghosts are spirits of the dead; 37% believe houses can be haunted; 55% believe psychics have real power.

Even many of those who don't "believe" in ghosts still think it can be fun to play with the idea. That's a problem, because it is a slippery slope. Once a person gets curious and opens the door to the this other nether world, they only find trouble-and once opened, that door can be difficult to close.

But what does the Bible say? "Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God."

The direction we seek-and need-is found in God

What do we do to follow good over evil?

**Be educated.** You will only know God's guidance as you immerse yourself in His Word. Commit to reading the Bible on a daily basis and develop the practice of studying its truth.

**Be discerning.** Make discernment a regular part of your prayer life. Ask God to guide your thoughts and actions away from evil. "But test all things. Hold on to what is good. Stay away from every kind of evil."

**Be blameless.** Seek to demonstrate a blameless heart, fully devoted to the Lord, by removing from your presence anything that promotes and encourages the use of paranormal practices. Make a line in the sand.

Do good.

**This week's Scripture is Deuteronomy 18:9-18.**

**If you need someone to talk to or discuss issues, please reply. Also please respond to this email if you do not wish to receive God's Word. Remember God loves you.**

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