

# The Correspondent



**SUNDAY**  
Bible Study 9:30 AM  
Worship 10:30 AM & 1:30 PM  
**WEDNESDAY**  
Bible Study (Adult) 1:30 PM  
Bible Study (All Ages) 7:00 PM  
[www.collinsville-troycoc.org](http://www.collinsville-troycoc.org)  
(618) 667-6708

*For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth... in every place.  
(1 Thessalonians 1:8)*

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## The Forest, or the Trees

-Renn Ferguson

**W**e have all heard the saying, "Don't miss the forest for the trees". What that phrase always brings to my mind is to not get so lost in the details of something that you miss the overall objective or point. While this applies to a plethora of things it certainly applies to our study of scripture.

The word of God is a magnificent compilation of inspired writings written over a period of about 1500 years. These writings were penned by various men to various peoples and cultures. However, their harmony is incredible. Throughout those years these men, though they taught very different things to very different people all had a central message.

Last Wednesday night in the devotional I mentioned a very basic synopsis of the bible. Genesis-Malachi = Jesus is coming. Matthew-John = Jesus is here. Acts-Revelation = Jesus is coming back. While there are obviously a number of other divisions that can be made in each of those categories, this illustrates the basic message of the scripture: Jesus! Everything we read is permeated with God's plan to send Jesus as the perfect sacrifice to redeem man (1 Peter 1:18-19).

Yet, often times we cannot see the forest for the trees. While the Bible is written on a basic reading level there is so much information contained in it. In our quest to learn what every passage, verse, or word means (which is good) we can lose the forest for the trees. We can begin to elevate inconsequential things to a level on par with Christ. This is, in part, the reason for so much division within the church. Inconsequential things began to be emphasized more than the weightier matters of the law (Matthew 23:23).

As you study the scriptures dig into each word as much as possible. Just don't miss the forest for the trees!

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### CHURCH PICNIC

July 22, 2023

- 4 PM
- Church Lawn
- Burgers/Hot dogs
- Bounce House
- Sign Up Sheet on News and Notes Board

