



A NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO MAGNIFYING THE
"For You have magnified Your Word above all Your Name."

WORD OF GOD
Psalm 138:2

SUMMER | 2016

BLUE LETTER BIBLE

MAGNIFYING GOD'S WORD

From Near-Death Experience to Newness of Life

It has been said that every picture tells a story. Well, we believe when stories are centered on God and His life-changing Word, they have the makings of a *Masterpiece*.

We recently heard from a sweet lady named Patrice, who experienced a terrifying situation—but God used it for good. Some years ago Patrice was innocently entrapped in a life-threatening situation. Gripped with fear and in shock, she sadly had to witness the death of a co-worker. Now, reflecting back on that experience, she said:

I knew if I died that day I would not go to heaven. I needed a Savior and I called out to God. I felt the presence of the Lord surrounding me, and out of this terrifying situation came newness of life for me.

Understandably, Patrice suffered from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) as a result of that trauma and she sought professional counseling. But it wasn't until she began reading the Bible that God brought healing, and she clung to 2 Timothy 1:7—"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

Patrice told us Blue Letter Bible has played a big part in helping her grow in her knowledge of God. She has taken several courses on the BLB Institute (BLBi) and she was excited to discover the "Counseling God's Way" course. This curriculum takes an in-depth look at how God Himself is our "Wonderful Counselor," from Isaiah 9:6. The Truth of God's Word has the power to change lives and provide instruction for all of life's difficult circumstances.

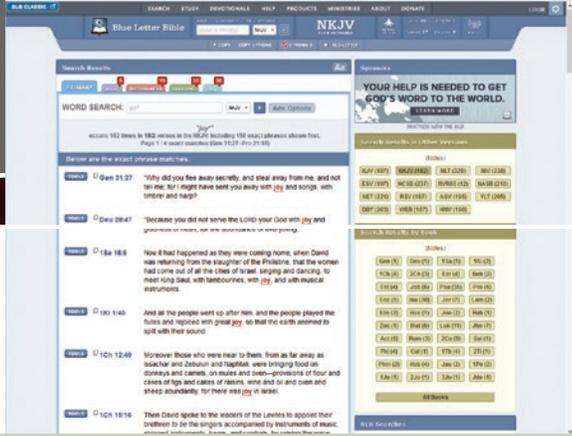
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STAFF PICK

The Joy of Word Searches



Angela Eiman
Blue Letter Bible.org
PBALM 138:2

I am humbled and extremely blessed that the Lord, in His infinite mercy and grace, allows me to serve at Blue Letter Bible. Although my daily tasks relate to human resources and accounting, I do have ample opportunity to glean from the many resources of the Blue Letter Bible site in my time of personal study.

I count the “Search” feature among my top go-to tools when digging into God’s Word. Whether I’m doing homework for an inductive Bible study class or an in-depth word study, the variety of options available to search are vast! For instance, if I would like to study how the word “joy” is used in Scripture, I would type “joy” in the “Search the Bible” box on the home page. The results are amazing! I can see everywhere “joy” is used in the Bible and how it is defined in the numerous Bible dictionaries and encyclopedias. I can also see how “joy” is used in the original languages with the help of the lexicons. Additionally, by adding an asterisk to the search term (e.g., “joy*”), I am able to see results from the following variations: joy, joyful, joyfully, joyous and joyously. Needless to say, this brings much joy to my time in God’s Word. 

From Near-Death Experience to Newness of Life

Cover Story (continued from page 1)

Patrice said:

Blue Letter Bible has helped nurture and water the seed that God planted in my heart. The BLB Institute has enlightened my life, taking me to another level of learning and discipleship.

Today, Patrice has a song in her heart and she serves in her church as a small group leader of “3G”—God, Gifts & Guitars. She not only leads worship, but she trains others in this ministry also. In hindsight, she told us:

I believe that terrifying situation I encountered was ordained by God. He ordered my steps that day and He saved me. Now I am being equipped to help others.

Truly, Patrice’s story illustrates the touch of the Master’s hand. And we are honored that she shared it with us, so we could share it with all of you. 



Exciting News for Mobile Users



We humbly ask you to pray for what is one of the largest and most complex projects BLB has ever undertaken. Optimizing our nearly one-million-page website to make it mobile friendly is an absolute necessity and priority. Today 40% of the traffic on our site comes through mobile devices. And that number is growing very quickly. Making BLB easier to use on mobile devices will significantly impact millions of our users. In addition, websites optimized for mobile devices fare much better in search engine rankings. Countless people, believers and non-believers, have found their way to BLB through Google or other search engines when trying to find a Bible verse, or simply doing a word search for “God.” We believe search engines are one of the most common ways people first become aware of BLB. Doing all we can to make certain BLB is at, or near, the top of these search results will help millions of people become aware of BLB for the first time and also place BLB above cults and false teachers who use God’s Word to lure followers. [QR](#)

Newly Added Content

At Blue Letter Bible, we place great value on the study of Scripture and we try to provide resources that contribute to your study of God’s Word. This is not something that is taken lightly. These resources require months and sometimes even years to make ready for our BLB users.



We pray you will be blessed by this new content, and that it will encourage a deeper commitment to searching the Scriptures daily.

We are thankful to have the opportunity to add audio content to our women’s ministry resources from Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth. In her series “Discerning Truth in a World of

Deception,” she exposes lies that plague our culture and explains our need for spiritual discernment to protect our minds and hearts from the lure of being deceived.

You may be familiar with Pastor Bill Acton, as many of his audio sermons are already on Blue Letter Bible.



Now available on the site is the entire collection of his sermon outlines for Romans, which will greatly enrich your study of this remarkable book.

We have also digitized the classic book, *A Saint Indeed*, by Puritan John Flavel (1630-1691). In this book, Flavel, a persecuted pastor in England, writes out of a deep burden for the personal holiness of his congregants. In doing so,



he challenges them, and all of us today, to closely examine our hearts and he offers Biblical insight for the most common objections, concerns and obstacles to personal holiness.

May God be magnified in your hearts through these resources! [QR](#)



GOD'S WORD IS ALIVE & ACTIVE

Experience Summertime Growth

For as long as I can remember, summertime has been my favorite season of the year. Like most people, I look forward to bright sunny days that fade into warm evening hours, when somehow time seems to slow down and life relaxes a bit. What a wonderful opportunity God has given us during these months to invest our time in *personal spiritual growth*.

We have noticed over the years that Blue Letter Bible experiences a *drop* in the number of page views during the summer. We would like to encourage you to continue your daily disciplines in the Word of God! Something I am doing this summer is writing out a section of Scripture, and then I am using commentaries and other study tools to gain further insight, understanding and application. I would encourage you to join me by doing an in-depth study on a section or book of Scripture that you have always been meaning to study, but haven't found the time.

Hebrews 11:6 says, "...He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." So dig a little

deeper into the Bible this summer and uncover some rich spiritual treasures, as you grow in your relationship with the Lord.

To help you in your growth, our newly released content includes: outlines for the Book of Romans from Pastor Bill Acton, a great resource for a deeper study of Romans; audio messages from Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth to supplement your summer studies; and the free digital book from John Flavel, *A Saint Indeed*.

Finally, I hope you were blessed to read about Patrice's incredible journey of faith in our cover story. God is working in the lives of His people and Blue Letter Bible is so thankful He has prompted faithful supporters like you to help make this ministry possible.

May God and His Word be exalted,

Jim Milligan
Chief Executive Officer



A Testimony from Abu Dhabi

"I was introduced to BLB by my small group leader a little over a year ago. He is an ardent student and teacher of God's Word. Since then, I have been using the resources on a weekly, if not daily, basis as I also serve through teaching the 11-14 year olds in our local church here at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. For my own personal learning and spiritual growth this has been my go-to site. What a wealth of wisdom is available here! Our family favorite is the audio/video commentaries. Thank you BLB team." — LIZ

Tell Us Your Story

This testimony came to us through our "Tell Us Your Story" page. Has God used BLB in your discipleship and teaching? Have you been personally ministered to through a deeper study of God's Word? If so, please visit BlueLetterBible.org/yourstory and tell us your BLB story today.

BlueLetterBible.org

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