

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY

PERSONAL DEVOTION CLASS 4

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PERSONAL DEVOTION RECAP

- Why should we apply ourselves to personal devotion?
 - Scripture says so
 - God gives us the blessings and the tools to utilize them, we still have to act!
 - It is good for us!
 - It glorifies God

PERSONAL DEVOTION RECAP

- What should we do for personal devotion?
 - Pray
 - Read Scripture
 - Memorize
 - Meditate

“Historical- Pertaining to events that have occurred.”

-The Concise Dictionary of Christian Theology

THE STUDY OF HISTORY

IS IT SCRIPTURAL?

SCRIPTURE IS HISTORY!

**“AND HE GAVE THE APOSTLES, THE PROPHETS, THE
EVANGELISTS, THE SHEPHERDS AND TEACHERS, TO
EQUIP THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY, FOR
BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST,”**

EPHESIANS 4:11–12

“PRAISE THE LORD! BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO FEARS THE LORD, WHO GREATLY DELIGHTS IN HIS COMMANDMENTS! HIS OFFSPRING WILL BE MIGHTY IN THE LAND; THE GENERATION OF THE UPRIGHT WILL BE BLESSED. WEALTH AND RICHES ARE IN HIS HOUSE, AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ENDURES FOREVER. LIGHT DAWNS IN THE DARKNESS FOR THE UPRIGHT; HE IS GRACIOUS, MERCIFUL, AND RIGHTEOUS. IT IS WELL WITH THE MAN WHO DEALS GENEROUSLY AND LENDS; WHO CONDUCTS HIS AFFAIRS WITH JUSTICE. FOR THE RIGHTEOUS WILL NEVER BE MOVED; HE WILL BE REMEMBERED FOREVER.”

PSALM 112:1-6

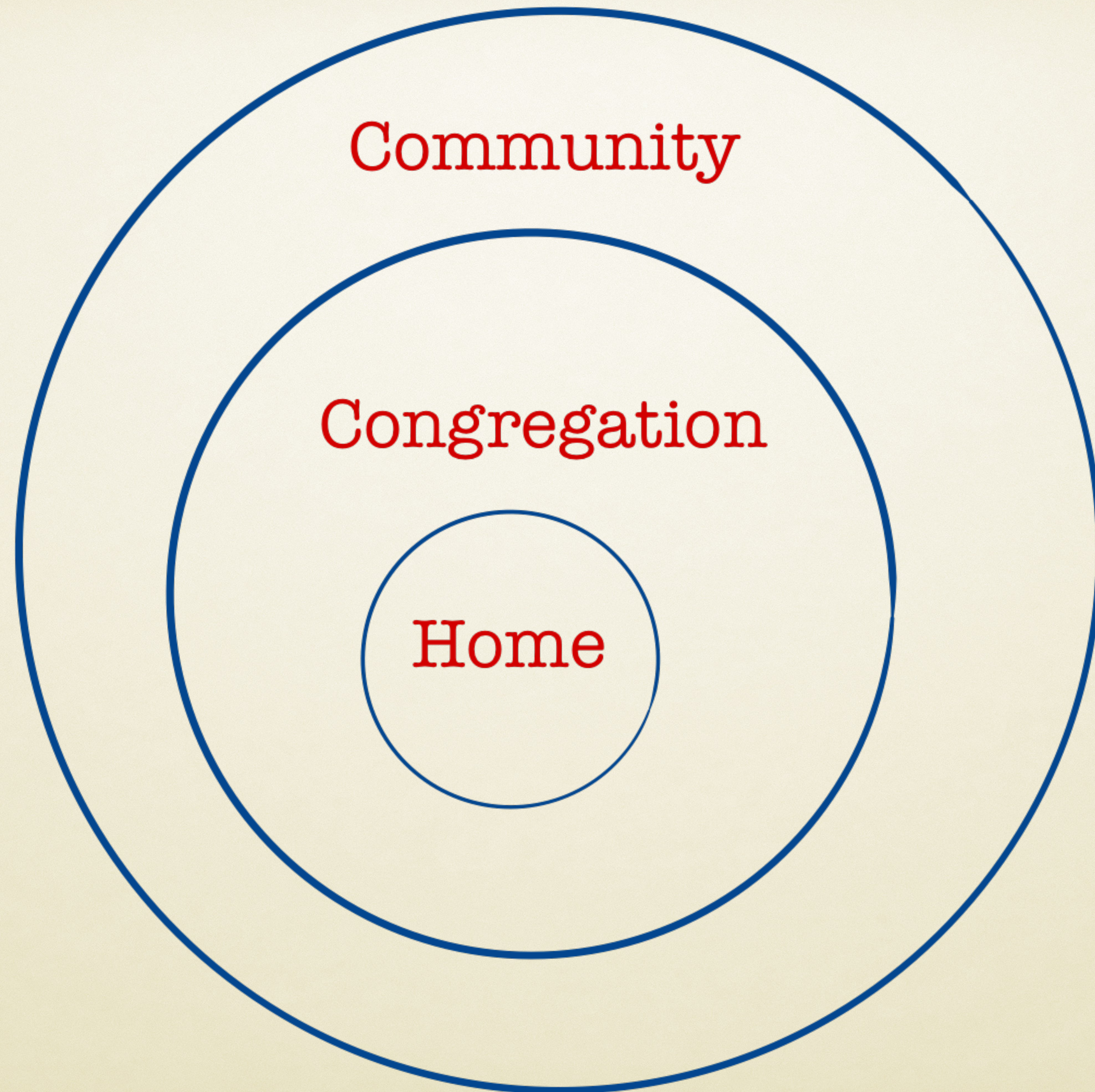
JOHN BRUEN ESQ.

- 17th Century laymen
- Celebrated for for his piety
- Biography written by William Hinde



“Exhibiting a variety of memorable and exemplary circumstances, which may be of great utility to all persons; but principally intended as a precedent of piety and charity for the inhabitants of the county of Chester.”

-William Hinde



JOHN BRUEN ESQ. @ HOME

- His devotional life
- Family Worship
- Family Commitments

JOHN BRUEN ESQ. @ WORK

- Discipleship
- How he managed his employees

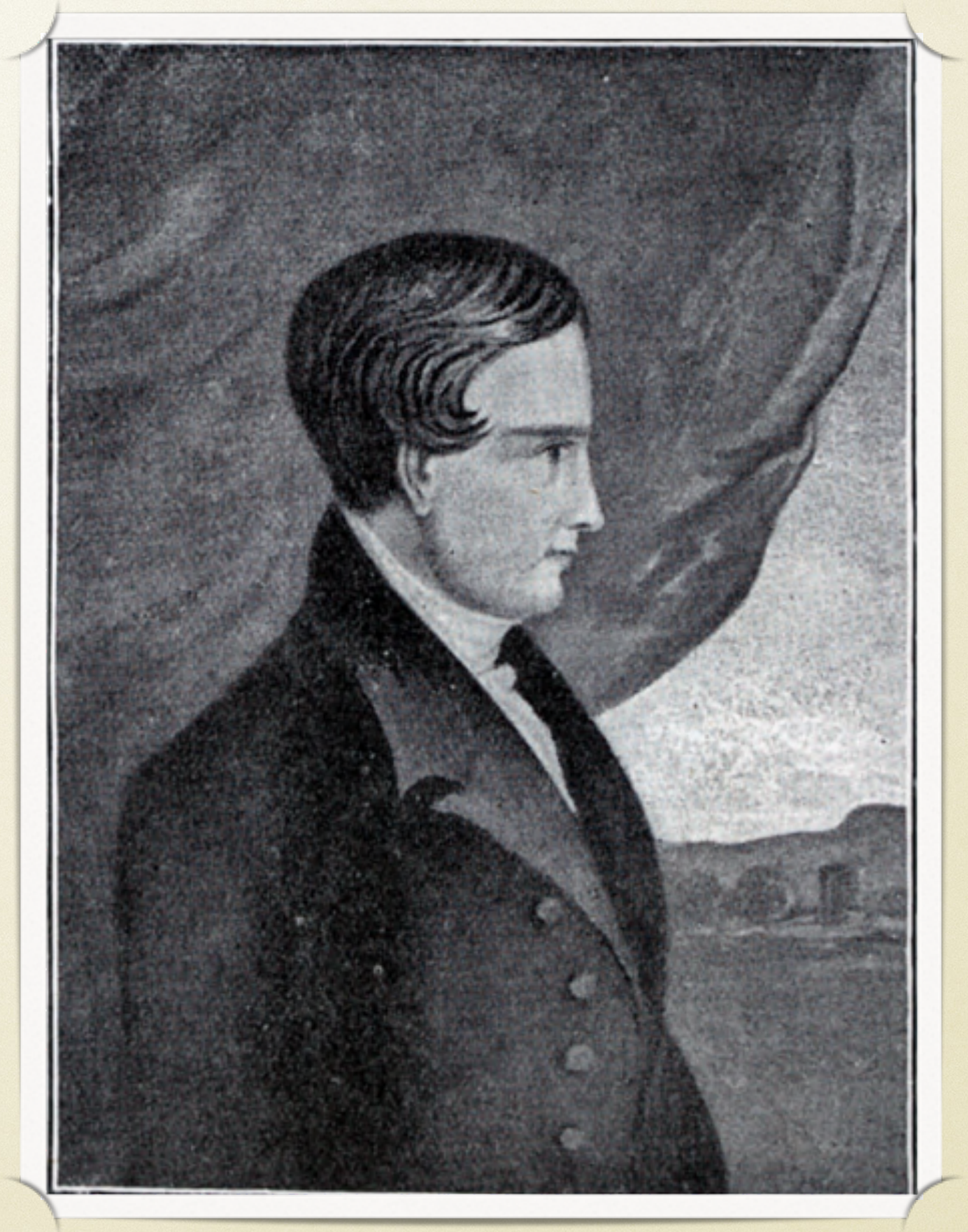
JOHN BRUEN ESQ. @ SABBATH

- How did he spend the Sabbath

for “At that time,” saith he, “the holy Sabbaths of the Lord were wholly spent, in all places about us, in May-games and May-poles, pipings and dancings; for it was a rare thing to hear of a preacher, or to have one sermon in a year—all living profanely in ignorance and error.”

ROBERT MURRAY M'CHEYNE

- 19th Century Presbyterian Minister
- The Memoir and Remains of the RE. Robert Murray M'Cheynee - Published by Andrew Bonar



WHAT CAN WE GAIN?

- Reading plan
- Letter Writing
- Journaling

READING PLAN

- Genesis 1; Ezra 1; Matthew 1; Acts 1
- Genesis 2; Ezra 2; Matthew 2; Acts 2
- Genesis 3; Ezra 3; Matthew 3; Acts 3
- Genesis 4; Ezra 4; Matthew 4; Acts 4
- Genesis 5; Ezra 5; Matthew 5; Acts 5

WRITING LETTERS

- Who can we write to?
 - Congregation
 - Unconverted
 - Family

WRITING LETTERS

- What can we write about?
 - Work
 - Travel
 - To comfort others
 - To encourage others
 - To ask for prayer

WRITING LETTERS

- How can we benefit?
 - We take time to consider God's work in our lives
 - We communicate the works of God in our lives to others

KEEPING A JOURNAL

March 20.—After a few sentences in Latin, concluding with, “In meam animam veni, Domine Deus omnipotens,” he writes, “Leaning on a staff of my own devising, it betrayed me, and broke under me. It was not thy staff. Resolving to be a god, thou showedst me that I was but a man. But my own staff being broken, why may I not lay hold of thine?—Read part of the life of Jonathan Edwards. How feeble does my spark of Christianity appear beside such a sun! But even his was a borrowed light. and the same source is still open to enlighten me.”

“April 8.—Have found much rest in him who bore all our burdens for us.”

“April 26.—To-night I ventured to break the ice of unchristian silence. Why should not selfishness be buried beneath the Atlantic in matters so sacred?”

KEEPING A JOURNAL

lusts and anger, mad ambitions, and unhallowed words ! Though my vice was always refined, yet how subtile and how awfully prevalent it was ! How complete a test was the Sabbath—spent in weariness, as much of it as was given to God's service ! How I polluted it by my hypocrisies, my self-conceits, my worldly thoughts, and worldly friends ! How formally and unheedingly the Bible was read—how little was read—so little that even now I have not read it all ! How unboundedly was the wild impulse of the heart obeyed ! How much more was the creature loved than the Creator !—O great God, that didst suffer me to live