

## **ARE YOU SMASRTER THANA FIFTH GRADER?**

By Eddie Gilpin, Elder/Preacher

One of our favorite shows is “Are You Smarter Than a Fifth Grader.” Jeff Foxworthy hosts this show in which adult contestants are challenged by questions in several categories ranging from first to fifth grade levels. A cast of five fifth graders is on hand to assist each contestant with the answers. As the questions progress, the money increases, culminating in a chance to answer a final question worth one million dollars.

To date, no one has succeeded in winning the million dollar prize, and only one has made the attempt. Each who fails to win the million dollar prize must look into the camera and announce to the world, “I am not smarter than a fifth grader.”

This show is both entertaining and informative. It is based on the assumption that as adults we have forgotten the basics taught us in elementary school. So far, the assumption has proved correct, even though people from all walks of life and with all manner of educational attainments have attempted to win. In thinking about the basis for this show I thought about Christians.

Have we retained in our minds those Bible stories taught us long ago? Do we still recall the Bible basics that were instilled in most of us from young ages? Could you recall the names of Old Testament heroes and recount their exploits?

Could you answer questions about New Testament characters and provide some of the details about their lives? Just as with the educational basics from our former days, if we do not refresh our minds regularly regarding these basic Bible truths, it is likely that we will forget them (cf. Hosea 4:6).

One of the amazing things about the television show is the knowledge of the fifth graders who appear on it. Most of the time they will get the correct answer to the question. Kind of makes you wonder when it comes to Bible matters, “are you smarter than a fifth grader?”