

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Re-Examining Our Prayer Life

“Are Non-Christians Accountable? Why Are Heathens Condemned?”

While most of us would readily admit the importance of prayer, many of us would also say that prayer is not as prominent in our lives as it ought to be. Jesus taught that men ought “always” to pray (Luke 18:1). Christ’s life was literally filled with prayer. In that He is our Example (I Peter 2:21-22), it is certainly fitting to ask, “Is prayer as important to us as it was to Him?” Ephesians 6:18 speaks of the four “all’s” of prayer: (1) pray always, (2) with all prayer and supplication, (3) with all perseverance, (4) for all the saints. What a challenge! What a blessing! Have you ever stopped to think why prayer is so important in the life of a Christian?

- 1. Because It is Communication with the Ideal Hearer– the Heavenly Father.** To be on such “speaking terms” with God is a privilege to us and glorifying to Him (John 14:13-14).
- 2. Because Prayer Is One of Life’s Richest Blessings.** Sometimes we have not, because we ask not (James 4:2). When we ask in faith and love, we truly receive far more than we ever thought possible (Matthew 7:7-11; Ephesians 3:20-21).
- 3. Because Satan Is a Real Enemy.** Ephesians 6:10-20 reminds us that every piece of the Christian’s armor is to be put on with prayer. When the “communication lines” aren’t kept open with God, the devil will seek to get advantage on us! (Ephesians 4:27; 6:11)
- 4. Because The Faithful Of All The Ages Have Used Prayer As A Powerful Tool.** If people like Jesus (Mark 1:35), Paul (Romans 1:9), David (Psalm 51) and Daniel (Daniel 6) needed to pray, don’t we?
- 5. Because Of The Place It Occupied In The Lord’s Life.** Jesus was a man of prayer (Luke 6:12). His followers asked Him to teach them “how” to pray (Luke 11:1). Because of our practice of close communion in prayer with the Heavenly Father, how qualified would we be to teach others to pray like Jesus?
- 6. Because We Are Commanded To Pray In Order to Avoid Temptation.** In Matthew 26:41, Jesus said to His followers, “Watch and pray, lest you enter temptation.” The old proverb is true: “It’s hard to fall, when you’re on your knees!”
- 7. Because Through Prayer Mercy and Grace Are Obtained.** “Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:16). Those are two virtues we need the most! (Cf. 1 Timothy 1:13-15; Ephesians 2:8-10).
- 8. Because In Prayer We Find Joy.** “Ask and you will receive, that your joy may be full” (John 16:24). If you lack joy in your life as a Christian, one good possibility is too little time has been invested in the presence of God wherein there is fullness of joy (Psalm 16:11)
- 9. Because Prayer Dispels Worry.** “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let our request be made known to God” (Philippians 4:6). We are so prone to worry when we need to be more prone to pray. Prayer removes worry, while worry only crowds out prayer.

10. **Because Prayer is a Useful Study Tool.** “Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law” (Psalm 119:18). When we pray in faith for wisdom, not wavering, we may be confident God will bless (James 1:5). The word of God and prayer go together in helping to build stronger Christians.

All of us can do something to strengthen our prayer life. Does your practice of prayer show what a priority it is to you?

—Mike Vestal

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to the family of **Wayne Bradford**. Wayne passed away Tuesday, July 24th at his home after a long battle with cancer. A Memorial Service was held at 2:00 p.m. Friday, July 27th at the Acres West Funeral Home. Continue to keep this family in your prayers.

Prayer Request

Please keep **Glenna McCarty** in your daily prayers. She has a really bad case of shingles on her back and backside of her right arm. She is in so much pain and was told that this could last a while.

Prayer List

Tom Bauer; Elsie Bradford; Brad Bundick; Bill Butler; David Castor; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; James V. Drake; Glenda Driver; Dana Erwin; Densell Fambro; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambright; Shirley Harvey; Letha Hooper; Chris & Shirley Landers; Juan & Estella Morolez; Caydon Parker; Jackie Rex; Ida Rodriguez; Elvia Ruckman; Janelle Shirley; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; James Stephens; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Chuck Weaver; Jimmy Weaver; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Wanda Wheeler; Ann Wilson; Glenda Winkley; John Wood; Jack Wright.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley; and Lester Whisenant.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Annas, the former high priest, sent Jesus bound to Caiaphas, the High Priest. While there, one of the apostles warmed by a fire in the court yard. In the course of the evening, a cock crowed signifying something of serious consequence. What was the occasion?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

In the Gospel of John Jesus is described as the light “that shines in the darkness”.

Events

Watch “*In Search of the Lord's Way*” every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the “**Speaking the Truth in Love**” program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

Office News

The “**New Mexico Children's Home**” will be here Tuesday, September 4th—Need “**Instant Oatmeal**”. Monetary donations accepted.

There will be a “**Deacons Meeting**” following our service this evening.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jacey and Dex Dennard on the arrival of their baby girl, Jaye Catherine. Jaye was born at 8:21 a.m., July 27th. She weighed 6 lbs. 13 oz. The proud grandparents are Jeff & Holly Wesson. Jaye joins her brother, Deacon.

God Listens

Have you ever stopped in the middle of a sentence or in the middle of telling a story because you thought the person you were talking to was not listening? It is quite a joy when the person notices and encourages you to continue. You feel rather down and worthless when the person does not notice. While there are many reasons that a person might not be listening we can take assurance in one very important thing. God listens always.

God listens and internalizes what we say to Him. He does not simply let us ramble on without our words sinking in affecting Him in a personal manner. What we tell God is important to Him. He wants to know what we have to say. He wants us to talk to Him. He even commands that we talk to Him (I Thessalonians 5:17). God listened when Abraham pleaded with Him not to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah if ten souls could be found (Genesis 18:16-33). God listened to Moses when God was ready to wipe all of the Israelites off the face of the earth for their continued refusal to obey and trust Him (Exodus 32:10-14) God listened to Gideon when he asked that the fleece be wet and the ground around it dry and again when Gideon asked that the ground be wet and the fleece dry (Judges 6:36-40). God listened to Samson when he asked for strength one last time (Judges 16:28-30). God listened to David as he pled for protection and revenge against his enemies and as he expressed thanksgiving for the blessings God had provided him. God listened to Elijah and held the rains from falling (I Kings 17:1-7). God listened to Daniel as he prayed when the law of the land forbade it (Daniel 6:1-23). God listened to His only Son in the garden prior to His being nailed on the cross (Matthew 26:26-46). God listened to His Son's cry from the cross (Luke 23:46).

God listened to each one. He cared for each one and He cares for each of us. He does not always answer in ways we see or use the timetable we construct or provide the outcome that we deem best, but God listens. While others might turn us off or never even begin to listen, God always listens. For our own good, we need to allow Him that opportunity every day.

Jamie Cox—Florence, AL

August 5, 2018	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Larry May	Larry May
Song Leader	Jaxon Straw	Jacob Carson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Larry May	Larry May
Scripture	Dex Dennard	Jr. Munoz
Second Prayer	Jacob Carson	Don Easlon
Closing Prayer	Gary Loving	Tom Sorenson
Lord's Supper		
West...	Bill Ryan	Scot Straw
	Trinidad Wood	Communion
	Gary Loving	(In Library)
East...	Josh Wells	
	Craig Wesson	
	David Ryan	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Larry May 638-3990 *Deacon*: John Wood 413-7444 *Pulpit*: Tom Sorenson 638-9447 *Table*: Scot Straw 301-0549 *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties*: Cody Wesson 561-5302 *Collections*: Cody Wesson 561-5302

Sunday AM

"Exalting Jesus as the Master Teacher"
(Matthew 7:28-29)

Sunday PM

*“Right Motivations for Evangelism”
(Matthew 28:19-20)*

Our Records

Bible Class... 79

Morning Worship...116

Evening Worship...88

Wednesday...89

Contribution...\$3,552.97