

What Are We Expecting From Our Prayers?

We pray because prayer works! James writes: "The effectual prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much" (5:16). If God never listened, or if God never answered our prayers "Yes," then why pray? There would be no motive to pray. We would say, "it just doesn't do any good." But we know better. All of us can be thankful for the numerous prayers answered in our lives. Prayer works! **God is moved by the prayers of His people.**

But what are we expecting from our prayers? The simple answer would be, "We are expecting God to answer them." Thus, we pray in faith that He will respond. Sometimes, however, I feel that some look at prayer as the "magical fix all" to our problems. We make a mess of our marriage and then in desperation pray about our home and think God will now make it right. We mess up our health by poor eating habits and a lack of exercise and then lie in a hospital bed praying for our health to return. We think the church will grow just because "we have prayed for that."

It seems that in all of this, we are expecting God to right all the wrongs, fix all the mistakes, and make everything fine simply because we have prayed about it. Now this is not questioning the power of God, but it is essential that we understand **our** roles and responsibilities and our need to work with Him.

- **We Find Ourselves In A Mess Financially:** -- because we spend instead of saving. It will take more than words to right the wrongs of unwise decisions.
- **We Find Ourselves In A Troubled Marriage:** -- because of gossiping, nagging, dishonesty, and negativity. A change of hearts and a renewed dedication are essential to turning that relationship around. God will not "fix it" without the cooperation of those "in it."
- **We Find Ourselves In A Stagnant Church:** -- because of indifference. Such a church cannot grow by the members merely saying a prayer and then waiting with arms folded for something to happen. Obviously, God expects cooperation from us.

Whether financial, domestic or secular, are we to expect that all one has to do to fix the mess is pray and everything will be fine? **Absolutely not!** There are consequences to our choices and responsibilities that rest upon our shoulders (Galatians 6:7-8). God will do His part but... **we must do ours too!**

PUZZLE FOR THE WEEK

This puzzle is taken from Hebrews 12:6-11

E N D J O Y O U S G F C C U D
D V M W N V K Z N O R O K W R
S U B J E C T I O N U R N E S
F N V R V F N L Z Y I R V D P
Y L N V P E H R G S T E T X I
P I E H T A E F S N R C I F R
S D E S I C R E X E N T F E I
D D A L H R N T N N P E O R T
L H R L D I E C A R L D R U S
C Q I A L E E H E K B X P S G
Z V A O T F T S T C E J L A O
E O H N O S E H X A M R T E B
Y P V Y Q N A A J E F P S L K
R A Z W T U K B S C X W C P W
G R I E V O U S H T E V O L A

1. "For whom the Lord _____ he chasteneth, and scourgeth every _____ whom he receiveth."
2. If ye endure _____, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the _____ chasteneth not?"
3. "But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are _____, then are ye _____, and not sons."
4. "Furthermore we have had fathers of our _____ which _____ us, and we gave them _____: shall we not much rather be in _____ unto the Father of _____, and _____?"
5. "For they verily for a _____ days chastened us after their own _____; but he for *our* _____, that *we* might be partakers of his _____."
6. "Now no chastening for the _____ seemeth to be _____, but _____: nevertheless afterward it _____ the peaceable _____ of righteousness unto them which are _____ thereby."

What Does The Bible Say About Worship?

- We are to worship in spirit and in truth (John 4:23,24).
- Worship is to be on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7).
- The male members lead the worship service (I Corinthians 14:34).
- God's word is to be preached (Acts 20:7).
- Prayer is to be offered to Him (Acts 2:42).
- Christians are to give cheerfully according to how God has prospered them (I Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7).
- The Lord's Supper is to be taken (I Corinthians 11:23-29; Acts 20:7).
- Members are to sing one to another from the heart (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16).
- We are not to change by adding to or taking from (Revelation 22:18,19).

NEWS AND NOTES

"I was sick, and ye visited me..." (Matthew 25:36)

Carolyn Harper's surgery on Monday was successful. She came home Wednesday.

Gail Goodwin had knee replacement surgery on Monday.

Judy McQuay suffered from kidney stones and has been hospitalized this week.

Mark Brewer had his stitches taken out Monday and got a good report from his doctor.

Miles, the grandbaby of Patti and Jerry Dodson, is showing much improvement and was to come home Thursday.

Thad Mangrum remains in Encompass Rehab, Room 220.

Stacy Williams will have a nuclear stress test on the 26th, and then will be scheduled for a heart ablation.

Debbie Barnett, daughter-in-law of Dene Barnett, was in a car wreck Sunday night. She had to be carried to Regional One in Memphis with internal injuries. She is showing some improvement but is in critical condition.

Please check the bulletin boards for updates on the Prayer Request List, and inform us of any needed updates. Also be sure to read any thank you notes we have received that are on the board.

"Let all things be done unto edifying." (I Corinthians 14:26)

Please see Scott Pratt to volunteer for taking part in yard maintenance this summer. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the foyer.

"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:14)

Those Privileged To Serve

March 22, 2020

SUNDAY MORNING

Song Leader: Mark Wooten
Opening Prayer: Noah Flanrey
Closing Prayer: Jimmy Powell
Bible Reading: Marshall Lands
Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

LORD'S TABLE

Presiding: Stacy Eddleman
Hillard Holcomb Micah Tindall
Jeff Presley Robert Stephens
Jim Johnson Carlos Wood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Nichols

SUNDAY EVENING

Song Leader: Mark Wooten
Opening Prayer: J. L. May
Closing Prayer: Carroll Morris
Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

(March 25)

Song Leader: Noah Flanrey
Opening Prayer: Coltin Powell
Closing Prayer: Sam Light

DEVOTIONAL SPEAKER

Terry Joe Kee

NUMBERS FOR THE WEEK

March 15, 2020

Sunday Bible Study	98
Sunday AM Worship	128
Sunday PM Worship	100
Wednesday Bible Study	97
Contribution	\$5343

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK:

"The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment."

Proverbs 12:19

The Friend of Truth

Greensboro Road church of Christ

Jonesboro, Arkansas 72405

(870) 932-3920

"Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?" (Galatians 4:16)

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KeeNotes

SHEPHERDS

*Dan Nichols
Randy Oden
Jody Pickens*

DEACONS

*Scottie Blanchard
Jerry Dodson
Mike Felts
Jason Garland
Marshall Lands
Mark Wooten*

EVANGELIST

Terry Joe Kee

MISSIONARIES

*Michael Hughes
Samrit Kammanee
Arnold Kelley
Guyana, South America
Warren, PA*

SERVICES

SUNDAY

*Classes 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.*

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the Word of God
Romans 10:17

Believe the Word of God
John 8:24

Repent of your sins
Luke 13:3

Confess your faith in Jesus
as the Son of God
Romans 10:9,10

Be Baptized for the
remission of your sins
Acts 2:38

Live faithfully
Revelation 2:10

*"Where there is no vision,
the people perish..."*
Proverbs 29:18

*God Give Us 2020 Vision
in 2020*