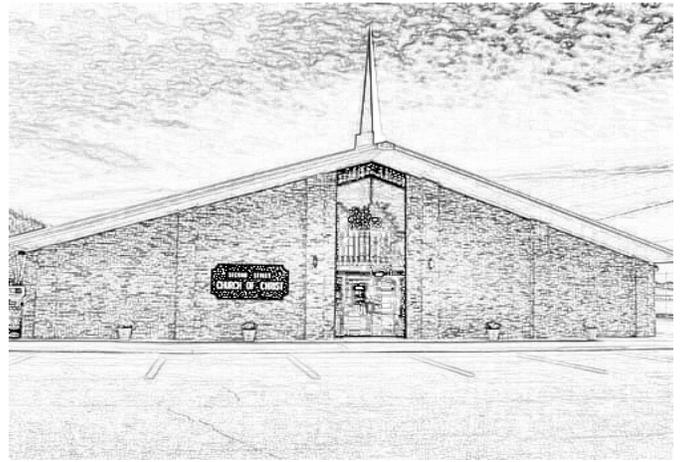


Second Street Church of Christ



January 24, 2016

The Beginning and End of Prayer

MINISTER

Adam Cozort

662-663-0231

Office

662-454-9429

P.O. Box 126
Belmont, Ms. 38827

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Class....9:00am
Sun. Morn. Worship.10:00am
Sunday Evening.....5:00pm
Wed. Evening.....7:00pm

***Endeavoring to keep
the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace.
Ephesians 4:3***

Prayer, in the end, is simply an intimate conversation between a child and their heavenly Father. There are always only two people represented in true prayer, you and God. Thus, while there are many kinds of prayer we could talk about, fundamental to them all is simply a conversation, a dialogue between an individual and God. Prayer, thus, begins and ends with God and this reality, I believe, is one the reasons we do not always pray as we should. Because if we really knew and comprehended the nature and character of God, we would pray more!

“Teach Us to Pray.” As one considers the Model Prayer (Lk.11:2-4), he can’t help but be impressed with the God-centered nature of the prayer. The Model Prayer contains six requests on the part of man. The first three are specifically directed to God and that last three focus on human needs that can only be satisfied by God. Jesus, thus, teaches us to remember always that in prayer, God is the focus, not ourselves. Why? Because the way we view God affects the way we live and the way we pray. Focusing on God’s in our prayers helps us to filter out the frivolous and seek out His will and not our own. Thus, when praying, we need to remember that prayer begins and ends with God.

Prayer Begins with God. When we pray we are reminding ourselves that God is always with us. This is essential to prayer because the more we think about God’s being with us, the more it changes the way we act, the way we think and the way we communicate with God in prayer. When we pray we are also responding to the love of God. As John proclaims (1 Jn.4:19), before we ever reached out to God, God already loved us. Thus, in prayer, we are simply responding to that love by bringing our praise, needs and concerns to our heavenly Father. Finally, when we pray we are saying yes to God’s invitation. God wants to be in constant communication with His children and prayer is the means by which the invites us to make this happen. It is important thus to understand that prayer doesn’t start with us, it starts with God.

Prayer Ends with God. “The chief purpose of prayer is that God may be glorified in the answer” (R. A. Torrey). I recently heard some say that the purpose of prayer “is not so that we can get our will done in heaven it is so that we can get God’s will done on earth.” Translation: We simply cannot expect God to fulfill requests in prayer that do nothing to advance His name and His cause in our lives and in the lives of others. The difference between having confidence in our prayers and not is found in the motivation behind them. Whose will are wecontinued on pg 3

Announcements

Welcome Visitors!! You are our honored guest, and we are glad you came our way! We invite you back to our evening services at 5:00 and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 pm.

Bear Stuffing will begin again February 9th.

Singing and Fellowship at Steve and Michelle Holcomb's has been rescheduled for Friday, February 5th. Light refreshments will be served.

The sign-up sheet to host a singing and fellowship night is posted on the board in the foyer.

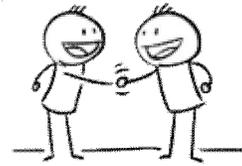
Trays for February

Janey Dees

Trays for March

Michelle Holcomb

Welcome!



*We are Glad
You are Here!*

Who Are You Living For?

Who is it that we should live life for? Is it to please others, self, or God? Remember what Jesus prayed for in the Garden of Gethsemane: "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will" (Matthew 26:39b).

It was not about others. It was not about himself. It was all about living for God and doing God's will throughout His life. If Jesus lived life this way, we should live life the same way, "not as I will, but as you will."

Thinking about this passage and how Jesus lived his life, I came across these sayings this week, and I pray that they will encourage you as they did me.

- If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives - BE KIND ANYWAY.
- If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends, and some genuine enemies — SUCCEED ANYWAY.
- If you are honest and sincere, people may deceive you - BE HONEST AND SINCERE ANYWAY.
- If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous - BE HAPPY ANYWAY.
- The good you do today, will often be forgotten - DO GOOD ANYWAY.
- Give the best you have, and it will never be enough — GIVE YOUR BEST
- In the final analysis, it's between you and God — IT WAS NEVER BETWEEN YOU AND THEM ANYWAY.

Who are you living life for, ANYWAY?

*Lance Morrisett
Hooker church of Christ
Hooker, OK*

Bulletin Digest

SATAN'S STRATEGY

Examining Satan's plan to destroy man

Subvert the Word

- ◆ Satan has always tried to change God's Word into a lie. (Genesis 3; 2 Corinthians 11:3)
- ◆ Therefore, one of Satan's foremost tactics is to pervert the Gospel of Christ. (2 Corinthians 11:13-15)
 - ◆ By not making distinctions between OT and NT. (2 Corinthians 3:12-16)
 - ◆ By arguing God does not mean what he says. (2 Peter 3:1-4; 2:1-3)

Satisfy Men Now

- ◆ Get man bogged down in the pleasures of this world. (2 Corinthians 4:3-4)
- ◆ Most people look for immediate fulfillment in pleasure and what makes them "happy." (Hebrews 11:24-25; Luke 12:15-21)
- ◆ The greatest weapon in Satan's arsenal is using man's uncontrolled desires. (Ephesians 2:1-3; James 1:13-15)

Seduce the Saints

- ◆ Seduce: To draw aside or entice from the path of rectitude and duty in any manner, by flattery, promises, bribes or otherwise; to tempt and lead to iniquity, to corrupt; to deprave. (Webster)
- ◆ Satan uses physical seduction. (1 Corinthians 5)
- ◆ He also uses the seduction of greed and notoriety. (Luke 22:3; Acts 5:3)

Conclusion

- ◆ The first step to defeating your enemy is knowing him and his strategies.
- ◆ There is only one thing that can defeat Satan, the knowledge and implementation of the word of God. (Matthew 4; James 4:7)
- ◆ Satan loses in the end, and he knows it, therefore his mission is to take as many as he can with him. (Matthew 25:41)

really trying to get done?

Humans have a tendency to be self-centered and self-seeking and such is often reflected in our prayers. So before you pray to God, here is the question you need to ask: What is in my prayers for God? What, if my prayer were granted, would bring glory and honor to God's name and lead to the fulfillment of His will? Prayer was never meant to be a laundry list of our personal and often selfish wants. God created prayer for the purpose of communing with His children and so that He might be glorified in the answer. Prayer begins and ends with God!

*Brian Mitchell
Jackson church of Christ
Jackson, MO Bulletin Digest*

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study **9:00am**
Worship **10:00am**
Evening **5:00pm**

Wednesday

Bible Study **7:00pm**

*I was glad when they said unto me, Let
us go into the house of the LORD.*

Psalms 122:1

The process for becoming a Christian
is the same as it was over 2000 years
ago! To become a Christian, one must:

Hear the Gospel - Rom. 10:17

Believe the Gospel - Heb. 11:6

Repent of Sins - Luke 13:3

Confess Christ - Rom. 10:10

Be Immersed Into Christ - Acts 2:38

Live a Faithful Life - Rev. 2:10

None of these alone will make you a
Christian. These commands are from
God and must be obeyed from the
heart to become a Christian.

Prayer List



Paula Wanner	Matthew Horton
Norma Taylor	Joey Pierce
Craig Pierce	Faye Metts
Billy Joe Payne	Pete Wooten
Becky Raper	Barbara Blackman
Phillip Pharr	Kristy Phillips
Cathy Alexander	Marilyn Pharr
Gerald Nunley	Elle Sander
Barbara Livingston	Flora Wanner
John Tate	Lou Dodson
Mary Gilley	Jeanie Ivy
Eddie Woods	Lauren Chase
Elton Bruton	Troy Yarbrough
Cathy Harrison	Brenda Leatherwood
Betty Brown	

January Birthdays

Bonnie Holcomb 1/1

Geralda Brown 1/6

Corey Tidwell 1/10

Doris Vandagriff 1/17

Jzaac Johnson 1/29

John Williams 1/29



January Anniversaries

Jerry & Debra Brewer 1/2

Sympathy

Saylors family
Betty & Deana Smith family