

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

November 15, 2020

A Lesson in Humility

King Nebuchadnezzar had a problem - *himself*. (Yes, he probably had another problem, too - learning to spell his name.) Not only was he a king, he was king of the most powerful nation on earth at the time. And, as often happens, power has a way of destroying a person. Although he wasn't Jewish, he was still subject to the will of God, and God was using him to punish the unfaithful Jews. In rising to such a lofty position, Ole King Neb had become so proud of his power that he thought he was above God. In His mercy to King Neb, God sent him a dream and sent Daniel to interpret it for him. This is found in *Daniel 4* so I'll not go into all the details at this time. God even gave the king a year to repent and avoid the fulfillment of the dream. Instead, at the end of the twelve months, Nebuchadnezzar boasted, "*Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?*" (vs. 30).

The words were still on his lips when God stripped the mighty king of all his royal authority and drove him into wilderness to live with and like the wild animals, to eat grass like cattle (vs. 32). "*His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird*" (vs. 33). Not very kingly, is it? He had to live like this for as long as it took to acknowledged that God was

sovereign over the nations and controlled who sat on the thrones of the world. When God wants to humble a person, He knows the best way to do so.

To his credit, King Neb finally got the point. He raised his eyes toward heaven and began to praise the Most High, to give Him honor and glory, and to acknowledge that He has the power to do as He pleases in both heaven and earth. And the amazing thing to me is that when King Neb finally humbled himself before the sovereign God, God restored the king to all his previous honor and splendor.

Yet, it was all so unnecessary. God wanted Nebuchadnezzar to be the king of the most powerful nation on earth. He wanted him to have honor and splendor. All the king had to do was to acknowledge that God was sovereign, not himself. And even when he didn't, he was given time to change his mind. But instead, King Neb had to go through the painful, humiliating wilderness experience to learn to humble himself and lift up the Lord.

I wonder what God is withholding from us because of our pride? I wonder what blessings are in store for us when we pass the humility test? Perhaps the hardships we endure are lessons in humility. Hopefully, we can learn from the surprising experiences of Nebuchadnezzar to humble ourselves, and not have to be taught humility through our own difficulties. But either way, let's be sure to humbly acknowledge that God alone is sovereign. To God be the Glory!

— Joe Chesser

Prayer Power Pack

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

— Romans 12:12

Here's a Prayer Power Pack for you today:

"In my distress I called to the Lord; I cried to my God for help. From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came before him, into his ears" (Ps 18:6).

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer” (Rom 12:12).

“Are any among you suffering? They should pray. . . . The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective” (Jas 5:13, 16 NRSV).

“The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer” (1 Pt 3:12).

*If we believe God answers prayer,
it's stupid not to pray.*

— Joe Barnett

Thanks You From The Niehls

JJ and I would like to sincerely thank everyone for the kind words and gifts welcoming our Baby Girl the past few weeks! We never expected to be bringing a baby into a pandemic but are thankful for everything you have done to add to this special time for us. We appreciate all the prayers you have offered and are feeling truly blessed. Next Sunday, November 21st will be the last Sunday that we can join you until our Baby Girl is here as the doctor has ordered quarantine until she is delivered. Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts.

Thank you!

Birthday : Carla Johnston November 19

Reading : **Psalm #139**

NEXT WEEK : (**November 22, 2020**)

Song Leader : Stan

Scripture Reader : Larry

Table & Announcements : TBA

When you share an announcement from your pew, please speak loudly so the one making the announcements can hear and repeat it.

Prayer List :

Susan Bowyer : Susan is back in Good Shepherd Hospital here in Shelbyville. She anticipates remaining there until her course of medications are complete. She is making progress. She has a ways to go, but has made real progress.

Bob Stevens : Bob is scheduled for surgery tomorrow, the 16th. He'll have a 1 in. polyp removed from his sinus cavity.

Doris Bartanen : Was taken to Decatur Memorial Hospital. She is very weak, unable to stand and a little disoriented. She had a severe bladder infection, but that's not the cause.

Mike Nichols : Mike has a deep hole in his foot caused by diabetes. This is a serious circumstance which has him unable to get around. However, it is starting to slowly improve.

Beth Niehls : We are all joining the Niehls family in praying that Miss Beth will have no difficulties in her pregnancy and that she will deliver a healthy baby without complications.

Tim Gaddis : The son of Deloris remains in the Prairie Rose rehabilitation center in Pana and remains unhappy with his circumstances, especially because he cannot have visitors.

Susan Bales : Rosanne's mother is growing progressively weaker. Even a few steps are difficult and her mind is slipping

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Marge, Mary, Doris, Delores, Betty, Pete & Hazel, Wayne

Others with ongoing issues :

Doris Faulkner : Rm. 603 in Alzheimer's unit at the Manor and has now been diagnosed with the Wuhan Virus, but Patty says she has a mild case of the virus.

Madonna Nichols : Madonna continues to receive chemo every other week to treat her liver cancer.

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Kathy Minser : The sister of the Reynolds is not in great shape, she was hospitalized by a heart attack and caught pneumonia in hospital, but at last word is home under hospice care.

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing painful back issues.

Jerry Rankin : Jerry has multiple serious ongoing issues.

Debbie Adams : Lengthy recovery from severe car accident

* Each day as you pray for those on this list,
always include our congregation and her elders

*Visitors are always welcomed.
We invite you to visit our assemblies.*

Ya'll Come !

Schedule of Services :

Sunday Morning : Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:20 a.m.

Sunday Evening : Worship 6:00 p.m.

