

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

November 22, 2020

Praying For Others

The following parable about prayer comes from an unknown author:

A voyaging ship was wrecked during a storm at sea and only two of the men on it were able to swim to a small, desert-like island. The two survivors, not knowing what else to do, agreed that they had no other recourse but to pray to God. However, to find out whose prayer was more powerful, they agreed to divide the territory between them and stay on opposite sides of the island. The first thing they prayed for was food.

The next morning, the first man saw a fruit-bearing tree on his side of the land, and he was able to eat its fruit. The other man's parcel of land remained barren.

After some days, the first man was lonely and he decided to pray for a wife. The next day, another ship was wrecked, and the only survivor was a woman who swam to his side of the island. On the other side of the island, the second man had nothing. Soon the first man prayed for a house, clothes, and more food. The next day, like magic, all of these were given to him. However, the second man still had nothing.

Finally, the first man prayed for a ship, so that he and his wife could leave the island. In the morning, he found a ship

docked at his side on the island. The first man boarded the ship with his wife and decided to leave the second man on the island. He considered the other man unworthy to receive God's blessings, since none of his prayers had been answered.

As the ship was about to leave, the first man heard a voice from heaven booming: "Why are you leaving your companion on the island?"

"My blessings are mine alone, since I was the one who prayed for them," the first man replied. "His prayers were all unanswered and so he does not deserve anything."

"You are mistaken," the voice rebuked him. "He had only one prayer, which I answered."

"Tell me," the first man asked the voice, "what did he pray for that I should owe him anything?"

"He prayed that all your prayers be answered."

We have many of the Apostle Paul's prayers recorded in his epistles. It is significant to me how large a percentage of those prayers involved petitions for other people (mostly for spiritual needs rather than physical, incidentally) and how few involved petitions for personal needs.

It is easy to get so caught up in asking God to provide us what we need (or merely want) that we forget to pray for others. May God help us to be sensitive to the needs of others around us, and may we take advantage of every opportunity to approach the throne of grace and lay their concerns at the feet of our Father.

"I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone..." (1 Timothy 2:1, NIV)

-- Allen Smith

Prayer Positions

Three preachers sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby.

"Kneeling is definitely best," claimed one.

“No,” another contended. “I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven.”

“You’re both wrong,” the third insisted. The most effective prayer position is lying prostrate face down on the floor.”

The repairman could contain himself no longer. “Hey, fellas,” he interrupted, “the best prayin’ I ever did was hangin’ upside down from a telephone pole.”

-- Oldie, but goodie ... via *The Sower*

Refresher Course

For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good from evil.

Hebrews 5:13-14

None of us can stay on infant formula all our lives. We need to get into the meat of the word and train our senses to know good from evil. It is time to grow up and make the right decisions we have been trained to make. In the story of the prodigal son, we find him in a pig pen. Suddenly scripture says he came to his senses, and desired to go back to his father. Where did he learn his senses? From his greedy friends who took his money? No. From the pigs? No. From his father? Absolutely. If we lose our senses, let's get back to our Father God for a refresher course.

(*Unknown Author*)

Reading : Luke 11: 1-13

NEXT WEEK : (November 29, 2020)

Song Leader : Greg

Scripture Reader : Butch

Table & Announcements : Tim

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

Prayer List :

Susan Bowyer : Susan remain in Good Shepherd Hospital here in Shelbyville where, in addition to her two previous conditions, she is also now recovering from covid-19. Though this whole process Tim has not been allowed to visit her.

Bob Stevens : Bob had a polyp the size of an egg removed from his sinus cavity. The operation went well and Bob is okay

Ron Julius : Ron was exposed to Wuhan so he is quarantined

Doris Bartanen : Is now in Shelbyville Rehabilitation & Health where she continues to receive medication or a severe infection and rehabilitation designed to enable her to walk.

Mike Nichols : Mike's foot is starting to slowly improve. It was good to see him back in services.

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.

Deloris Crutcher : Deloris had outpatient surgery this week to install stints to improve the circulation in her legs. It went well.

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 has good and bad days and is on hospice care.

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing painful back issues.

Jerry Rankin : Jerry has multiple serious ongoing issues.

Debbie Adams : Lengthy recovery from severe car accident

Tim Gaddis : The son of Deloris remain frustrated that he must be in the Prairie Rose Rehabilitation Center in Pana.

*** 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.

