

PLEASE NOTE...

The McKnight family will be gone today; Mike is preaching today at the church in North Claremont. Please welcome back **Bob McCurdy** who will preach for us today...and thank him!

Business meeting, scheduled for today at 4:30 p.m. will be **POSTPONED**. More information later.

Quotation about Prayer...by a mere man... think about it!

"No man is greater than his prayer life. The pastor who is not praying is playing; the people who are not praying are straying. We have many organizers, but few agonizers; many players and payers, few pray-ers; many singers, few clingers; lots of pastors, few wrestlers; many fears, few tears; much fashion, little passion; many interferers, few intercessors; many writers, but few fighters. Failing here, we fail everywhere." - Leonard Ravenhill -

October Birthdays

1 Brandon Taylor	25 Christina Bruni
3 Betty Heitmeyer	28 Allan Brown

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Preacher:
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More Prayer...

The Grass Grows on Your Path

By Ronnie Scherffius

It has been reported that early African converts to Christianity were earnest and regular in private devotions. Each had a separate spot in the thicket where he would meditate upon God's word and pour his out heart to God. Over time the paths to these places became well worn. As a result, if one of these believers began to neglect this time of devotion and prayer it was soon apparent to the others. They would kindly remind the negligent one, "Brother, the grass grows on your path."

How diligent are we in our study of God's word and devotion to prayer? These two areas of our Christian lives are perhaps the most vital, for one is God talking to us and the other is our talking to God. With great love and care, God has revealed His will to us. The Bible, the revealed will of God, is given that we might know how to approach God acceptably and that we might live acceptably in His sight. Exhorting Timothy, Paul wrote, *"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works"* (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

On the other side of the coin is our speaking to God. Consider this for just a moment; we actually have the privilege of petitioning the Almighty God, the Creator of all things, the Judge of all the earth, and knowing that, as His children, He will hear and regard our prayers. These times of private devotion in prayer also provide us with the peace of casting all our care upon our heavenly Father, knowing that He continually cares for and is concerned about us (1 Peter 5:7).

When we neglect these privileged blessings of growing in the grace and knowledge of God through study and the petitioning of our

Father in prayer, we often become weak and distant from the strength that God has provided for us. Dear friend, is the grass growing on your path?

***“The Lord hath heard my supplication;
the Lord will receive my prayer”***
(Psalm 6:9)

What Helps Prayer Life?

By Keith Parker,
The Lincoln Light Bulletin July 1, 2007 (adapted)

Recently I asked one of my Bible classes this question: What helps your prayer life? Let me share some of their answers:

- Finding a special place to pray; praying at a set time every day.
- It helps when I know someone else is praying for me.
- Struggles help me talk to God.
- Praying while on my knees not only makes me feel closer to God, but it keeps me focused on my prayers.
- Daily devotionals.
- Wife and children.
- Knowing that God is always there and listens, no matter how small the request.
- Seeing my prayers answered.

These are great suggestions, aren't they? And you know something - they are all **biblical**. Take a look:

- *“One day Jesus was praying in a certain place”* (Luke 11:1).
- *“Daniel...kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed”* (Daniel 6:10).
- *“Brethren, pray for us”* (1 Thessalonians 5:25).
- *“Is any among you afflicted? let him pray”* (James 5:13).
- *“...he knelt down and prayed with them all.”* (Acts 20:36).
- *“I have called upon You every day, O Lord; I have spread out my hands to You.”* (Psalm 88:9).
- *“...they all, with wives and children, escorted us until we were out of the city. After kneeling down on the beach and praying, we said farewell to one another.”* (Acts 21:5).
- *“Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God”* (Philippians 4:6).
- *“Call unto me, and I will answer”* (Jeremiah 33:3).

Need help with your prayer life? Try the above suggestions.

The Rope of Prayer

By Wade Webster

C. H. Spurgeon once noted, “Prayer pulls the rope down below and the great bell rings above in the ears of God. Some scarcely stir the bell, for they pray so languidly; others give only an occasional jerk at the rope. But he who communicates with heaven is the man who grasps the rope boldly and pulls continuously with all his might.”

How hard am I pulling on the rope? As children of God, we can pull on the rope of prayer with great boldness and confidence: *“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need”* (Hebrews 4:15-16).

With Christ as our High Priest, we do not have to be timid in seeking mercy. Concerning confidence, John wrote, *“And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything in accordance with His will, He heareth us: And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him”* (1 John 5:14-15). Unless we pray with this confidence, we cannot expect our prayers to be answered. Double-minded, wishy-washy, and doubtful men cannot expect to receive anything of the Lord (James 1:57; 1 Timothy 2:8).

How often do I pull on the rope of prayer? Do I give it an occasional jerk, or do I pull on the rope continually? With three words, Paul challenged the Thessalonians to pray more. He wrote, *“Pray without ceasing”* (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Perhaps, they were growing weary in the work of prayer (Galatians 6:9). Paul's words continue to challenge us as Christians today. We need to pray more. Like the prophetess Anna, we need to pray “night and day” (Luke 2:36; Romans 12:12). We need labor fervently in prayer, instead of just dabbling lazily in it (Colossians 4:2, 12).

How hard and how long am I pulling on the rope of prayer? Are my prayers ringing the great bell of heaven?