

Upcoming Events
Ladies Bible Class: Today at 4:00 p.m.

Fall 2019 meeting: Final Planning

Panera Bread Open Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Hebrews class Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

Me, Too

"I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seemed insufficient for that day." - Abraham Lincoln

August Birthdays

2 Jaleen Letalu 4 Noah Perales 6 Gigi Zamarripa
12 Debbie Hoffman 12 Lee McKnight 16 Nick Hoffman
19 Keith Lovelady 25 Pat Limburg

September Birthdays

3 Wendy Cortes 11 Marie Burruss 15 Marcos Perales
16 Jim Burruss 24 Mason Perales
30 Dortha Gentry 30 Kurt Hoffman

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The Power of Short Prayers

By Dan Jenkins

Sometimes we hear Christians say, "I do not know how to pray." If by this they mean they could not pray the long, flowery prayers we sometimes hear, there is a sense in which this is a blessing. Remember what Jesus said about praying. *"And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words"* (Matt. 6:7). Long prayers are not wrong, unless they are filled with empty words or unless the one praying them thinks the length of the prayer is a measure of how powerful a prayer is. Consider some of the powerful short prayers in the Bible.



The Bible contains many short prayers.

"Lord, save me." The apostles had just been part of one of the most astounding miracles of Jesus. He had taken five loaves and two small fish and fed 5,000 men (not counting women and children). That night (actually it was during the fourth watch—somewhere between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m.) their boat was about to sink because of the storm. When they saw Jesus walking to them, Peter asked Jesus to bid him to walk to the Lord. It was an amazing step of faith which started his journey, but when he took his eyes off of Jesus and looked at the waves, he began to sink. His prayer was,

Regular Meeting Times

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

Preacher:
Mike McKnight

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“*Lord, save me*” (Matt. 14:30). It is the shortest prayer in the Bible. It was all that was needed.

“*God, be merciful to me a sinner.*” Two men entered the temple to pray at the hour of prayer. One prayed “*with himself*” and the other prayed “*unto heaven.*” The first told God what a good man he had been and how righteous he was. The other’s humility would not even allow him to raise his eyes toward heaven. He pounded his chest as a sign of his distress and simply prayed, “*God, be merciful to me a sinner*” (Luke 18:13). Think of the power of this short prayer.

“*Lord, increase our faith.*” Jesus had just described how His followers must forgive a penitent brother who sinned against them seven times in a single day. We may struggle to forgive a person who wrongs us once in a lifetime, or at best we may think, “Three strikes and you are out.” However, the Lord looked at seven events in just one day. The apostles’ response was, “*Lord, increase our faith*” (Luke 17:5). His response to them was to describe how the smallest faith can cast a mulberry tree into the sea. Having trouble dealing with our life? Their prayer should be our prayer.

Want to enhance our relationship with the Lord? Think of these short prayers (or others that fit our particular situation) and pray them throughout our life. We sing about the “Sweet Hour of Prayer,” but it might help us all to spend more time in those “sweet minutes” of prayer in which our short prayers have such power!

Prayer of an Unknown Confederate Soldier

Shared by Barrett Hoffman

*I asked for strength that I might achieve;
I was made weak that I might learn humbly to obey.*

*I asked for health that I might do greater things;
I was given infirmity that I might do better things.*

*I asked for riches that I might be happy;
I was given poverty that I might be wise.*

*I asked for power that I might have the praise of men;
I was given weakness that I might feel the need of God.*

*I asked for all things that I might enjoy life;
I was given life that I might enjoy all things.*

*I got nothing that I asked for
but everything that I had hoped for.*

*Almost despite myself my unspoken prayers were answered,
I am, among all men, most richly blessed.*

David's Prayer for Pardon and Confession of Sin

Psalms 51

When we sin against God, how can we pray to restore our fellowship? David's prayer is a classic prayer of repentance.

*Be gracious to me, O God,
according to Your lovingkindness;
According to the greatness of Your compassion
blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity
And cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions,
And my sin is ever before me.
Against You, You only, I have sinned
And done what is evil in Your sight,
So that You are justified when You speak
And blameless when You judge.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from Your presence
And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation
And sustain me with a willing spirit.*