

Reminders...

Change your clock next week!! Daylight Savings Time!

“Fall back” one hour next Sunday, November 6!

Oops!

Missed **Anniversary**: Garroll & Olivia White 10/21
Belated Congrats!

Read through the Bible in 2016!

(Submitted by Mike McKnight)

Suggested chapters to read so that we might read through the entire Bible during 2016! **This week’s “schedule”:**

- **Day 298** - Luke 10-11; John 10:22-42 Monday
- **Day 299** - Luke 12-13 Tuesday
- **Day 300** - Luke 14-15 Wednesday
- **Day 301** - Luke 16; Luke 17:1-10 Thursday
- **Day 302** - John 11 Friday
- **Day 303** - Luke 17:11-37; Luke 18:1-14 Saturday
- **Day 304** - Matthew 19; Mark 10 Sunday

November Birthdays

6 Ashley Tanner 10 Daniel Brown
21 Garroll White 27 Lupita Guzman

November Anniversaries

2 Shannon & Susan Hudson

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

Church of Christ
81-377 Ave 46
Indio, CA 92201
(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

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Pray for One Another

By Brian Mitchell

I’m guessing that most of us believe in prayer but if really pressed on it would have to admit that we either don’t feel like we are very good at it, or that we don’t do enough of it. One survey revealed that the average church member spends about four minutes a day in prayer, while the average minister—those entrusted with sharing God’s Word with us—don’t do any better, averaging a mere seven minutes a day in prayer. If true, this is some extremely sad news!!! Especially since 4-7 minutes a day would not allow us much time to be **Praying for One Another**.

So if this survey is actually true; why do we spend so little time in prayer, specifically prayer for one another? Richard Meyer gave three reasons for our lack of prayer for one another in his book “One Anothering.” First, he said that we don’t pray because we don’t know how to pray. Many times we feel like we don’t know where to begin and aren’t sure what to say. Just like anything else, there is a need to learn how to pray, it is not something that we know automatically. Second, he said that we don’t pray more because we don’t think prayer accomplishes much. I don’t think that many would admit to this and yet I am afraid many times that our actions concerning prayer say otherwise. If we really believed that prayer could move the hand of God and unleash the power of God we would certainly spend more than 4 minutes a day doing it.

Finally, Meyer says that we don’t pray more because we have a faulty concept of God. Sometimes people—Christians included—picture God as a colossal vending machine, whose sole purpose is to give us what we want. Then we go to him, put in our quarter and out pops what we desire. The problem is that’s not the way it works and when we don’t get what we want, we become disappointed and angry

and we kick the machine for swallowing our prayer. The right view of God is to see Him as our Heavenly Father, who hears all our requests but gives us only what is good for us, which is not always what we want.

Regardless of why we don't pray for one another as much as we should James exhorts us all to "*pray for one another*" (Jm.5:16). Why? Because the "*fervent prayer of the righteous man avails much.*" James wants us to know that in prayer for one another we are not just going through the motions—prayer is powerful and effective on the lips of God's faithful. Prayer involves an intimate relationship where we share our struggles and needs with each other so that we can pray for each other. That, not coincidentally, is what fellowship is all about. When we pray for one another, we need to do so believing that God can move in His own marvelous ways and thus without holding back. As one man observed, "Certain things will not happen in another person's life unless we pray for him." As we work together for God, let us never for get to **Pray for One Another.**

A Crack in the Wall

By David A. Sargent

Have you ever felt trapped in a bad situation and you couldn't see a way out?

Keith Wishum says...Imagine FIVE years locked up alone in a room! Motivational speaker Zig Ziglar tells the story of Brigadier General Robinson Riser's confinement as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. He was held captive for over seven years. Five of those years were in solitary confinement. Little food. Cold. Heat.

Riser suffered many things, but perhaps the worst was the isolation. Five years with no conversation. No communication from home or friends. Silence. Five years staring at the same walls. At times, he stuffed his underwear in his mouth to deprive his captors the satisfaction of hearing him scream. One day, Riser made a simple, sanity-saving discovery. He lay down on the floor of his tiny cell and discovered a very small crack in the cinder block wall. By pressing his eye close to the crack, he could see outside.

A leaf! He could see a leaf on the ground outside his cell! Not much to get excited about, you might say. But for a man locked inside for 5 years, it was a ray of hope – a glimpse of life beyond his tiny four walls. And someday, maybe someday soon, he could imagine being free again to step outside his prison to where there were leaves and sunshine.

This world is often characterized by disappointment, disease, and death. But the worst condition is separation – separation from God. Our sin is what separates us from Him (Isaiah 59:1-2) and creates a "wall" between man and God.

But God loves us so much that He gave His Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins (John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4). He paid the price for our redemption so that we can be set free from the bondage of sin (Ephesians 1:7) and the "wall" between man and God is destroyed. God will set free those who place their faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from their sin in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Him before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of their sins (Acts 2:38). He will continue to cleanse from sin those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7).

Yet, even Christians are still "confined" by things in this world like disappointment, disease, and death. But if we look closely....., there is a crack in the wall. Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for our sins, He was buried, but on the third day, He rose again! Keith Wishum points to the power of this fact saying, "Your Father raised His Son from the grave to put a permanent crack in the wall so we could have a glimpse of the bright life that lies beyond. He wants us to be free. He offers us hope."

Because of Jesus, we can have forgiveness of our sins and be reconciled to God, NOW! We also now have the HOPE of eternal life in heaven where Christians will live with God for an eternity where "*God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away*" (Revelation 21:4). It's a terrible thing to be in bondage to sin. But God offers salvation AND eternal life through Jesus. There is a crack in the wall. Do we see it?