

# Let's Visit

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## Reflections On Prayer

When you get down to the basics, the holy, happy, heavenly exercise of prayer is one of our greatest blessings. It is a privilege that we enjoy as children of God. To be sure, we know from our own experiences that prayer changes things. Yet, Jesus, knowing our human nature, anticipated that His people would become slack in prayer. That's why he told the story of the unjust judge in Luke 18:1-8. It was a parable to encourage them to always pray and not to faint.

Prayer is not a privilege for those who do not heed the word of God. It is not a privilege for those separated from God by sin. You see, if we will not listen to God, why should He listen to us?

Yet, for those who have Jesus as their high priest, prayer is a privilege. We have Jesus to act as our advocate and mediator with God. Prayer is the one thing the disciples asked Jesus to teach them. They had seen Him perform miracles. They had seen Him heal the sick and raise the dead. They had seen Him feed the multitudes. They watched as He turned water to wine. They had also seen Jesus spend time in prayer. Doing so, they asked Him to teach them to prayer.

There is power in prayer. Through prayer, we can come to God for forgiveness of sins. The Christian can find forgiveness through the blood of Jesus as John tells us in I John 1:7-10. Because of this, the erring Christian is told to repent and pray as Simon the Sorcerer was told in Acts chapter 8 and verse 22.

Prayer also brings us peace of mind. The antidote to anxiety is prayer as Paul would write in Philippians 4:6. Remember he wrote to be anxious for nothing, but to let our requests be made known unto God through prayer and supplications. He

further promised us that the peace of God would dwell in our hearts through Christ Jesus.

When we really look at prayer, prayer gives us many things. Prayer gives us the strength to live. Through prayer we have an opportunity to serve. We can come to God in prayer and ask God for the boldness to speak for Jesus. Then again, we know that through prayer we can ask for wisdom to guide our ways.

Prayer is something that should constantly be practiced in the life of a Christian. We should practice both scheduled prayer and spontaneous prayer. When we have a set time to pray, that can help us develop a habit of prayer. If you remember, Daniel was described as a man greatly beloved and he prayed 3 times a day with his face toward Jerusalem. However, we should not limit prayer to a set schedule or time. Before selecting His apostles, Jesus spent all night in prayer. In a prison cell in Philippi, Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises to God. We should pray whenever and however the occasion calls for it.

Prayer is a wonderful privilege. Through prayer we can boldly approach the throne of God. There, Jesus stands ready to intercede in our behalf. We read in Hebrews 4:16 that through prayer we can obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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### In Search Of The Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry  
KSLA 12 – Shreveport -7:30 a.m. Sunday  
DISH channel 239-6:00 a.m. Sunday  
DIRECT TV channel 307 -6:00 a.m. Sunday

# Gathered Here and There



## Today's Sermon

### "Questioning God's Goodness"

Our text comes from I Peter 3:15. Sometimes it is easy in our humanity to question God's Goodness. Yet, God is good all the time.

## FOR THE PANTRY....

Dried Beans or Peas

## The Bible Is God's Book

*"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." (II Timothy 3:16)*

Peter wrote, "The word of the Lord endureth forever." Today it is possible for us to have and to study the Book that has been given to us by the Heavenly Father. Men wrote God's message to man through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. They recorded not their own will, but the will of God. In the Bible, we have a book of perfection, because all that God has ever created was perfect in its beginning. Anything that is perfect cannot be improved; neither does it need to be altered by either subtraction or addition. John in bringing to a close his letter of Revelation, prohibited men from adding to the Bible or taking from the Bible.

As God's word was preached by divine inspiration, and as it was written by the same medium, Christians were produced. In turn, they made up the church. Therefore, the Bible produced the church, and it is to be governed by the Bible today.

Within the pages of Holy Writ, there is ample proof as to the inspiration of the Bible. Through the experience of years, man has learned that the Bible

is the right way. It was the Bible that guided the church of the Lord to victory over evil in the early days of the church. The Bible should become the sole rule of faith of all men now. The Bible and nothing else, because only from its pages do we have God's revelation to mankind.

-Foster L. Ramsey  
*Just A Moment*  
June 2, 1951

## On The Lighter Side....



***We love it when you preach from your own experiences.***

## "I Am the Bread of Life"

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life."

Life is infinitely valuable. What greater possession can anyone have? And who does not want life at its best?

Bread is a constant necessity. No one can long subsist or even exist without food. And we are not satisfied unless we partake of the food that sustains and strengthens.

Christ himself is the Bread of life – the food that gives life to the soul, and the life that gives the soul to service. The word of Christ is true and trustworthy.

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# Miscellaneous



## Those To Remember In Prayer

**Donnie Hagler**, has suffered a stroke in addition to being treated for Covid 19. He is in ICU at Nacogdoches Medical Center in Nacogdoches.

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Royce Frederick** a former minister of this congregation. Royce passed away January 28<sup>th</sup> and his services were conducted on Tuesday, February 2, 2021.

We extend our sympathy to the family of **James Hagler** who passed away Monday evening. His services were conducted Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at Adams Cemetery.

**Gracie Elam** (6months old) is scheduled for Heart Surgery in February.

### THOSE WITH ONGOING NEEDS:

#### OUR CHURCH FAMILY

**Roxie Bostick** (back issues) **Gene Bradshaw** (recovering from surgery), **Sarah Fletcher** (under the weather) **Tiffanee Klein** (kicked by a horse) **Martha Jean Golden** (recovering from a bad fall) **Betty Miller** (pneumonia) **Wayne Sims** (cancer);

### “EXTENDED FAMILY” AND FRIENDS

**Cody Butler** (Debra Pate's grandson) **Peytin Cook** (Betty Miller's great-grandaughter) **Gracie Elam** (6 month old baby born with heart defect) **Connie Hargrove** (Covid 19) **Dalton Hendrix** (Joyce Holt's great-great nephew) **Ernie Hill** (Jerry Pate's cousin) **Lamar McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) **Foy Metcalf** (friend of Sarah Fletcher) **Jared and Natalie Tate** (Mike and Roxie's son and daughter-in-law) **Pat Tate** (Jana O'Brien's mother, broken hip); **Stephen Wiggins** (Recovering from broken leg and Covid 19)

### THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

**Amanda Bradshaw, Leland Bradshaw, Lucas Tate**

If you want someone added to the prayer list, please fill out a card and put it in the offering plate.

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*You are happier when you try giving people a bit of your heart instead of a piece of your mind.*

*Faith in God, backed by courage and action, helps to accomplish the impossible.*

*No man has a right to do as he pleases unless he pleases to do right.*



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**Sunday, March 7, 2021**

**Covered Dish Luncheon**  
**Make your plans to be here!**

## Remember-

**We are collecting toilet paper for the Children's Home of Lubbock. There is a basket in the foyer for you to place the toilet paper in. They will be here the end of May to pick up what we have collected. Let's make sure they have a trailer load!**

## We Can Be Sustained Through Trials!

*“Yea, and all that live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution” (II Timothy 3:12)*

We tend to panic when we fear we may miss something we have anxiously awaited. The Thessalonians, having been assured they had not missed the second coming and that the dead would not miss it, are told that two things will happen before that notable event: There will be an apostasy and the man of sin will be revealed. Terrible things will try the saints – not a pretty picture, but a needed one.

The path to glory passes through many beautiful and quiet places, but not all is beside still water. Raging torrents rush below shaky bridges and sharp rocks bear saints of blood from many feet. Those who reach the portal of glory will have been sorely tried; the host of iniquity will have fought every advance; all the elements of blasphemy will have combined to cause Christians to forfeit their crowns. But thanks be unto the Lord, the curtain on the stage of life does not drop here. Instead, although not saved from trials, saints are sustained through them and in faithfulness to Jesus Christ will be given the victory.

*-L. L. Gieger*



## Across The Preacher's Desk

The year was 1965. Hal David wrote the lyrics to a song and Burt Bacharach composed the music. The song was first recorded and made popular by Jackie DeShannon and the title was, "What the World Needs Now Is Love". The first stanza reads like this:

"What the world needs now is love, sweet love  
It's the only thing that there's just too little of  
What the world needs now is love, sweet love,  
No not just for some, but for everyone."

You know, that's even more true today than it was during those turbulent days of the 1960's. To be sure, it was the Apostle Paul who wrote so long ago, "Love never fails" (I Corinthians 13:8)

True love is of God, for God is love, and love is an eternal boon to life. In these tumultuous and trying times, God's people more than ever must be an example of love. All around us we see hatred exemplified and often even praised. We see more and more the worst that mankind is capable of.

When we have love in our hearts, all of life will be richer and sweeter. Not just for us, but also for those around us. Our lives must be dominated by true love inspired of God. Magnify love. Express love for all men. Be an example of a loving soul in a world of hate. Try the way of love in all contacts of life.

*it's something to think about. . . .tlp*

**Great Churches are built with  
Commitment!**