



LET'S VISIT

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MUSINGS ABOUT 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 pray.

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 on 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
KSHV 45 - 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



Jesus' Most Important Question

For The Pantry. . .

July 27 – Tuna

Offering – July 20, 2025 . . \$ 3,291.00

The Lord's plan of giving ... "as ye have prospered"

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. . .

SERMON SURVIVAL TIP: If you drift into a peaceful slumber during the sermon, and your wife nudges you .. Pretend you were **PRAYING** and just quietly say .. **"AMEN"**



Friends and Family Day. . .

Remember, our "Friends and Family Day" is scheduled for Sunday, September 7, 2025. We want to make this the biggest, best and greatest "Friends and Family Day" we have ever had at the Center Church of Christ. To do that will take the effort of EVERY member of this congregation to plan to be here and invite and bring their friends, neighbors and family members to come and join us.

Plan to be here, bring someone with you, and let's work together to have a great day to the Glory of God!



September 7, 2025

Put this date on your calendar, make your plans to be here and invite ALL your family and friends to come and join us for worship and lunch!

Let's make this the greatest "Friends and Family Day" in the history of the Center Church of Christ!

Hospitality group 3 will be in charge of this luncheon. The members of that group are: LaJuan Baugh, Sheri Burgay, Liela Klein, Lieza Klein, Tiffanee Klein and Trish Lout.

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Communion Preparation for July
Manny & Brittany Ortiz



We would like for you to plan to come and join us for our next Wednesday night fellowship meal on July 30th.

We would also like for everyone to join us on Wednesday nights at 7:00 for our regular mid-week Bible Study. We hope you will come and be there.

OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Martha Jean Golden, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Tami Abernathy (friend of Isaiah & Amanda Molloy hospitalized) Richard Barbee (Gene Bradshaw's nephew) David Bissett (Mike O'Brien's brother in law, cancer) Dwayne Brister (Cissy Amos' cousin) Jane Adams Burkhalter (Diedra Hughes' cousin) Debra Clifton (friend of LaResa Livingston) Coleen Dickerson (friend of Cissy Amos with leukemia) Leta Dozier (Ryan Perkins' grandmother) Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) Joyce Fontenot (Debra Pate's mother) Emily Heflin (Mike Bostick's niece recovering from surgery) Suzi Hogan (Mike Bostick's sister-in-law) Ted Holt (former member of this congregation) Wynell Lawson (Diedra Hughes' aunt) Debbie Lynn (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) Norma Magby (Melonie Bradshaw's mother) Lamar McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) Lane O'Brien (Mike and Jana's son) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle); Heather Simmons Stewart (Friend of Cissy Amos) cancer; J. C. Tate & Pat Tate (Jana O'Brien's father and mother) Calvin Turner (Norma Perkins Uncle) Norman Turner (Norma Perkins' father) Tyson Turner (Norma Perkins' cousin)

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, Adam Bradshaw, Andrew Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw, Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!

Make a note of the dates of these activities on the Calendar for 2025.

December 7, 2025 – No Excuse Sunday
December 21, 2025 – Annual Christmas Party

PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!



Across The Preacher's Desk

One of the shortest passages in the New Testament is in John 11:35. It simply says, "Jesus wept". Yet, those two words are packed with meaning and significance for us. That passage tells us that Jesus came to live with people and to love them.

If you remember, Jesus' first miracle was changing water to wine at a marriage feast in Cana of Galilee. You see, Jesus entered into the daily lives of those he came in contact with. He rejoiced with them at their weddings and he wept at their funerals. To souls stained with sin, Jesus gave another chance, he would say, "go and sin no more." and the phrase "be of good cheer" was an expression that was often upon his lips.

Jesus, you see, cares about what happens in the ordinary events of our lives. True, he turned the water to wine, but he does more than that. Jesus has the power to turn frowns into smiles, whimpers of fear into anthems of hope, deserts into gardens and sin-blistered souls into victorious saints. He does all of this because of the selfless love that he has for us. For you and for me.

Yet, before Jesus fed the multitude, a little boy gave Him his lunch. Before the sick woman was healed, she touched the hem of His garment. Before Lazarus was raised from the dead, the stone had to be rolled away. Before we can live victoriously in Jesus Christ, there is something we must do. We must surrender our stubborn will to the will of God, obey his commands and live God's kind of life.

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

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
55 in '25!**