

November 5, 2020

A PRAYER OF HELP

There once was a little boy who had climbed up on a barn. It was a tall barn but he was able to make it up on the roof through a hole in part of the tin roof. As he climbed up on the tin, he noticed all of the nails holding the tin down. A few were starting to rust away and some had begun sticking out. The young boy made a mental note of it to let his father know and continued climbing to the top of the roof. Just before he reached the pentacle, his foot slipped. He began sliding down the roof with no signs of stopping. Knowing that this fall would injure or even kill the boy, he recalled the Bible class he had attended days before where the teacher discussed the power of prayer. So, as he was sliding, the boy prayed, "God, help me." As soon as those words were uttered, the boy finished up his prayer with, "That's all right, God, I don't need your help anymore, my pants got caught on one of the nails and stopped me."

In all of the uncertainty we have in our nation right now, I wonder, in the upcoming months, those who never have had a place for God in their lives are possibly beginning to turn to Him. Maybe financial crisis could arise in their household, or maybe a friend or family member becomes infected with COVID and in desperation will turn and pray to God. They may even make promises to God that if He will help them, they will serve Him forever. However, when better times come along, they will say to God, much like that child, "Never mind God, I no longer need you."

This trend is nothing new though. In **Exodus 8:8**, we read "Then Pharaoh called Moses and Aaron and said, "Plead with the LORD to take away the frogs from me and from my people, and I will let the people go to sacrifice to the LORD." During the second plague of Egypt, the Pharaoh had become desperate to the point of asking God for help, only to turn back from his promise once the plague was gone. **Exodus 8:15**, says "But when Pharaoh saw that there was a respite, he hardened his heart and would not listen to them, as the Lord had said." When the fourth plague came, Pharaoh did the same thing. Wishing for the flies to be gone, he pleaded again that God would take them away and promising that he would release the people of Israel. But, when the flies disappeared, Pharaoh hardened his heart and would not let them go (**Exodus 8:32**).

This has been a problem throughout history and it is something that God has warned us about. In

Ecclesiastes 5:2 it says, "Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few." In **Ecclesiastes 5:4** it continues, "When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow." Finally, in verse 7, we see the reason why it is, because talk is cheap. It compares our words and promises to that of daydreams and other pointless works. Instead we need to fear God. We need to realize that turning to God is far more than simply crying out to a rescuer when there is trouble in our lives. He is a Rescuer, but He is Lord. He is the Master, the Ruler of all His creation, and the only Way. **1 John 3:22** says, "And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do what pleases Him." Did you notice the second half of that verse? Our Heavenly Father requires us to follow Him. He is a Rescuer, but we cannot select only those few traits we want from God and ignore the rest.

1 Peter 3:12 says, "For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." **Proverbs 28:9** also says, "If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination." When trials come upon us, we need to make sure that we are serving Him before they arrive. God provides us many "nails of rescue", but we must acknowledge He is the one who provides them and that He promises them to those who serve Him all the time. Jesus told one of my favorite parables in Luke 6. The parable is of a wise man and a foolish man. The wise man put a lot of work in his house. He made sure to dig deep into the dirt until he found the rock bed. At that point he began to build his house on a stone foundation. The foolish man, on the other hand, did not do to what he had been taught when it came to building his house. He saw how much work that it took to dig deep and find rock and he probably had seen some dig for days with no luck of ever finding a solid foundation. So, instead of listening and doing what he had been taught, he built his house directly on the sand. When the storms came and the stream flooded, the first man's house was solid, but the second man's house was utterly destroyed.

Now why was it that Jesus told this parable? Was He trying to teach construction classes? Not exactly. In **Luke 6:46** Jesus shows us why this parable was

necessary. Before the crowd He asked them, "Why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?" God truly does provide the escape for the struggles and trials in our life, but you must do as He tells you. Jesus said in **Matthew 11:28**, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Make sure your prayers are not in vain, and make sure that you are truly following all that He commands of us. Before the storms arise in your life, make sure your foundation is on Christ.

Andrew Spivey

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES
Sunday: Read - Daniel 3
Wednesday: Read - Daniel 4

FALL QUARTER BIBLE STUDY #9

- Questions for the Reading of week # 8- Daniel 1-2
1. What food and drink did Daniel ask to eat and drink instead of the king's food?
 2. When the king questioned Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego after training, what were their skills and how much wiser were they than the magicians and astrologers?
 3. What did king Nebuchadnezzar dream?
 4. What is Daniels's interpretation of the dream?
 5. How was Daniel rewarded for his interpretation?

SYMPATHY

Our Love and Sympathy to **JC & Liliya Jones** on the passing of Liliya's mother on October 15th in Kemerovo, Russia. Her mother was diagnosed with Covid-19 and hospitalized. Her sister, also in Russia has been tested positive but is able to have out-patient treatments. Please keep the family in your prayers.

BAPTISM

Lili Wu, a frequent visitor and friend of Karen Hutson, was baptized for the remission of her sins Sunday morning. We rejoice with her decision to begin her walk in Christ.

THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Church Family at Nashville Road, We are so grateful for your many prayers, cards and calls for both Jim and our son, Craig. We miss seeing you in person and pray that each of you are and stay well and safe. Love,
Jim & Doris Sweeney

ORDER OF SERVICES SUNDAY

November 8, 2020

9:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Johnson
Song Leader.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Fate Evans
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Tim Cummins
Closing Prayer.....Brent Smith

11:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Thompson
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Eric Stephenson
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Ken Veale
Closing Prayer.....Chuck Norton

5:00 P.M. SERVICE

Welcome.....David Johnson
Song Leader.....Jonathan Senn
Opening Prayer.....Tim Strickland
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Adam Williamson
Closing Prayer.....Bob Sever

WEDNESDAY,

November 11, 7:00 P.M.

Welcome.....David Thompson
Song Leader.....Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....Tony Butler
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Carl Newby

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL
Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
Church Office.....615-452-3431

FACING TRIALS;

...you sin;

If you are in Christ: 1 John 1:19; Acts 8:22; James 4:8.

If you are not in Christ: Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-4.

Nashville Road Church of Christ
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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sun. Morning Worship 9:00 a.m. & Sun. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Wed. Evening Bible Class 7:00 • Tues. Ladies Bible Class 10:00 a.m. September-May

SICK LIST

Robert Williamson is now home. **Gerald Miles** is now at the Waters in room 214. **Bob Harris** has been placed on Hospice care. **Grace Bracey** is having significant health issues. **Faye Britt** continues recovering from surgery and is doing well. **Jim Sweeney** is home now on home health. **Cora Mayes-Barron**, daughter of Barry & Rachel Mayes has been diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. She has finished her second round of chemo. **Beth Smith**, wife of Kenneth Smith and sister-in-law to Bernice, Frances, Jean & Mary Ann, has been placed on Hospice Care. **Craig Sweeney**, son of James & Doris Sweeney, has been accepted into a new drug trial clinic. **John Arnold**, father of Brenda Veale is homebound and dealing with serious health issues.

CARE LINE: 615-452-2464



PRAYER LIST

Jan Fulford; Bob Harris; J.H & Frances Catron; Melba Hill; William Dunn; Jean Deaton; Ron & Anna Radish; Donna Holmes, daughter of Eva Petty; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Will Flowers**, brother-in-law of Grace Bracey. **Dana Loveless**, friend of Jim & Linda Cherry; **Danny Lowe** cousin of Linda Cherry; **Zachery Simmons**, grandson of Charles & Fay Simmons; **Elias Benjamin Simmons**, great grandson of Charles & Fay Simmons; **Debbie Sparks**, sister of Rachel Mayes; **Lawrence Redding**, son-in-law of Betty Melcher; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Janice Haskins**, sister of Jim Cherry; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **Wayne Holt**, nephew of Grace Bracey;

(cont)

John Gregory, brother of Bob Gregory; **Pam Flory**, friend of Sherry Sever; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Betty Billingsley**, sister of Wanda Proctor; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill. **We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.**

SHUT-INS

Ilene Kinney; Jane Hughes, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; **Bill & Jane Dunn; Cathy Henderson; Penny Campbell**, The Village of Bellevue, Room 417, 8118 B Sawyer Brown Road, Nashville, TN 37221; **Dorothy Sullivan**, Front Porch Senior Living 115 Sunset Pl. Portland TN, 37148; **Jean Thurman**, mother-in-law of Myra Rasnick, Brookdale, Hendersonville.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	N/A
Morning Worship 9am.....	72
Morning Worship 11am.	56
Sunday Evening.....	58
Wednesday Evening.....	45
Contributions.....	\$7,050.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$9,739.13

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621
Jerry Watson.....	615-461-8137

Deacons

Carl Newby	Brent Smith
Ken Veale	Adam Williamson



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ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister