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The Pastor's Pen

Prayer

My third installment from "What The Bible Says About...The Ultimate A-Z Resource" (2001, Thomas Nelson) will be on prayer. The selection on prayer in this book is long, so I will pick out a few important facts for you to consider.

Do you ever feel as if your prayers bounce off the ceiling rather than reaching God? If so, consider carefully the prayer of Daniel for the release of his people from captivity (Daniel 9). It is a testimony to the fact that God answers prayer—in His time and according to His purposes—as the angel Gabriel announced (Dan. 9:24-25).

However, God does not answer any and every prayer as the one praying would like. Why, then, did He respond to Daniel's? Here are some observations:

1. Daniel's prayer was the result of his study of Scripture. *The timing of Daniel's prayer is highly significant.*

(continued on page 2)

Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals Scripture Reference (Begin Year A)

June 1

Acts 1:6–14
Psalm 68:1–10, 32–35
1 Peter 4:12–14, 5:6–11
John 17:1–11

June 8 - Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1–21 or Numbers 11:24–30
Psalm 104:24–34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b–13
John 20:19–23 or John 7:37–39

June 15 – Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1–2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11–13
Matthew 28:16–20

June 22 - Ordinary Time

Genesis 21:8–21
Psalm 86:1–10, 16–17
Psalm 69:7–10 [11–15], 16–18
Romans 6:1b–11
Matthew 10:24–39

June 29 - Ordinary Time

Genesis 22:1–14
Jeremiah 28:5–9
Psalm 13 or Psalm 89:1–4, 15–18
Romans 6:12–23
Matthew 10:40–42

Must Do List

Start on the repair of our stained glass windows

July Fellowship dinner hosted by Jean Mourey

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June Birthdays

Joan Weber	4
Warren Hatten	5
Bill Kerrell	5
Sandi Harris	9
Randy Bohannon	15

Events this Month

June 1

Fellowship dinner, 11:30 a.m.

June 3

Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.

June 8

Communion service, 10:30 a.m.

June 15

Father's Day

June 28

Prayer Shawl ministry, 10:00 a.m.

June 29

5th Sunday Praise service, 10:30 a.m.

It came "in the first year of Darius" around 539 B.C. (Dan. 9:1). That was the year in which Babylon fell to the Persians, a truly astounding event that must have sent Daniel back to the Scriptures to search for understanding.

2. Daniel confessed and repented of his people's sins. *By all appearances, Daniel was a godly man of faith who lived a life of utmost integrity, both before and after being deported to Babylon. Yet despite his own personal innocence, he confessed to numerous sins as a member of God's wayward people. Four times he told the Lord, "We have sinned." (Daniel 9:5, 8, 11, 15) This is a powerful example of corporate confession, in which one accepts personal responsibility for the sins of one's people (see Lamentations 1:18).*
3. Daniel fasted and prayed for a period of time. *The Bible does not say exactly how long Daniel's prayer of confession lasted, but it was probably more than a day, as he refers to fasting (Daniel 9:3)...Only after this prolonged period of confession did Daniel ask the Lord for mercy (Daniel 9:16-17). He did not even raise the possibility of restoration, despite God's promise in the Law and his awareness of Jeremiah's prophecies (Daniel 9:2). He asked only that the Lord would act on behalf of His own interests (Daniel 9:18-19).*

Prayer is not a gimmick by which we charm or coerce God into giving us what we want. Prayer is a sober-minded acknowledgment of our true situation before the Lord and an admission of our need for His divine help. Are you prepared to pray like Daniel?

Prayer is a scary, awkward proposition for many people. It's the kind of activity that they would just as soon leave to the religious "professionals". But Scripture encourages us with numerous examples of people who demonstrate that prayer is an everyday activity for everyday people. (pgs. 312-313)

It's true. Many people say, "I don't know how to pray." And, "I don't know what to ask for." Or "God's not going to listen to me." But you know the truth. Prayer is as simple as "I've sinned, Lord, forgive me" or it can be far more involved. If you are not in the habit of praying, here are a few suggestions:

1. Pray on your knees. It humbles you before God and, unlike praying in bed, you won't fall asleep while you are praying.
2. Make a list of who/what you want to pray for. Don't be afraid to take a moment in prayer to check your list. You will find after a while that you don't need to sneak a peek. You'll remember what's really important. And if you forget something, you can always go back into prayer.
3. Be consistent. Prayer should be a part of your everyday routine; like eating, taking a shower, feeding the dogs. It should not be an afterthought or done only when you really want something. God wants to talk with you even if you have nothing to say.
4. Take time to listen for God. Prayer shouldn't be one-sided. Sometimes you have to stop and listen for the voice of God. If you don't hear it, don't worry, God is there and is listening to you.
5. Don't expect to get everything you ask for. One of the best pieces of advice ever given to me on prayer is that sometimes the answer is "no". God's job is not to give us everything we ask for because sometimes the things we ask for are not best for us. So if you get a "no", it's ok.

Remember that prayer is our communication with God and it is truly important if you want to grow in your relationship with God! Blessings, Jo



Short News Items

If you would like to schedule an appointment with Pastor Jo, please call 850-902-1653 to schedule a time and location to meet with her.

Do you need a ride to church or to a special event? If so, call Linda Lade at 623-0017 and she will either drive you or get someone else who can.

Some have asked about the collection of stamps for Duval Home. If you will get them to Linda Lade, she will make sure they get there.

Session Highlights

First Presbyterian Church
Milton, FL

Session Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2014

Session members present Session members absent

Tammy Mendiola Margaret Neustaedter
Betsy Dodson
Leslie Yandle
Jean Mourey

Guests present Moderator

Remy Kublik Jo Kublik
Gerry Yandle

Welcome/Quorum/Call to order

A quorum was declared by Jo and the meeting was called to order with prayer given by Jo.

Approval of Minutes: All members present have read the minutes of the last meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Betsy gave each member a copy of the monthly budget and the year to date budget. Betsy also reported the final payment of \$3995.30 has been made for the replacement of the church railings, leaving a balance of \$9120.58 in the restoration fund. Betsy reported our participation in the food bank requires collecting checks made out to our church and then writing a check to the Methodist church for One Harvest. She will inquire if the original checks can be made to the Methodist church. A motion was made to accept the report. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Christian Education: Tammy had nothing to report.

Membership/Mission: Jean reported the Pensacola newspaper will be changing its format and we will be charged for submitting a weekly notice. They have not yet notified Jean of what the cost will be. It was decided to wait and see what the cost will be before making a decision as to whether to continue submissions. Jean asked for information regarding other newspaper publications we might send our weekly notice to.

Personnel: Leslie asked that Pastor Jo Kublik be excused from the meeting. Leslie then reported she had discussed with Pastor Jo any concerns or desires that should be addressed. She then proposed the mileage payment to the pastor be increased from 25 cents per mile to 50 cents per mile. Leslie reported the pastor drives approximately 300 miles per year to make visitations and carry out other pastoral duties. A motion was made to accept the proposal. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Property: Betsy reported she has met with two different companies regarding repair of the stained glass windows in the church. The estimates given were \$2900.00 and \$17,000.00. As there is such a large disparagement between the two estimates Leslie suggested we try to contact someone who is an expert in this area and ask exactly what needs to be done. A motion was made to accept the proposal. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Jean closed the meeting with prayer.

Calendar of Events

June

- 6/1: 1st Sunday fellowship dinner, 11:30 a.m.
- 6/3: Bible study, 10:00 a.m.
- 6/8: Communion service, 10:30 a.m.
- 6/11: 4th Day meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 6/28: Prayer Shawl ministry, 10:00 a.m.
- 6/29: 5th Sunday Praise service, 10:30 a.m.

July

- 7/4: Independence Day
- 7/6: 1st Sunday fellowship dinner, 11:30 a.m.
- 7/13: Communion service, 10:30 a.m.
- 7/28: Prayer Shawl ministry, 10:00 a.m.

If you think you're smart...

If you think you're smart, see if you can figure out what these seven words all have in common?

1. Banana
2. Dresser
3. Grammar
4. Potato
5. Revive
6. Uneven
7. Assess

Have you already given up? Give it another try....look at each word carefully. You'll kick yourself when you discover the answer. This is so cool.....no, it is not that they all have at least 2 double letters. Let me know if you found the answer or ask me for the answer. Linda

Oh, those bright kids!

A kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work.

As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds.

After explaining the commandment to "honour" thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?"

Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, "Thou shall not kill."

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head.

She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, "Why are some of your hairs white, Mom?"

Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white."

The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, "Momma, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?"

The children had all been photographed, and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group picture.

"Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up and say, 'There's Jennifer, she's a lawyer,' or 'That's Michael, he's a doctor.'

A small voice at the back of the room rang out, "And there's the teacher, she's dead."

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said, "Now, class, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face."

"Yes," the class said.

"Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn't run into my feet?"

A little fellow shouted, "'Cause your feet ain't empty."

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray:

"Take only ONE. God is watching."

Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies.

A child had written a note, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales.
 The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small.
 The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible.
 The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah".
 The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?"
 The little girl replied, "Then you ask him".



JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Choir Practice, 8:45 Sunday School, 9:30 Worship, 10:30 Fellowship dinner, 11:30	2	3 Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.	4 Joan Weber	5 Warren Hatten Bill Kerrell	6	7
8 Choir Practice, 8:45 Sunday School, 9:30 Communion, 10:30	9 Sandi Harris	10	11	12	13	14
15 Choir Practice, 8:45 Sunday School, 9:30 Worship, 10:30 Father's Day	16 Randy Bohannon	17	18	19	20 Summer begins	21
22 Choir Practice, 8:45 Sunday School, 9:30 Worship, 10:30	23	24	25	26	27	28 Prayer Shawl, 10:00 a.m.
29 Choir Practice, 8:45 Sunday School, 9:30 Worship, 10:30 5 th Sunday Praise service, 10:30	30					

1950's Songs

Find and circle all of the 1950's song titles that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining letters spell the title of an additional 1950's song.

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R A V E O N I A R T Y R E T S Y M L I
D Y T S I M H O N K Y T O N K L E O L
O G N A J D A N I H C R A E S T N N E
N V L O N E L Y T E A R D R O P S L Y
N B E E Y R M M B T L S Q H G E H Y E
A L T F O A O D A E M B K E J U O Y L
S U O T I V D K N R L A M A I I U O D
N E O N E N E Y A E E L I U T Z T U D
O B Y I G F K Y R R S L E T R M U K I
T E T A I T Z E B E H U U N E A A S D
N R T V K A A T H O V R O U E N S H O
E R E E R E R L U T F E S Y S N I O B
E Y E C Q A T S L I K Y F A O I L U A
T H F D E U E Y T S G C S T D S A N B
X I H H H R I T Y G A C A I E H N D M
I L S W O O U L E A I L O M E B O D A
S L R C L T T P A T K D L A P O M O B
L I K E V O L E Y B E Y B Y S Y V G A
R I P I T U P E N I G H T T R A I N L
    
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BLUEBERRY HILL
BO DIDDLEY
BYE BYE LOVE
CRAZY ARMS
DJANGO
DONNA
EVERYDAY
FEVER
HEARTBREAK HOTEL
HONKY TONK

HOUND DOG
JAILHOUSE ROCK
KANSAS CITY
LA BAMBA
LONELY TEARDROPS
LONG TALL SALLY
MACK THE KNIFE
MANNISH BOY
MAYBELLENE
MISTY

MONA LISA
MOVE IT
MYSTERY TRAIN
NIGHT TRAIN
ONLY YOU
PEGGY SUE
RAVE ON
RED HOT
RIP IT UP
RUMBLE

SEARCHIN'
SHOUT
SIXTEEN TONS
SPEEDO
SUZIE Q
TAKE FIVE
TEQUILA
TUTTI FRUTTI
YAKETY YAK
YOU SEND ME