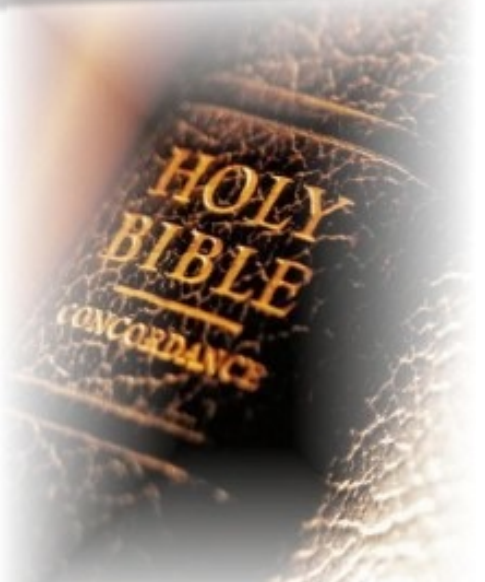


The Reminder

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX



**SUNDAY
AUGUST 9, 2015**

BELLAIRE

church of Christ
8001 South Rice Ave
P.O. Box 1029
Bellaire, Texas 77402
www.bellairechurchofchrist.org

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY:

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study
5:00 PM Worship

WEDNESDAY:

7:30 PM Bible Study

*** NOTE:** Sunday
August 30 will be our
last Sunday evening
service.

“Do You Think To Pray?”

The opportunity to pray, to communicate directly with God, is one of the greatest blessings the Christian enjoys. It is evident that Divinity places a great deal of emphasis on prayer and its power. While on the earth, Jesus prayed often both showing and instructing His disciples that they ought to be people who pray (1 Thes. 5:17).

Prayer is the general term for addressing God. Since it is possible for His children to talk to Him, He asks them to call upon Him often (Luke 18:1-8; Ephesians 6:17-18; 1 Timothy 2:1-3).

Prayer is both the privilege and duty of the righteous (James 5:16). The model prayer given by Jesus in Matthew 6 shows that prayer was designed for children of God (v. 9). Only those who are trying to live righteously have their prayers heard and approved (1 Peter 3:10-12).

Prayer is asking, seeking, and knocking with the assurance that the Father is ready, willing, and able to respond (Matt. 7:7-11).

Prayer is an act of faith (Luke 18:1-8; Jas. 1:5-7). By praying to God, one shows he believes that He is real, that He loves His children, and that He hears and answers their prayers (John 9:31; 1 John 5:13-15).

Prayer is an expression of worship because praise, an integral part of worship, is a major component of prayer (Matt. 6:9).

The very fact His children seek Him in it and pray that His will be done demonstrates their respect and love for God thus worshiping Him in prayer.

As stated above, prayer involves adoration and praise. It eulogizes God (Acts 2:47; Matt. 6:9).

Prayer includes petitions, pleas for one's needs (1 John 5:15). These can be such things as supplications (Eph. 6:18; Phil. 4:6), confession of sins, and pleas for forgiveness (1 John 1:9-2:2). Another essential of prayer is thanksgiving for blessings received from God (Phil. 4:6). Intercessions, pleas for others, are also an element of prayer (1 Tim. 2:1).

Since prayers can be hindered by many things, Christians must constantly be on guard against those things which would hinder their prayers. Such things as lack of faith (Jas. 1:5-7), wickedness (Psalm 66:18), selfishness (Jas. 4:3; Luke 18:9-14), improper attitudes toward others (Matt. 6:14-15; 5:23-24; 1 Pet. 3:7), and the substitution of prayer for obedience can all hinder the prayers of the church and its members.

Holy living is a must for God to hear your prayers.

Gene Taylor



“On Being A Fool”

Morning Lesson

“Your Business Is My Business”
Jack Smith

Evening Lesson

“The Chief Cornerstone”
Steve Garrett

News and Notes:

Continue praying for those of our number who have on-going health issues. Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn and Don Hurd.

New babies about due. Please pray for the expectant mothers. Time is near, and for first time mothers it can be a scary thing. Easy delivery and joyful moments with the newborn. It's an exciting time for all of us

Continue to pray for Curby and Harold. Curby seems to be doing well. Harold is not. Continues to battle infection in the incision site. Will be in the hospital for a while to come

Pray for those on the road (or in the air). We always have several out of town. God has been good to preserve us, and we should give thanks. I'll be leaving this afternoon for a quick trip to Alabama. I plan to be back by Wed. night.

God's word says, "The fool has said in his heart, there is no God" (Psalms 14:1). One who does not believe in God will be eternally lost because as a fool he will not obey God. Since a fool does not believe in God, he trusts in his own self. "He who trusts in his own heart is a fool" (Proverbs 28:26). As an atheist he doesn't think he can be wrong. But, "Professing to be wise they became fools" (Romans 1:22). A fool has closed his mind to the fact that God exists. "The way of the fool is right in his own eyes" (Proverbs 12:15). One who does not believe in God leads a purposeless life, without any hope. It is such a sad situation. If he only knew what he is facing in eternity.

There are also those who say they believe in God, but by their actions they don't obey Him. Even though they say they believe in God they are practicing atheists. These are also fools. Jesus says, "by their fruits you will know them (Matthew 7:20).

A child of God can also become a fool by being unfaithful to the Lord. We are warned, "Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God" (Hebrews 3:12). The Bible does say that, "some will depart from the faith... having their own conscience seared with a hot iron" (1 Timothy 4:1-2). When they do depart they will have "condemnation because they have cast off their first faith" (1 Timothy 5:12).

To not be a fool we must, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5). "Let's make our calling and election sure" (2 Peter 1:10) as we "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33). Let's not be a fool.
- Ron Boatwright

ASSIGNMENTS

MORNING SERVICE

Announcements - M. Pharris
Hymn Director - M. Robinson
Opening Prayer - J. Martinez
Closing Prayer - M. Pharris

EVENING SERVICE

Hymn Director - L. Williams
Opening Prayer - J. Moon
Closing Prayer - M. Pharris

EVANGELIST

Jack Smith
Steve Garrett

ELDERS

Brian Haley
Mark Mann
Matt Miles
Mike Pharris
Jack Smith

DEACONS

Scott Clanton
David Davila
Dan Kimbrough
Jesse Knapp
Alex Morolez
Gregory Williams

BIBLE CLASSES

- I & II Corinthians
- Identifying, Tearing Down and Removing Idols from Our Hearts.