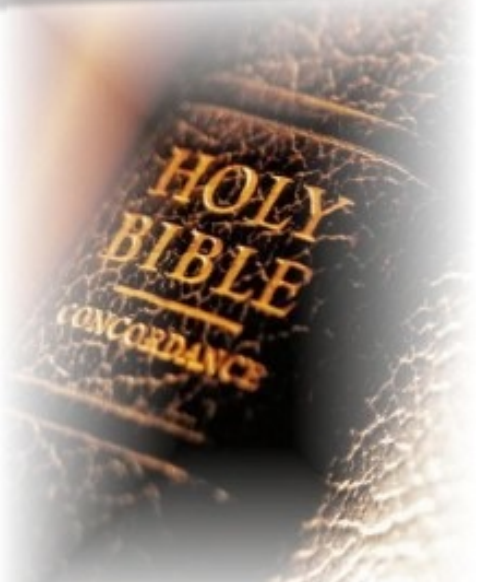


The Reminder

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



“Do You Pray?”

The worshiper who would pray in the assembly must do more than bow his head and close his eyes. He must pray. "Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say 'Amen' at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say?" (1 Corinthians 14:16). This verse suggests four requirements if one is to enter into a prayer.

He must listen to the prayer.

One cannot legitimately say "Amen" at the conclusion of a prayer if he has not listened to the prayer. "Mind-wandering" is an ever-present problem. We sing, but we don't observe the words of the song. We bow our heads, but we don't listen to the prayer. We sit through the sermon, but our minds wander to things of an earthly nature. Consequently, we attend worship periods, but we don't worship as we ought. If one is to pray, with the congregation, he must listen to the prayer.

He must understand the prayer.

When a man in the first century led a prayer in an unknown tongue, the worshiper could not say 'Amen,' for he could not understand the language in which the prayer was spoken. Neither can the worshiper say 'Amen' today if the leader has not spoken loudly enough to be heard or if he has used words or phrases which the worshiper does not understand. Those who lead prayers in the assembly should be conscious of the needs of the whole congregation, speaking up where all can hear and using words which all can understand

He must agree with the prayer.

A number of years ago, while sitting beside an old preacher, I observed his saying "Yes" or "Yes, Lord" at the conclusion of each separate phrase of the prayer as it was being led. He spoke the words softly enough that I was probably the only one in the assembly who could hear them, but I was impressed.

Obviously, this brother was listening to every phrase, determining whether or not he agreed with the phrase, and was softly speaking his agreement. He was not just sitting through a prayer; he was praying. Occasionally, we hear sentiments expressed in prayer with which we do not agree. To these sentiments we cannot say "Amen."

He must say "Amen."

The word "Amen" means "so let it be." We long to hear the strong, resounding "Amen" at the close of prayers which we used to hear. We fear that the move away from this practice is just another step toward cold, lifeless formality in our worship periods. We are not contending, however, that one must say the word "Amen" audibly; but we are suggesting that at least in his mind he should say "Amen," thus making the prayer his own prayer. He has listened to the prayer; he has understood the prayer; he has agreed with the prayer; now he speaks to God his "Amen" or approval of the prayer as his prayer. In this manner, he unites with other worshipers in common prayer to God.

Bill Hall

SUNDAY
AUGUST 23, 2015

BELLAIRE
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8001 South Rice Ave
P.O. Box 1029
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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.



Morning Lesson

“Conquering Your Giants”
Jack Smith

Evening Lesson

“Why Most Christians Are Defeated”
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.

Remember our young ladies who are expecting babies. Two are due this week with others coming shortly. Katie and Mitchell welcomed Maximus Alexander on 8/21. He was 6lbs, 6oz. Brendyn (Chris and Zara's new one) spent a couple of days in the hospital this past week. High bilirubin count and a suspicious heart beat. Keep them in your thoughts.

Clark Underwood (Lauren Perkins "intended") wishes to place membership with us. Their wedding is coming up soon. We welcome him into the family of God here. Exciting times for them and us.

Wed. Sept. 2 begins our new quarter. I'll teach "Great Lessons of Jesus". Brian Haley will teach Joshua and Judges. Should be a good quarter.

Our next **gospel meeting** will include our fall singing. November 13, 14, 15. Jeff Wilson from Kleinwood will be teaching lessons from Isaiah.

Women's Bible study will be tonight after regular services.

“The Character Of The Godly Husband”

Humility. This is probably an obvious one—a good leader is a humble leader, one who has an awareness of his own sins and weaknesses and one who knows who and what he is before God. The task of leadership does not come easily or naturally and neither does good leadership. Despite this, You need to lead anyway, but you need to do it with great humility. You will learn to lead well as you lead, if you lead humbly.

Confidence. You need to have confidence that God really has called you to lead your family. This can be hard to believe in a culture like ours that screams sexism! as soon as it hears a man claim that he leads his wife. You will need to study scripture to give yourself a firm foundation to understand that God has called you to lead and you will need to study scripture to help you know how to be that kind of leader. Your leadership is not your own, but has been delegated to you by the One who created you, who created your wife, and who brought you together. Lead, then, with a humble confidence.

Godliness. You will need to be a godly man if you are to lead your family well. Like leadership, godliness does not come naturally and it does not come easily. It does not come without persistence and dedication. Lead your family with a humble, confident godliness.

Love. If you are to be a godly husband, you need to have love for your wife—a love that is far greater than the love you have for yourself. Sound easy? It isn't! We naturally love ourselves so much more than the one we claim to love the most. You will need to have a great love for your wife and children and a greater love still for God. You must be willing to count yourself last. You must be willing to die for your wife but, harder still, to live for her. You need to be willing and equipped to lead your wife with a humble, confident, godly love.

- Tim Challies - edited

ASSIGNMENTS

MORNING SERVICE

Announcements - M. Pharris
Hymn Director - M. Krueger
Opening Prayer - D. Kimbrough
Closing Prayer - M. Pharris

EVENING SERVICE

Hymn Director - G. Williams
Opening Prayer - L. Williams
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.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

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