

*In
Search
of*

Truth and Right

Tim Henderson, Editor

**Vol. 02
No. 27
02/03/
2008**

"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things." Philipians 4:8 (NASB-U)

A publication
of the
**Wellsburg
church of
Christ**

Why Should We Pray?

*By: Richard Thetford
via—Walking in the Light*

Some might ask "Why should I pray?" A Christian knows that talking to God is important in drawing them closer to God. God listens to the saints (His children), and when we understand that, then it gives us a closeness to our Father. We need God and we need to ask God to intervene on our behalf. When we pray, we recognize that God is in charge and we need His help to direct our steps in life (Jeremiah 10:23).

A Fundamental Point

In James 1:5-7 it says: *"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not **that man** think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord."* We need to understand that when we are lacking in something, in this case wisdom, then we should pray to God and ask for it. But when we ask, make sure that we are asking in faith, fully expecting God to make the change in our life. A prayer without faith is a prayer offered in vain. A Christian that prays constantly to God is a Christian devoted on serving God. Are you praying to God in faith, fully expecting Him to change your life? Many times our lives are made miserable because we do not take the time to pray to God and allow Him to intervene and help us. How frustrating it must be to God to know that we need His help, but simply refuse to ask!

Consistency is the Key

Please take a moment and read the following scriptures in your Bible: Matthew 15:21-28; Luke 18:1-8; 11:5-8. What do you see in these verses? In each case, what is the one clear message that we can learn about persistency in praying? We must pray to God knowing that He **WILL** provide for us **IF** we ask in faith, and if we ask in a persistent manner, expecting Him to deliver. That is what Jesus was trying to teach concerning an individual's prayer life. When our children want something, don't they usually ask us for it? And if they **REALLY** want it, don't they ask over and over -- even to

TIMES OF SERVICES	
SUNDAY	
Bible Classes*	10:00 AM
AM Worship	10:45 AM
PM Worship	6:30 PM
WEDNESDAY	
Bible Classes*	7:00 PM
(* Bible Classes for All Ages)	

This Bulletin is published by the:

**Wellsburg
church of Christ**
which meets at:
**112 Sunset Ave.
Wellsburg, WV 26070**

the point of “wearing us out?” We need faith, a faith that knows God is listening and He will provide for our needs, we’ve just got to ask Him and be consistent about it. Sometimes we just need to stop and look around at life itself. Life is teaching us something whether we recognize it or not. Life says, I need help. God says, *“ask and it shall be given unto you”* (Matthew 7:7).

Learning >From The Old

The context of James 5:13-16 is prayer. Then in verses 17-18 it says: *“Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.”* Here we have a message about Elijah. Sometimes the praying of Old Testament characters are put in front of us in the New Testament to teach us lessons concerning our prayer life. What lesson do you understand James to be teaching here about prayer? First of all we should pray at all times, whether sick or glad. An effective prayer life can heal wounds, forgive others, and gladden our hearts beyond comprehension! We can also learn that God will listen to the prayers of the righteous and answer them. All we need to do is ask God to help us and He will. Elijah was a man of faith and the example before us is that he was sincere and *“prayed earnestly”*. Again, we are sometimes our own worst enemy because we don’t take the time to pray to God and allow Him to direct our steps. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 tells us to *“pray without ceasing”*. Why? Because when we have an active prayer life, communicating with God, then our lives will be enriched with all the spiritual blessings. Are you happy? Pray. Are you sad? Pray. Are you thankful? Pray.

Pray all the time!

Have You Read the Book?

*By: Mark Larson
via—Charlottesville Beacon*

“Conservative” and controversial talk-show host, Glenn Beck, known for his wacky presentation of political issues, re-

cently had Dinesh D’Souza, the author of “The Enemy at Home: The Cultural Left and Its Responsibility for 9/11” on his radio show. As an opener to the interview, Beck begins with a criticism and follows it with a confession: “Dinesh, I have to tell you, I’m disappointed in this book” and then the next moment, in a mischievous sort of way admits: “Though, I haven’t read the book!”

How many people today dismiss the Bible as the word of God, as God’s saving message for mankind, all because they did not read the Book! How ironic it is that some of the harshest critics of the Bible, of God, of Jesus Christ are people who have never sat down and read the Bible. Too many people reject the Scriptures as the guide for living because they have never taken the time to truly consider the wisdom the Bible offers. Many do not believe in the gospel because they have never heard the evidences that the Bible reveals that prove that Jesus is the Son of God.

Have You Given the Bible a Fair Hearing?

“He who gives an answer before he hears, It is folly and shame to him” (Proverbs 18:13, NASB). What sense does it make for a person to express his views on the Bible before he has actually taken the time to read it? Furthermore, doesn’t such a potentially important, life-changing book, deserve an honest, open-minded look? For only for the person who does will benefit from reading it: *“And the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance” (Luke 8:15).* A friend of mine, during my college years, boasted of reading the entire New Testament just before

Today’s Sermon:

*AM—Things which are
not easy, but neces-
sary*

*PM—The Invitation of
Jesus*

his tour of Jerusalem, yet came away with very little knowledge of its contents. This goes to show that the attitude we bring in our reading of the Bible can make all the difference in the world. *"This you know, my beloved brethren. But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger"* (**James 1:19**). Are we so quick to say what we think and feel about the Bible before *truly* listening to what God has to say first (as revealed in the Scriptures)?

Do You Love the Truth?

Quite often, the person who is not willing to pick up a Bible and seriously consider its contents is a person who is not actively searching for the truth. In contrast, the genuine truth seeker who loves the truth will leave "no stone unturned" and will diligently search for the truth wherever truth can be found. Before ruling out the Bible, the seeker of truth listens with an open heart to the voice of Jesus: *"Pilate therefore said to Him, 'So You are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.'"* (**John 18:37**).

Ninety percent of Americans own a Bible, yet most people rarely take the time to read it and take it to heart. We are given this promise in Scripture: *"When you read, you can understand"* (**Ephesians 3:4**).

When is the last time you read the Bible with the goal to understand?

"The only race that some Christians engage in is the race to the door at the last amen."

"A sharp tongue does not necessarily indicate keen thinking."

"It is not what you think but what God's Word says that will judge you at the last day."

News N Notes

Remember these in your prayers:

- Lucille Harless, Dave Harless' mother
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband.
- Blake Swanson, Dorothy Lancaster's grandson
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Matt Ferrell
- Trudell Tennant
- Bud and Merl Frey
- Tammy Garrison, Zeda Goddard's daughter
- Audrio Gaudio, Nancy Morris' great-granddaughter
- Marie Roberts, & Ed's father, Jim Roberts.
- Ila Marshall, Harold Marshall's mother
- Cary & Grace Lancaster

Nursing Home:

- Hazel Carroll
- Pauline Sellers

Shut-ins:

- Ethel Mahan
- Josephine Clow
- Mabel Fleming
- Pauline Midcap