# **Do You Think to Pray?**

by Gene Taylor Centerville Rd. church of Christ Tallahassee, FL

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 oftenboth 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 6shows 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 (<u>Luke 18:1-8</u>; <u>Jas. 1:5-7</u>). 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).

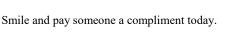
Prayer is an expression of worship because praise, an integral part of worship, is a major component of prayer (Matt. 6:9). The very fact His children seek Him in it and pray that His will be done demonstrates their respect and love for God thus worshiping Him in prayer.

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.



# NEWSLETTER

March 24, 2019

Mark Dailey, evangelist (716) 754-2752

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## Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Study 9:45 AM Sunday AM Worship 11:00 AM

No Sunday PM Service

Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study 10:00 AM Wednesday PM Bible Study 7:00 PM

La Salle church of Christ

A place of worship and healing. 1121 N. Military Rd. Niagara Falls, NY 14304 (716) 283-1214

lasallechurchofchrist.org



## We welcome all who are here today.

If you are a visitor we are honored to have you with us. Please fill out a Visitor Card (on the back of the pew in front of you) so we may have a record of your visit. Later in the service we will pass around a collection plate. As a visitor you are obviously not expected to give but we would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in the collection plate. Thanks.

There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs for infant care.

Please keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent during Bible study and worship.



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### Condolences

Linda and Diane's nephew Vernon Fulford Jr. passed away Monday March 18, 2019 on his birthday (age 51). He was the son of Linda and Diane's late sister Barbara.

Visitation was Friday and the funeral was yesterday. The obituary is posted in the back.

**Prayers** In our prayers let's praise God, recognize His greatness, and thank Him for His blessings.

Butts & Edie Sumner Let's pray for them as they deal with health issues.

Ray & Bev McArthur Let's pray for them as they deal with a family situation.

**Denise Garlitz** has been sick fighting a cold and flu. Let's pray that she recovers soon.

James Hall, Jr, Bev McArthur's younger brother, had back surgery Mar. 11 and is doing well.

**Eileen Johnson** (Cora Parson's daughter in law). Word was received Thursday evening that Eileen had a stroke and is in Buffalo General Hospital in Room 1470. Let's pray for her well being. Please see posting for more info.

Ben, Diane & Linda's brother in law, has throat cancer and is getting treatment in Pittsburg.

Dennis Leistner recently fell on the ice and broke his arm.

Cindy Paden Lewis, a former member here and now living in Texas, has begun chemotherapy.

Susan Barrett (Frank Marsden's daughter) Let's pray for her as she deals with a health issue.

**Amanda**, former patient of the Sumner's daughter in law, had a stroke. She is 33 years old, a wife, and mother of two young children.

Ed, Rodney & Carol's niece's husband, lost a couple of fingers using a power tool.

The Ubelein family in Missouri. Two sisters attending Harding University (Mary Jo Ubelein and her sister Rachel, both members of the Lord's church) were going home to St. Louis for spring break and were in a serious car accident Mar. 8. Mary Jo ended up in a coma and Rachel received a concussion. Things went downhill for Mary Jo and she passed away Mar. 16. Let's pray for this family as they deal with this situation.

**Nick**, a neighbor of Louella Hopkins, is still in a coma. His right leg has been amputated. He is on dialysis because of kidney failure. He is 57.

Keith Marten is dealing with some health issues. Let's pray for him and also Glory as she takes care of Keith.

## Let's pray as we continue our preacher search process.

## Let's pray for the congregation in Fenwick, ONT as they do the same.

#### <u>Also</u>

Let's pray for our members that have ongoing health and other issues.

Let's pray for family, friends, and loved ones of our members who are having health and other issues.

Let's not only remember those that are physically sick but those that are spiritually sick as well.

Let's remember to pray for our shut-ins and to call and send cards.

Let's pray for those dealing with family situations as well as work situations.

Let's pray for those dealing with weather related disasters.

Let's pray for those of our number who are looking for employment.

Let's pray for those that are traveling. May they have a safe journey.

Let's pray for God's people that are doing mission work all over the world.

Let's pray for those taking Bible correspondence courses at the present time.

(Scott Forney, Robert Horrace, Anna Brink)

Let's pray for people the world over that we may all learn to get along with each other.

### Classes and Sermon

Sun. AM Adult Bible Study Hebrews

Sermon Topic Today: Developing A Meaningful Life of Prayer

**Scripture Reading:** Ephesians 3:14-21

No Sun. PM Service Singing tonight at 6 PM (See Below)

Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study 10 AM at the building.

Wed. PM Bible Study 1<sup>st</sup> Kings

## Serving Today

Announcements Wayne Carter

Song Leader Rodney Jones

Direct Communion Mark Dailey

Serve Wayne Carter

Serve Ron Cameron

Serve Richard Wheeler

Clean Trays Maria Swindlehurst

## **Upcoming Events** (Lord willing)

Mar. 24 Today. Great Lakes Christian High School Chorus - here - 6 PM

Mar. 31 Area Wide 5th Sunday Singing hosted by Amherst church of Christ

Apr. 5-7 Great Lakes Youth Rally. Please see posting.

Apr. 14 Men's Business Meeting

Apr. 15 TAX Day

**Apr. 27** Ladies Day at Amherst church of Christ

## **Security**

If you are interested in being on the security team please see the signup sheet posted in the back. If you have questions please ask Ray McArthur.

# **Great Lakes Christian High School Chorus**

Here at LaSalle 6 PM this evening.



