

MONDAY 01.12.26 - Luke 11:2-4

² Jesus said to them, “When you pray, this is what you should say. “ ‘Father, may your name be honored. May your kingdom come. ³ Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴ Forgive us our sins, as we also forgive everyone who sins against us. Keep us from falling into sin when we are tempted.’ ”

Often, we seem to have the attitude of “if there is nothing more I can do, at least I can pray”. As we look at the life of Christ, I think it is accurate to say that He never saw prayer as “the least He could do”. Prayer should not be our last resort but our first response”. Christ’s death made it possible for us to come into the very presence of God and lay our requests at the foot of His throne. I would be lying if I said I understood how my prayer can effect an omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent God. At the same time, I believe God’s Word tells us that God desires us to come to Him in prayer and that He not only hears our prayers but is pleased to act upon them. In 2026 why not purpose to make prayer your first response rather than your last resort.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

TUESDAY 01.13.26 - Philippians 1:9-11

Read today’s verses beginning with verse 1 and proceed all the way through verse 11. These folks have been changing their outward life, as well as their inward beings. It has become apparent to all who witness it and a joy for their supporter. That should be true for us, as well. Salvation should mean transformation, from what we were to what we are becoming.

But we cannot develop it ourselves, like a New Year’s resolution. It is with constant prayer that the Spirit of God gives knowledge and discernment, that our desires become what is excellent and praise-worthy. Gradually, over time, we may continue to grow into what He is making of us.

It is God’s resolution that we be perfect and pure and full of righteousness. It comes by prayer, but interestingly, sometimes by the prayers of other faithful friends as we support each other.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

WEDNESDAY 01.14.26 - Ephesians 4:1-6

Paul’s letters contain a beautiful balance between doctrine and duty, and the epistle to the Ephesians is a perfect example. The first three chapters deal with doctrine (our riches in Christ), while the last three chapters deal with duty (our responsibilities in Christ). The key word in this last section is walk (4:1, 17, 5:2, 8, 15), while the key idea in the first half is wealth. As believers, we are to walk—or conduct our lives—in a certain God-honoring way. The first of five walks is the walk of unity (4:1-6). Unity is not uniformity. Unity comes from within, while uniformity is the result of pressure from without. If we are to preserve the “unity of the Spirit,” we must cultivate the graces that Paul delineates in verses 2 and 3—humility, gentleness, patience, forbearance, and love. Ask God to develop these Christian virtues in your life as a believer.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 01.15.26 - 2 Chronicles 30:12

It’s not uncommon for us to tell God, “Hands off!” We like to call the shots, make our own rules, and live life on our terms. Even as we spurn His commands, God does not take a hands-off approach in return—not with people He loves and with whom He longs to be connected. 2 Chronicles 30:12 reminds us that God’s hands-on approach is one of invitation, love, and concern.

He invites us to live His way and according to His will. It’s the right and expected behavior of people who claim to be His—His people. His will. His way.

God brought His hand upon Judah to give them one heart to do what He had commanded. Rather than leave them separated and struggling, He kept after them! Pray that you would celebrate and submit to God’s gracious, hands-on leadership in your life as well.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

FRIDAY 01.16.26 - Psalm 133

Our day is surely a day of disunity-division, sectarianism, and partisanship. Can our culture absorb any more brokenness? Remember when you were young, and the day had gone badly, and dad came home? He brought wellness with him, right followed him around. Or how your heart swells when our flag flies on a hilltop in the breeze. That is the fullness of watching a quarrelling couple make-up, or of embattled friends ‘burying the hatchet’. More broadly, when revival comes to a church, a community, or to a nation. The oneness, the unity, is full and rich and deep.

This unity comes most sincerely from our God, whose spirit works in hearts to rekindle what was lost and dead and build fresh and new. This rekindling, this regeneration, is only of God and is better than anything man can create. The fruit of this regeneration within us is unity. “Oh how pleasant...”

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

E2 GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY MORNINGS - 9:40am

- Kids** CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
NURSERY (through Age 3) *9:40AM ONLY
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
- Youth** E2 CLASS (5th – 12th Grade)
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)
- Adults** **WINTER QUARTER** - Sunday Mornings at 9:40
LOCATION: B8-10 - Gene Steinruck- began Dec. 7th.
EXPLORE THE BIBLE:
Matthew 1-13
For Christ followers, we have no greater example than what we see in the life of Jesus.
LOCATION: B11 - Dave Delcamp - began Dec. 7th.
BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE:
Limited Resources, Limitless God
God never intended for us to stand alone but to rely on Him. God is more than enough to help us live life to the fullest.
LOCATION: Rm 2 - Elizabeth Williams, Denise Whitefield, & Ali Farwell. Began Jan. 4th - 9:40 am.
THE WAY OF WISDOM - Ladies Study of Proverbs.

SUNDAY EVENINGS - 6:00pm

- Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)
- Adults** LOCATION: Worship Center
- LADIES THURSDAY MORNING STUDY - HEAVEN,**
When Faith Becomes Sight - began Jan. 8th at 9am - Rm 2.
Led by: Brenda Peters, Brenda Ross, & Chris Knepley.
- WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS** - began January 7th Meal starts at 6pm, Bible Study begins at 7pm. Bring your place setting for the meal. Sign up at the Information Table or Connect Card.
Studies Offered:
Everyday Revolutionary by J.D.Greear - Book of Daniel
Tame Your Thoughts by Max Lucado - Thought Management

TO SIGN UP OR REQUEST MORE INFORMATION FOR ANY OF THESE GROUPS OR CLASSES,
USE THE CONNECTION CARD IN THE BULLETIN. THANK YOU.

Ephesians 3:14-21 Following On Our Knees

The Book of Ephesians is about the Church—the Body of Christ. That is, those who have placed their faith in Jesus for eternal life.

In chapters 1-3, Paul reveals the _____ of the Church. In chapters 4-6, he reveals the _____ of the Church.

In chapter 1, Paul tells us of our _____ in Christ. We are spiritually rich because of our union with Jesus.

In chapter 2, Paul tells us of our _____ in Christ. Through faith in Jesus, believers are fellow members of the Church.

In chapter 3, Paul explains further about this special group, and he offers prayer for them. In following Paul's pattern, we should pray for ...

1. _____ (vv 14-16)
2. _____ (v 17a)
3. _____ (vv 17b-18)
4. _____ (v 19)

Prayer based on Ephesians 3:

Father, I pray for me and _____. I pray that out of your glorious riches you may strengthen us with power through your Spirit in our inner being. May Christ feel at home in our hearts through faith. I pray that we, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge. I pray that we may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Amen.

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



January 12 - January 16

INTRODUCTION:

Part of our purpose and strategy as a church is to Edify and Equip (E2) every believer. We desire to see every person take their next step with God, both individually as well as with families and small groups (E2 Communities). This devotional is to aid us in just that. We invite you to join us in daily devotion.

OVERVIEW:

Monday and Tuesday's readings will be a follow up on Sunday's message from, January 11th, "Following on our Knees", with Pastor Doug Lyon. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on January 18th, "Living Life Together", with Pastor Doug Lyon.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE:

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever
Hebrews 13:8