

## MONDAY 11.24.25 - Luke 18:1-8

Jesus gives a parable to His followers, encouraging them to pray. But what does it mean “always to pray” or to “pray without ceasing” (1 Thess. 5:17)? It certainly doesn’t mean that we should constantly be repeating prayers, because Jesus warned against that kind of practice (Matt. 6:5-15). Rather, it means to make prayer as natural to us as our regular breathing. Prayer should be the habit of our lives—the atmosphere in which we continually live.

In the parable, Jesus shares a series of contrasts. God is not like the unjust judge. God is a loving Father who is attentive to His children’s cries. He is generous in His gifts, concerned about our needs, and ready to answer when we call. Whenever we send a request that is in His will (1 John 5:14-15), God begins to work. We might not see it immediately, but the answer will come.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## TUESDAY 11.25.25 - Colossians 1:9-12

<sup>9</sup>For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives,<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>10</sup>so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, <sup>11</sup>being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, <sup>12</sup>and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you<sup>[b]</sup> to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.

Sometimes I ask people, “what I can do for you?” and they say, “Nothing I’m going to be okay”, to which I will say “Okay well let me pray for you” the thought being, if there is nothing else I can do, at least I can pray. Let me tell you, that is a terrible way of thinking. Prayer is one the most powerful tools a Christian has at their disposal. Think about it! The God of the universe has granted us the privilege of coming into His very presence to present our requests to Him.

What’s more, He not only hears us, but He cares about us and wants to go to work on our behalf.

That my friend is a powerful privilege. Commit yourself to becoming more of a prayer warrior today, remembering, prayer is a powerful tool, and most assuredly “not the least you can do”.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## WEDNESDAY 11.26.25 - Ephesians 2:1-7

Having described our spiritual possessions in Christ (1:3-14), Paul turns to a complimentary truth—our spiritual position in Christ (2:1-22). First, he explains what God has done for sinners in general. Then he explains what God has done for Gentiles in particular. The sinner who trusts in Christ has been given spiritual life. No wonder this is called the “good news” of Jesus Christ! No longer are we dead and condemned. Now we are alive and blessed! This what we call being “born again” and made alive in the eyes of God. Charles Wesley’s hymn “And Can It Be” paints a vivid picture of God’s miraculous work of spiritual resurrection:

*Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night.  
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray:  
I woke—the dungeon flamed with light!  
My chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.*

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## THURSDAY 11.27.25 - Ezekiel 36.26

If you are a born-again Christian, you are a messenger carrying good news to those around you. The good news that our God

reigns and that Jesus has conquered sin and death on our behalf is the message we should have ready to share. Every one of us has a “mission field”. Whether you are a student, a professional, a parent or a neighbor, there is someone in your life who needs to hear your good news. Getting that person to listen to you begins with your actions, not your words. If you genuinely love your neighbor who doesn’t yet know Jesus as his savior, take every opportunity to show them compassion and kindness. I have neighbors that God has placed in my life, that I pray for daily, and look for ways to show them the love of Christ. They are my “mission field”. Who is yours?

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## FRIDAY 11.28.25 - Psalm 51:10

This has been a favorite verse for years. Of course, reading it brings to mind that first love, the time when Christ first became so real and the spirit opened the heart to believe and entered in, filling to the brim, never again to leave. That was the time when God came into your life, as he did to mine, and changed your heart. Remember that time?

Yet over the years, did you slip and fall backwards, even a little? Likely so. This verse speaks to reclaiming the fellowship with the God of the universe, too. When we are too comfortable and forget God, as He said we would; or when we give in to temptation, as He knows we will; this verse is our heart’s cry. Give me a clean heart, oh God, and renew that steadfast spirit in me!

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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## 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- begins Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>.  
**EXPLORE THE BIBLE:**  
**Matthew 1-13**  
We learn what to do in life by watching the example of one who's walked that path already. For Christ followers, we have no greater example than what we see in the life of Jesus. you'll get a firsthand account of what it's like to walk with Jesus each day-and learn what it means to become a citizen of God's
- LOCATION: B11 – Dave Delcamp – begins Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>.  
**BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE:**  
**Limited Resources, Limitless God**  
God never intended for us to stand alone but to rely on Him. When we look to Him, we discover that our all-gracious and limitless God is more than enough to help us live life to the fullest.
- ADVENT by Derwin Gray** - EVENING STUDY  
Wednesdays at 6:30pm - 12/3, 10, & 17. Rm B8-10.  
Reflect on our Savior, his purpose, and the surprising ways he invited people near to him.  
Led by Barry Wills.

### SUNDAY EVENINGS - 6:00pm

- Kids** MESSIAH KIDS (Kindergarten – 4th Grade)  
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
- Youth** YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)  
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)
- Adults** LOCATION: Worship Center  
**CONGREGATIONAL DINNER (FAC)  
& MEETING 11/23 at 5pm**

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

## Ephesians 1:15-23 Knowing God

While under house arrest in Rome, Paul writes to the Ephesian Church in AD 60—about five years after he left Ephesus. Paul writes this letter to promote love and unity.

The Book of Ephesians is about the Church—the Body of Christ. In chapters 1-3, Paul presents The Riches of the Church. In chapters 4-6, Paul presents The Responsibilities of the Church.

After Paul describes the spiritual blessings God has given to the Church (1:3-14), Paul launches into a prayer to God for the Body of Christ (1:15-23). This prayer is one of several prayers that Paul prays in his Prison Epistles. We find the other prayers in Ephesians 3:14-21, Philippians 1:9-11, and Colossians 1:9-12.

Paul prays that believers will ...

1. Know \_\_\_\_\_ (v 17b)
2. Know God's \_\_\_\_\_ (v 18a)
3. Know God's \_\_\_\_\_ (vv 18b)
4. Know God's \_\_\_\_\_ (vv 19-23)

Prayer based on Ephesians 1:

*Father, I pray for \_\_\_\_\_. May you give them the spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that they may know you better. I pray that the eyes of their heart may be enlightened in order that they may know the hope to which you have called them, the riches of your glorious inheritance in your holy people, and your incomparably great power for us who believe. Amen.*

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



November 24 – November 28

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 November 23<sup>rd</sup>, "Knowing God", with Pastor Doug Lyon. Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on November 30<sup>th</sup>, "From Death to Life", with Pastor Doug Lyon.

KEY/MEMORY VERSE:

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