



February 19, 2023

Pastor Note:

I want you to think with me about prayer for a minute or two. Prayer is an incredible invitation, one of the great privileges of life. God inviting us into His presence to listen to us and to speak to us, God granting us access to Himself, encouraging us to ask of Him, to draw on His wealth of resources including His knowledge, wisdom, power, goodness, and ability to provide.

Prayer is absolutely essential for anyone serious about living a life with God, anyone who is serious about following Jesus Christ. The most foundational teaching on prayer is given by Jesus in Matthew 6:5-14 and Luke 11:1-13.

Pray, then, in this way:

Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

[For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.] Matthew 6:9-13 (NASB)

Entire books have been written on the “Lord’s Prayer,” but I want to highlight three of the most basic things it teaches us about prayer: Who to pray to? Why pray? and, What to ask for?

- Who to pray to?
There is only one true and living God. Praying to anyone or anything else might feel spiritual or religious, but it is futile. The universe, a creation of God, cannot answer a single prayer. Praying to an idol, statue, saint, ancestor, prophet, or angel is not just an empty exercise but also an affront to God. We are not free to decide who God is, we are, however, invited to acknowledge Him as God, our heavenly Father, the singular God of eternity and glory, who has granted us access through God the Son, Jesus Christ, and who helps us in our praying through God the Holy Spirit.
- Why pray?
First of all, to keep God front and center, to make sure we make life about Him, His honor, His glory, His will, and His kingdom. Before we make a single request, prayer is meant to focus us on God, to align ourselves with what is important

to Him, and to pursue the knowing and doing of His will. If we are not focused on God and His will but on what we want or think we need, we might end up asking for all the wrong things.

Before asking God for anything we need to hear from Him, have Him speak to us about His kingdom (rule) and His will. So we pray because prayer is stepping into the presence of God, it focuses our eyes, heart, and mind on God, it allows us to hear from God, helps us to know the will of God, and then we are in a good position to make our requests and ask away.

- What to ask for?
There are eight requests in the “Lord’s Prayer”: That God would be glorified/hallowed, for His kingdom to come, for His will to be done on earth, His provision for our daily needs, for Him to forgive us, to aid us in forgiving others, to keep us from and help us with navigating temptations, and for deliverance from evil and the evil one (satan). Talk about comprehensive, a lot more and much broader than our usual asking, which too often is centered on our health, safety, finances, struggles, and comfort. God’s honor, kingdom, and will.

We are also wise not to forget the very first word, “our.” That’s thinking about others right from the outset. If we want to be good at asking for the right things in prayer our praying needs to be about God, we, and me. Me-centered praying has the wrong center, quickly reduces God to a genie in a bottle or a crisis hotline, lacks concern for others, and forgets that what I think is best might not be what God thinks is best or what is best for others.

One last thing, Jesus, teaching His disciples on praying said, “**When you pray**” (Luke 11:2a), not “if.” Two things are required if we want to pray well, learning from God’s word (the Bible) what good praying looks like, and actually praying, daily, often, everywhere, anytime, and continually.

To God be all glory. Love you, Pastor Hans



Lord Hear Our Prayers

PRAYER REQUEST

Health: Karen Souza, Shirley Wolfenbarger,
Mabel Mayes, JoEllen, Jim & Gabi Cox, Sue Hankemeier,
Rickie Jeffers,
Family and Friends, Our Church's Ministries,

SALVATION

Nick, Greg, David, Phillip, Luke, Skip, Demetrius McCray,
Farney, John Boykin, Peter, Mariah Ellis, Jimmy,
Shyrlee Stagner, Dan, Josiah, Amanda, Jim

Military And Those Serving

Michael Berger, Austin Downing, Mike Sharland,
Noah Martin, Rebekah Wilhelmy, John Michael Chavez,
Chris Kelly, Austin Kroeker, Dylan Werner, Brian Sula,
Michael Thomasson, Thomas Hoffman, Joel Thelen,
Clayton Brown, Jonathan Grinols, Joshua Grabowski,
Christopher Sula

CARD & FLOWER MINISTRY

If you know of anyone who is ill or hospitalized, please let us
know by calling: **Lynnette Barrera** – (559)400-1862
and/or an e-mail to: **BATTprayer@yahoo.com**

Prayers:

Order of Service 02-19-23

“We Declare”

Opening Prayer-Welcome

Scripture Reading - Acts 4:23-33(NLT2)

“Lord Reign in Me”

“I Will Follow”

“Spirit of the Living God”

Kids Time

Offering // **“A Thousand Hallelujahs”**

Sermon

Response // **“Hear My/Our Prayer”**

Fellowship Song

Closing Prayer

Being a Church that Cares Well

Training coming soon...

Why?

“The American church is facing an abuse crisis. Is your church doing all it can to be safe for survivors and safe from abuse? Churches should be a refuge for those who have experienced abuse. But, too often, survivors haven't found the protection they deserve and the care they need from the church. Are you ready to join us in changing that?”

Yes. We are committed to being a safe place for everyone from babies to elderly and we will continue to keep ourselves educated and trained in order to be able to love, love, love. In order for that we will have once-a-month trainings for 4 months for our church staff, Deacons, Board, Children and Youth Leaders, Women's Leaders, Men's Leader, and Food Basket Leaders, and any other adult that may be interested in attending. Each meeting will be at the church from 6:30-8:30 pm.

Meeting 1: 2/13/23

Meeting 2: 3/13/23

Meeting 3: 4/10/23

Meeting 4: 5/08/23

The videos are survivor stories, educational training, and explaining why the church's response to abuse is a Gospel issue (meeting #1).

In addition to providing these monthly meetings, our leaders and administration will commit to protecting our children and church by training as Mandated Reporters and have a live scan background check.

If you would like to join our monthly meetings, please let Susie Frei know so there is a seat for you (skfrei@gmail.com or 209-247-9234) or let Jannett know.

February Announcements

Upcoming Events

- Men's Gathering - Tuesdays @ 6:00 P.M.
- **Wednesday Night Bible Study for all ages - 7:00 P.M.**
- Food Ministry - 1st Wed. & 3rd Tues. @ 9:00 AM - 11:00 A.M.
- Communion Sunday - February 26th (Food Ministry)

Fellowship Time Snacks
were provided

By - *Beverly's class & Youth*

Thank you

Next week Merle's Class is up!!

A Bit of
Humor
Corner



6-14
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By
JEFF
KEANE

"God WILL answer all our prayers.
But you never know if it's gonna
be a 'yes' or a 'no.'"

Giving

February 12, 2023

Offering:
\$3,751.00

Food:
\$60.00

Facilities:
\$.00

Books/Material:
\$117.00

Attendance:
85

Weekly Events

Sunday School/Small Groups:

9:00 AM

Sunday Morning Worship Service:

10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Worship Service:

6:00 PM

Tuesday: Men's Gathering: 6:00 PM

1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday

Food Ministry:

9:00 AM - 11:00 PM

Wednesday:

Women's Bible Study - 10:00 AM
Bible Study/Small Group - 7:00 PM
Grief Share - 6:30 PM (On Hiatus)

Thursday: Chicken Foot - 1:00 PM

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S H A R E



1 Timothy 6:18



February 20th thru February 26th

DAY 1 - Romans 9
(Psalms 20)

DAY 2 - Romans 10
(Psalms 21)

DAY 3 - Romans 11
(Psalms 22)

DAY 4 - Romans 12
(Psalms 23)

DAY 5 - Romans 13
(Psalms 24)

DAY 6 - (Psalms 25)
DAY 7 - (Psalms 26)

Welcome all of you who are guests with us today. Our desire is for you to relax and be blessed by worship, God's Word, and fellowship. We, the members, have committed ourselves to underwrite the church financially. We do not expect you to contribute to the offering, but you are free to participate. We would like to get to know you and for you to know us better.