

### Paul's Prayer Is Mine

As you read the New Testament take time to notice how often Paul tells others he is praying for them. He not only prayed for them but asked that they pray for him (1 Thess. 5:25). It is often in prayer that we see the soul of the one who is praying. This is so obvious in Paul's prayer for the church at Colosse. Read Colossians 1:9-11 and note the nine things he was praying would happen in the lives of those great Christians.

He prayed that they might:

- (1) Be filled with the knowledge of His will
- (2) Have wisdom
- (3) Have understanding
- (4) Walk worthy of the Lord
- (5) Be pleasing to the Lord
- (6) Be fruitful in every good work
- (7) Be increasing in the knowledge of God
- (8) Be strengthened by His glorious power
- (9) Have patience, longsuffering, and joy

Read the list again and visualize what would happen when this prayer was answered!

~Dan Jenkins

**And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. Eph. 4:11-16)**

### Kennewick Church of Christ

3926 W. Kennewick Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336  
509-783-4013

Website: [www.Kennewickcofc.com](http://www.Kennewickcofc.com)

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ

Church Email: [kenncoc@gmail.com](mailto:kenncoc@gmail.com)

#### Meeting Times:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am

Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

#### Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; [ccbotts@hotmail.com](mailto:ccbotts@hotmail.com)  
LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; [Vern.engelke@gmail.com](mailto:Vern.engelke@gmail.com)

#### Minister:

Bill Gregory (360)710-0449  
[billgreg67@gmail.com](mailto:billgreg67@gmail.com)

Bill Gregory's office hours are from 10:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. (Please call to make sure he is in before stopping by)

Attendance 03/07: 37

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution: 03/07: N/A

March 14, 2021

### KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



### Look What Jesus Did When He Was Hurting

*"C'mon, life! Gimme a break, would you!"* Are you tired? Are you discouraged? Are you ready to give up? Does it seem like everything is against you? Are people and circumstances pushing you into deep loneliness or deep frustration or both? What should you do? Answer: Do what Jesus did!

Take a few minutes and think through the life of Jesus. What did Jesus do when He grew tired, discouraged, disappointed, lonely and frustrated? What did Jesus do when people and circumstances were out to get Him? There is much for us to learn.

When Jesus was awakened to the faithlessness of His friends, He went and helped two men who were having a really bad day (Matt. 8:23-32). When Jesus was told to go away and that He was not wanted (although He had just done a good deed), He went and cheered up another man (Matt. 9:1-7). When Jesus was interrupted and taken advantage of, He turned and was kind to the person who disrupted what He was doing (Matt. 9:18-22).

When critics continued to accuse Jesus for doing things they didn't like, He found a man who was hurting and made a positive difference in his life (Matt. 12:9-13). When His enemies were plotting against Him and trying to do away with Him, Jesus withdrew from them and helped some others (Matt. 12:14-15). When some of those closest to Him were offended at Him, He still sought to do nice things for them (Matt. 13:53-58), and when they wanted nothing to do with Him, Jesus went and did good to another man (Luke 4:16-37).

When Jesus felt like He needed to pull back to Himself, especially after repeated frustrations and personal loss, He actually was moved with compassion for others who were hurting and He did what He could to help them, even serving them a meal (Matt. 14:1-21). When those closest to Him continued to struggle with various things, He went out of His way to encourage them and lend them a hand (Matt. 14:22-33).

Even in His darkest moment—when most people would surely have turned inward by now and would be focused on self and would be ready to give up due to discouragement and frustration—Jesus was concerned about others (Luke 23:34, 43) and Jesus was taking care of others (John 19:25-27).

What do we learn from Jesus? What does Jesus teach us to do when life seems unfair and falling in on us, when we get tired and discouraged and disappointed and lonely? The lesson that rings loud and clear throughout the life of Jesus is to get up, go out and... *Serve others. Do good unto others. Help others. When it would be easy to focus on self, instead focus on other people.* That's what Jesus did.

~David Sproule

<b>Keep These Dates in Mind</b>	<b>February Birthdays and Anniversaries</b>					
<p>Since we have entered into this time of uncertainty with those in the government asking us to keep our assemblies to a minimum and to use caution and discretion as we meet, any activities that may be planned will be announced in a timely fashion a week before they are planned to happen and will be put out on the call multiplier.</p> <p>Sandy Gray has volunteered to put out an informational email during the week to update the church of immediate prayer needs or information that needs to be disseminated before/in-between our scheduled meeting times. If you wish to be on this list, please contact her and give her your email information.</p>	<p>Sammie Engelke 3/7 Tom &amp; Thelma Gritzan 3/14 Doris Pennington 3/15 Faye Henry 3/17 Pansy Caywood 3/20 Fran Gregory 3/20 Lucy Larsen 3/23</p>					
<p><b>Ongoing Health issues:</b> Pansy Caywood, Shirley Childers, Marilyn Davis, Sandy Gray, Fran Henniger, Linda Lafferty, Pat Lindsay, Karen McBurney, Lupe Mendoza, Shannon Mendoza,, Tami Pennington, Eunice Petros, Helen Pierce Michael Stimson, Jim Preston</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bible Studies</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td data-bbox="522 392 777 556"> <p><b>Adult Bible Classes</b> Sunday a - Judges Sunday p - Romans Wed p - John</p> </td> <td data-bbox="777 392 980 556"> <p><b>Youth Classes</b> Classroom Wing <b>Teen Class</b> - Teen Room</p> </td> <td data-bbox="980 392 1235 556"> <p><b>Ladies Class</b> Thursday 10:00 a</p> </td> </tr> </table>			<p><b>Adult Bible Classes</b> Sunday a - Judges Sunday p - Romans Wed p - John</p>	<p><b>Youth Classes</b> Classroom Wing <b>Teen Class</b> - Teen Room</p>	<p><b>Ladies Class</b> Thursday 10:00 a</p>
<p><b>Adult Bible Classes</b> Sunday a - Judges Sunday p - Romans Wed p - John</p>	<p><b>Youth Classes</b> Classroom Wing <b>Teen Class</b> - Teen Room</p>	<p><b>Ladies Class</b> Thursday 10:00 a</p>				



**In Our Prayers**

**Barbara Harmon** went home to God on Thursday March 11, 2021. There will be a memorial held at a date to be determined later. Bob is still in the assisted living in Kennewick. Bob and Barbara will be remembered for all the service that they gave to God in various capacities during their lives as Christians. I Please keep Bob and the Tipps family in your prayers.

**Wanda Danley's** surgery went well and was a bit more extensive than expected, but she is doing fine.

**Ron Stephens** is rehab to regain some strength before he will be allowed to come home.

**Linda Lafferty** is suffering from an infection and was in the hospital until at least Thursday. (I haven't heard any updates since then). Please keep Bill, Linda, and Jasmine in your prayers during this illness.

() () () () ()

**Be faithful unto death and I will give you the crown of life. He who has an ear left him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.**

**Our Ministries**

**Mountain States Children's Home**

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. (James 1:27)

**Peru Ministry** - Oscar and Anna Maria in Peru

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the son and of the Holy Spirit

**Food Pantry** - Our food pantry is located in the small room next to the library.

"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed." (Proverbs 19:17)

**Incredibly Strong and Weak**

"Afterward it happened that he loved a woman in the Valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah. And the lords of the Philistines came up to her and said to her, 'Entice him, and find out where his great strength lies, and by what means we may overpower him, that we may bind him to afflict him; and every one of us will give you eleven hundred pieces of silver'" (Judges 16:4-5).

Because of the evil they had done, God delivered Israel over to the Philistines who oppressed them for 40 years (Judges 13:1). God raised up Samson to deliver Israel from the Philistines (Judges 13:2-25). Samson is mentioned as being a great man of faith (Hebrews 11:32), but he is also a man who struggled with his own weaknesses, sexual temptations, which eventually led to his demise.

As the opening verses above indicate, Samson loved a Philistine woman named Delilah (Judges 16:4). Earlier, he had married a Philistine woman (Judges 14:1-4). After his wife was given to another man and eventually killed by the Philistines (Judges 15:1-6), Samson goes to the Philistine city of Gaza and has sexual relations with a harlot at the time he was judging Israel (Judges 15:20; 16:1). He then enters a relationship with Delilah who entices him to reveal the secret of his strength (Judges 16:15-18). She then has his head shaven.

Samson's strength leaves him as the Lord departs from him. The Philistines capture him and put out his eyes (Judges 16:19-21).

As I look at this account, it is easy to see that Samson was physically incredibly strong. However, spiritually, he was incredibly weak when it came to his ability to withstand sexual temptations. Because he did not control these sexual desires, but rather let these desires control him, time and time again, we see him committing sexual sins (cf. James 1:14-15).

As I consider myself and how this applies to me, I need to be mindful of areas in my life where I am spiritually weak and be aware of sinful desires with which I may struggle and need to keep under control. I need to realize how the devil uses these desires to lead me astray. All of us struggle with inappropriate desires that lead to sin. Samson struggled with sexual desires. Delilah struggled with love of money. She was willing to hand Samson, a man who loved her (Judges 16:4), over to the Philistines for 1100 pieces of silver (Judges 16:5). The sinful desires with which you struggle most are probably not the same ones with which I struggle. Even though he struggled with these desires and fell into sin, God was still able to use Samson to accomplish his purposes to deliver Israel from the Philistines (Judges 16:4). Even though Samson time and time again fell into sexual sin, he still displayed great faith in God (Hebrews 11:32) when at the end of his life he calls on God to give him strength one last time that he may push the pillars of the temple of the Philistines down causing its destruction, his death, and the death of 3000 Philistines (Judges 16:28-30). None of this excuses Samson's sin. It just shows that God can use people, who struggle with their weaknesses and display faith in Him, to accomplish great things.

Today, I will rejoice that God can use me even though I struggle with my own weaknesses. I will strive to guard against temptation, especially being mindful of my own inappropriate desires and how these lead to sin. I will seek the way of escape from temptation which God has provided!

"Therefore, let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it" (1 Corinthians 10:12-13)

~Daily Devo, Susquehanna Valley Church of Christ, March 8, 2021