
Pleasant View church of Christ
2500 Highway 49 East
P.O. Box 189
Pleasant View, TN 37146

Sunday School: 9:30
A.M. Worship: 10:30
P.M. Worship: 6:00
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm
Phone: 924-9714

Psalm 32:1-2
“How blessed is he whose
transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered! How
blessed is the man to whom
the Lord does not impute
iniquity, and in whose spirit
there is no deceit.”

*“How few are there who have courage enough
to own their faults, or resolution enough to
mend them.”*

Benjamin Franklin

*“Resolution One: I will live for God. Resolution
Two: If no one else does, I still will.”*

Jonathan Edwards

The Power of Prayer

Someone asked the question, “What if you only received today what you thanked God for yesterday?” The honest answer from most people would have to be, “I wouldn’t have much.” Yet, God blessed you today. Here is another interesting aspect of prayer: What if you only asked for “daily bread”? What if you only asked God to bless you with the necessities of life? I suppose that for most people, that prayer has been answered every day of their lives. Yet, we tend to highlight the times God does not answer our particular requests. And one more question regarding your prayer life: What have you prayed for more than anything else in your life? I have no idea

what that answer might be, but many people fail to pray about their families, churches, health, relationships, etc....but they *never* forget to pray before they eat.

Prayer is private (Matt. 6:6). Prayer is personal (I John 1:9-2:1). Prayer is powerful (James 5:16-18). Prayer brings peace (Phil. 4:6-7). Prayer involves praise (Matt. 6:9). Through prayer, God affects our lives according to His will (I John 5:14). That process is called providence—the way God intervenes in our lives through natural means.

Even though Jesus’ disciples had prayed their entire lives, they asked Jesus how to pray. To them, He was an expert in the field. The man who

could raise the dead, heal the sick, and calm the storm chose to pray chose not to do any of those things on many occasions, choosing rather to pray. If the most powerful person devoted Himself to prayer in that way, shouldn’t the least powerful people—us—have the same interest in prayer?

“But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind” (James 1:5-6).

James Hayes

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

To Work Together For Good

December 30, 2012

Issue 92

Jack P. Lewis, biblical scholar and preacher in churches of Christ, noted a particular grain harvest that was devastated during his childhood in "As I Remember It: An Autobiography": "The grain had done well and was ready to cut, but a hailstorm developed in the afternoon. In a few minutes, the ground was as white as if it had snowed. The wheat was beaten to the ground. The year was lost. We gathered up the hailstones and used them to freeze ice cream. That was better than crying." (p. 25).

It is not always easy to find the silver lining. Sometimes the glass is half empty. We expect our days to be filled

with joy; I know that's true because we seem shocked when things go badly. But there is some good that can be cultivated from any trial. Dr. Lewis' family could have blamed God for ruining their crop, but instead they collected what God sent them and used it for good. James said that trials always have a beneficial result. "Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing" (1:2-4).

Paul expanded that thought to include the work of

God: "And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose" (Rom. 8:28). In context, Paul is speaking of an eternal "good" that will be given to all believers. But we also see an immediate "good" that God gives us when we can only see misery.

Robert Kennedy said, "Tragedy is a tool for the living to gain wisdom, not a guide by which to live." The wisdom we gain when we see the blessings of God in tragedy will hold us up when the darkness returns.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Continue to remember those who are sick or recovering: The Browns, Jay Newell, Sue Clymore, Kristine Garrett, Eddie Ray Walker, JW Head, and Steve Buchanan.
 - Send an email to Janet Tabor (jtabor@realtracs.com) so she can distribute church information.
 - Being the last Sunday of 2012, ask yourself: What can I do to serve God better in 2013 than I did in 2012?
-

Building Fund Contribution Is Today Resolve To Be More Faithful In 2013

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: L. Newell

Pray: Billingsley

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: E. Walker

Serve: Demonbreum, J.L. Shelton, Terry

Pray: F. Brown