



SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVI

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No. 12

Praying During the Sermon

In a recent evangelistic sermon, I heard David Sproule speak to those assembled and told them that he had been praying specifically for them. As I listened, I thought of the great impact it would have if every Christian did this. At that point of the sermon, I began to pray the same prayer.

Have we not all sung, “While we pray and while we plead; while you see your soul’s deep need; will you not my brother come?” However, is this true? How often do we sing these words, telling the lost who are in the assembly that we are praying and pleading with them to respond? Is it possible that we may never have been praying that the lost might respond and told them that is precisely what we were doing?

That decision made it so much easier to follow what was being said. I began to listen to the message from the viewpoint of the lost and in my prayers I became part of their lives.

When the church began, they were forbidden to preach or teach anyone about Jesus. It had to be exciting as they had seen the church grow into thousands of members. Consider what they did. They came together to pray for those who were teaching others, that they might boldly present God’s message (Acts 4:32). Can you imagine how this impacted those who prayed, whenever they next listened to the gospel being preached to the lost?

Almost every preacher has had to deal with those who listen to the sermon to find some misspoken word. Every week, when they exit, they usually tell the preacher how he could have improved the lesson. When individuals do this week after week you wonder how much they are truly worshiping during the preaching of the sermon. Constructive criticism is so helpful, but constant critiques of every sermon is so discouraging.

On the other hand, those comments and private emails are one of the greatest joys. Words like: "Thank you for this lesson, it really helped me"; "Thank you for the way you used the Bible, I am a better person because I heard it"; "I want you to know that I was praying for you today"; "Thank you. My friend was not here to hear this message, but I am sending a copy of it."

Be honest. Be sincere. Be that person like Barnabas who helped Paul so much, but he did not have to be in the forefront to encourage.

So let me suggest you just do what I did. Pray for the preacher and the lost during a sermon. It changed me. So, when he preaches a lesson directed to Christians, do not pray for others, pray for yourself!

*Dan Jenkins
Palm Beach Lakes Church of Christ
West Palm Beach, FL*

The Gospel of Christ

Don't forget that we are sponsoring the broadcast of this TV program. It comes on every Sunday morning on Fox16 at 9:30 AM.

Congregational News & Notes

Prayer Requested

Members

Harold Davis, Mary Bolen
Ron and Nadine McDonald,
Sandra Jordan, Fredie Stewart,
Cindy Kidder, Garmelia Ellis,
Roberta Donaldson, Lisa Dukes,
Doug Crouse, Norma Cogdell
Margie Montgomery, Sue Harris,
Betty Mosely, Teriyaki Anderson
James Morris, Freeman Kidder,
Andy Vaughn, Pearl Johnson,
Ken & Paula Wadley, Judy Ellis
Charles & Ruby Malone,
Phillip Mulins, Gordon Love,
Jerry Crabb, Vazzanna Mullins,
Karen Chance

Friends & Family

Horace Yearwood, Helen Morris
Beverly Martindale,
Allen Thompson
Gladys Gowan, Diane Hubbard,
Shirley Bolin, Brandi Rogers,
Jeanette Manley, Corey Allen
Kenton Lancaster, Glenn Lovell,
Marilyn Ferrell, Justin Puckett
Ramona Thurston, April Richey
David & Nell Briley, Chris Buford

Today's Sermons

AM - Some Things to
Remember
Ecclesiastes 12:1

PM - Hymns of the Faith
Wonderful Words of Life
John 6:68

Happenings

South Jackson

April 16

Men's Business Meeting

Cards to Send

Karen Chance
36 Parkburg Road
Jackson, TN 38301

Vezanna Mulins
685 Chester Levee Road
Jackson, TN 38301

Weekly Record

6 AM	5
Bible Class	57/3
AM Worship	87/27
PM Worship	62/26
Wed Bible Study	61/8
Contribution	4207

Pantry Item

Green Beans

*"Success is not final
Failure is not fatal
It is the courage to continue
that Counts"*

Winston Churchill

Those Privileged to Serve

Mar 19 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - J. Butcher, M. Wages

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture:

Charlie Richardson

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Marion Thomas

Communion: Paul Hatcher

Contribution:

Jerry Butcher

Mar 26 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - R. Pack, J. Smith

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Malik James

Opening Prayer:

Marion Thomas

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Greg Long

Communion: Ken Ross

Contribution:

Jeff Bliss

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Opening Prayer: Greg Long

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Joe Venable

Communion: Paul Hatcher

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer: Joe Venable

Sermon: Singing Night

Closing Prayer: Paul Hatcher

Communion: Ken Ross

Mar 22 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Devo - Asa Jopson

Mar 29 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Ken Ross

Devo - Marion Thomas

South Jackson Church of Christ

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(731) 437-9501

Service Times

Early Worship	6:00 AM
Gospel of Christ - Fox 16	9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Class	9:30 AM
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday PM Worship	5:00 PM
Midweek Bible Study	6:30 PM