



New Life Christian Community

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Cor 5:17

Sunday, September 22, 2019

Vol. 12, Issue 50

PASTORAL PONDERING

Prayer

What motivates you to pray? What is prayer to you? Do you struggle to pray?

On the topic of prayer, I have been greatly impacted by a man named George Muller. He was a pastor in the 1800's in London. He is famously known for establishing a large orphanage in Bristol, England where every penny of the funding during the 60 years he ran it came only by means of prayer that the Lord would provide. Thousands of times the orphanage would go into a mealtime with nothing to eat and at the designated time when they were to gather and eat, there was a knock at the door with the food they needed. Thousands of times he records in his journal of not having the financial means to pay for what was needed, and in the moment of need, there it was provided. So specific were the answers that not one child ever had a need unmet or any knowledge of any lack. George was a man known for great faith, and when he prayed, seemingly miraculous answers were often seen. Were this man's prayers more effective than others? Did he have a special gift of faith incomparable to what any of us have?

Muller describes his faith in this way; *"Think not dear reader that I have some special gift of faith above and beyond another, and because of that I am able to trust God more. From my inmost soul I do ascribe it to God alone that He has enabled me to trust in Him, and He has not suffered my conscience in Him to fail."*

God continually worked in and through Muller in all circumstances of life to grow him in trust of God's provision through prayer. But what was Muller's prayer life like?

Muller comments on prayer in some of his writings. He describes prayer in this way; *"When we pray, we speak to God. Now prayer, in order to be continued for any length of time in any other than a formal manner, requires, generally speaking, a measure of strength or godly desire, and the season, therefore, when this exercise of the soul can be most effectually performed is after the inner man has been nourished by meditation of the Word of God, where we find our Father speaking to us, to encourage us, to comfort us, to instruct us, to humble us, to reprove us."*

Outside of formal times of prayers such as before dinner or at bedtime or during a particularly difficult season of life, what will aid in this day-to-day, hour-to-hour conversation with the Lord Jesus? Muller's answer is meditation on the living and active Word of God.

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PASTORAL PONDERING

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He says also about prayer that, *“as plain to me as anything, that the first thing a child of God should do morning by morning is to obtain food for the inner man.”* This food for the inner man is the Word of God. Read the Word, think on the Word, delight in the Word, and then from that food, pray according to and in light of truths of the Word. In practicing this, Muller said that after spending a few moments in the Word of God reading and thinking about it, he was brought to encouragement, conviction, repentance, joy, and hope, which led into prayer. His soul was fed, and for the rest of the day, in the little things and the big things, he made everything a matter of prayer.

Do you think your prayers aren't that effective? Wise words from a faithful preacher from the past would say that effective prayer begins with the meditation of God's word. There you will find, correction, reproof, reminders of Gospel truths, etc., and be led into prayer.

What then is the result? Will it be the answer you were hoping for? Maybe, but most certainly prayer will always be a conversation with your Heavenly Father who sustains you by His Word in all things. The effect then in prayer is the Spirit's work in our hearts to move us to a biblical perspective of the situation we are facing and to remind us of the ultimate hope we have in our Savior. Let the meditation of the Word of God lead you to pray. When you pray, pray in faith, and be watchful, anticipating the goodness and kindness of your Savior to answer according to His wisdom and pleasure. In this way, when you see how He answers, your faith will be strengthened to pray all the more boldly.

Let us be a people that make everything a matter of prayer,
Pastor Paul Linzmeier



Announcements and Upcoming Events

THINGS TO KNOW:

- ❖ If you are a visitor this morning or have only been coming to New Life for a few months please stop by the **Resource Center** this morning to pick up a welcome gift we have for you which includes more information about who we are, what we believe, and what Jesus is doing here at New Life!
- ❖ We have a **Time of Prayer**, weekly on **Sunday mornings @ 8:30-9:00am** in the large classroom. Everyone is encouraged to come. Specific topics to pray for are: ministry teams, missionaries, bible studies, immerse classes, and really anything impressed on our heart. The goal is that the needs at New Life might be made more known and prayed for and that the saints might have another opportunity to gather on a consistent basis to pray. We serve a gracious God who hears our prayers! Let us make every effort to gather often and pray.
- ❖ The next **Hall of Men** is **Sunday, September 29th @ 6:30pm** in the banquet area. Looking forward to seeing the hand of Christ in another man of the Faith from the past.
- ❖ Have you considered participating in a bible study? Another practical way (though not limited to) in which we can meet together other than Sunday Morning is by attending a bible study. Check out the **Schedule Of Events** on the calendar in the lobby or those listed in the newsletter. Currently there are 4 Bible studies taking place as well as 3 additional classes on Wednesday Immerse Nights. If you're interested in starting a bible study be sure to take a look at some of the helpful tools in the resource center to get you started.
- ❖ There's a way to get connected! We have a private **New Life Connect** website where prayer requests can be shared, needs can be posted, and where announcements with event details are often highlighted. If you're interested, let one of the pastors or elders know to get signed up.

MISSIONARY FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT

Take a moment this week to reach out to one of our missionary families at New Life. You can find their information on the Missionary board in the back of the sanctuary or on the New Life website under the Community tab then click Adopt a Missionary or under the Ministry Tab and then click on Overseas Missions. You don't even need to have previously met them. A simple card or email letting them know you are praying for them and care about them goes further than you can imagine. This is one very practical way to fulfill Jesus command to 'love one another' for our missionaries.

Upcoming Sunday Potluck/Meal Teams:

September 29 Meal Team #2
October 6 Potluck Team #2

Fellowship and a meal follow our service today ... Please stay and join us!

Pastoral Eldership Team:

Pastor Tony Minell	715.417.1982
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Dale Mattson	715.566.2302
Greg Mattson	715.417.2444
Rene Milner	715.557.0185
Jim Nelson	651.283.2132

Schedule of Events Week of September 22-28

Tues Men's Bible Study 5:30 am
(Our Place Café - SCF)
Wed Women's Bible Study 12:30 pm
Wed Immerse Classes 6:15-7:30 pm
Thurs Men's Bible Study 6:30 am
Thurs Ladies Bible Study 9:30/10 am
Thurs Adult/Youth GriefShare 6:30-8:30 pm

September Memory Verse:

Isaiah 43:25

"I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins." ESV

September Fellowship Tip:

Take a moment this week to bless and reach out to one of our missionaries or perhaps a missionary that you or your family can send an email, greeting card, or even make a phone or Skype call.



Today's Passage:

Pastor Paul's message is from the Old Testament book,

[Hebrews 1:10-2:1](#)

Sermon Notes:

Address: 201 State Road 35 N, Dresser, WI ~ Email: info@newlifechristiancommunity.org
Sunday service starts at 9:30 am / Check out New Life online at newlifechristiancommunity.org
Join New Life Connect by emailing Pastor Paul at pastorpaul.nlcc@gmail.com