UPCOMING

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Prayer List

Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments.

Renee Cumberland

Communion Preparation

January - Potts February - Carlberg March - open

Birthday / Anniversary

Ora Barrett - 9th Auburn Rowell - 18th

Men to Serve

Announcements - Dwight Callens

Scripture Reading - 1 Corinthians 10:1 - 11

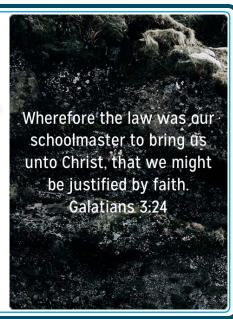
Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell

Head of Lord's Table - Shay Cooper

Assist on Lord's Table - Camden Cooper

Scripture Reading - Matthew 27:1 - 8

Closing Prayer - Larry Montgomery



W E L C O M E

We are a body of believers whose soul intention is to glorify and serve the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the head of His church. Our desire is to reflect that of our God--that all be saved. Anyone who is willing to humble himself before the mighty hand of God can be saved.

WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

SUNDAY

The Spirit of Liberalism Class // 8:30 am Job Bible Class // 9:30 am Worship Service // 10:30 am

WEDNESDAY

2 Corinthians Bible Class // 7:00 pm

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

4217 Highway 39 N // Meridian, MS 39301

PHONE: (601)483-2726 WEB: www.nscocmeridian.com

Join us via live stream for our worship service!

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SERMON NOTES

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Take A Minute to Pray

By G.E. Watkins

It's Monday morning and you're a Christian. If you think about it for more than a minute there's a good chance that you feel inadequate in your prayer life.

For some reason Christians don't apply principles that work in all other areas of life to their spiritual lives. No one expects a new father to know what a grandfather knows. No one expects a rookie ball player to know what a veteran knows. Yet, for some reason Christians read about Jesus praying all night, and, knowing that they can't do that, just give up on prayer as a regular part of their lives. They end up only praying in emergencies and at the dinner table. What are those principles that Christians don't apply?

- 1. Start with the basics.
- 2. Practice them regularly.
- 3. Seek regular improvement.

I'd like to see anyone make the argument that God requires more. Look here:

If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen (1 Peter 4:11).

God doesn't expect more than your ability.

So, what are the basics of prayer?

- 1. Make it a practice each day. See my previous article on The Power of One Minute.
- 2. Pray about those things that God is most concerned about. These would include
 - The Family.
 - The Government.
- The Church. You can include here spiritual needs like wisdom, strength and forgiveness.

These are His institutions, the subjects closest to His heart. You can be certain that when you pray about these things that he is listening.

- 3. Seek regular improvement.
- This involves learning more about the mind of God. Your regular Bible reading will help in this.
- The contemplation involved in regular prayer will help as well. You know how it works. Things that have been in front of you for ages suddenly come into focus with regular practice.
- To continue with this improvement special study will be involved. (The next installment will be deep Bible study for busy people.)

Who knows whether you'll ever be able to pray all night like Jesus. That's not the goal. The goal is to please God. Implied in the regular practice of prayer is devotion, trust, faith, hope and love that have always been the marks of God's people. It pleases God when we pray. It must not be derailed by unrealistic expectations on our side.

Take a minute right now and pray.