

Guide, Guard, and Direct our Paths

By Dan Jenkins

It is remarkable how often we use the same phrases as we pray. There is nothing wrong with repetition, as long as it is not vain repetition ([Matt. 6:7](#)). Over the years I have heard others pray that the preacher might "have a happy recollection of the things he has studied." I heard it for years but was unable to know what a *happy* recollection was. I sometimes wondered if the person praying those words knew what he was saying. Another phrase I heard as a youth (it often preceded the words about asking all this in the name of Jesus) was that God would "guide, guard and direct our paths." It is very possible that those who said these words thought God would whisper in their ears or give them "holy hunches" about whether to turn left or right at the next intersection.

We do need to rely on God to direct our paths but not in the way many think. One passage which helped me to understand how God "guides, guards and directs us" is found in the book of Proverbs. It appears that Solomon literally has his children in mind as he writes this book. The phrase "my son" is found 21 times in this book. It is found 15 times in the first seven chapters. The wise king is trying to impart wisdom to his son.

In chapter six, he tells his son to remember his father's commandments and his mother's law. He uses the words "lead" and "keep to" in the way many once prayed using the words "guide, guard and direct." "When you roam, they will lead you; when you sleep, they will keep you...for the commandment is a lamp and the law a light" ([Prov. 6:22-23](#)).

Think of how these words about listening to the father apply to us listening to our Father. We ask our Father to guide, guard and direct us, and His commandments become a lamp and a law to direct our paths.

Now note one other admonition Solomon gave his son regarding his teachings. "Bind them continually upon your heart; tie them around your neck." The father's words can never guide, guard and direct the son if the son does not remember. Wherever the son went, he took his father's words with him to lead him in the right way.

Isn't this a beautiful picture of how God can guide us and lead us in the paths of righteousness. "The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple...the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes" ([Psa. 19:7-8](#)). So, as you ask God to help you walk close to Him, realize that when we bind His words on our hearts and tie them around our neck these very words become a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Letting Him guide, guard and direct demands Bible study.

Serving today and next Sunday:

Sunday AM Rotation	June 5, 2022	June 12, 2022
Announcements	Duane Kemp	Duane Kemp
Song Leading	Owen Whittington	Jason Bang
Opening Prayer/Greeter/Usher	Jerry Thompson (L)	Tom Muter
Lord's Supper Comments	Jason Bang	Owen Whittington
Scripture Reading	Tom Muter	John McGiffin
Sermon	John McGiffin	Curt Thompson
Closing Prayer/Usher	Tim Bang (R)	Jerry Thompson

Things you should know about!

We would like to send donations to the Disaster Relief Fund quarterly. If you want to contribute, mark it as "DRF" or give the money to Jason.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Kyle Buckingham 6/7 Phyllis Caldwell 6/9
Chris Miller 6/12 Evelyn Lam 6/14

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Happy Anniversary

Tom & Patsy Muter 6/10
Curt & Shandar Thompson 6/19

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

June Potluck will be NEXT Sunday 6/12

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

There's Safety in the Ark - VBS Saturday, June 25th Registration will begin at 9am

Please invite your family and friends to come to VBS with you!
If you would like to help, please see Dianna or Stephanie.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

There will be a brief Men's meeting after AM service on June 19th.
If you have items to be discussed, please let John or Jason know.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Please call John or email him at jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com with any prayer requests or announcements you may have for the congregation.

Bible Verse of the Week

“Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.” Colossians 3:2



Lord's Supper Reflection

This Man has Done Nothing

“And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.” Luke 23:41

Offering Meditation

Put your Money to Good Use

“If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?” James 2:15-16



Remember in Prayer:

- *Our Country & leaders, Ukraine crisis
- *Phyllis Caldwell - encouragement
- *Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- *Ernst & Helen Sherrill (Bro/Sis in Christ from TN) - shut ins with ongoing health issues
- *Larry Bey - asked for prayers for his Parkinson's and recovering from a fall
- *George Gaynor's mom is in the hospital
- *Laura McGiffin's - back pain and healing of the incision on her leg
- *Don Allen (Bryan Allen's brother) - needs prayer
- *Amy Hicks (Tammy Seiber's friend) - has brain cancer, hospice has been called in for her care
- *Terry McGiffin - having back issues and swelling in his legs/feet

- *Greg Wilcox (Kemp's neighbor) - is struggling
- *Crew Neeves (Chris & Lisa Miller's grandson) - recovering from his heart surgery
- *Residents and Staff at Brookdale (where Laura McGiffin works) - dealing with COVID cases increasing within the facility
- *Nancy Wilson (friend of Stephanie Bang) - hospice has been called in for her care after several months of her being sick, having surgeries and infections.

How can we be praying for YOU?



Attendance and Contribution Record

Sunday, May 29

Bible Classes 45
AM Attendance 49
PM Attendance 33

Wednesday, June 2

Bible Classes 23
Contribution \$1,852.00

Welcome to the Greenville Church of Christ



June 5, 2022

Worship Times:

Sunday Morning Bible class: 9:30am

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am

Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00pm

Minister, John McGiffin

4599 Children's Home Bradford Rd

Greenville, OH 45331

www.greenvillecoc.org

We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us today! If you are visiting, we would love to have you back with us again. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor's card and let us get to know you.