

Bible Verse of the Week

"But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings; And you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves" Malachi 4:2

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Lord's Supper Reflection – Help Me Believe in the Power of the Cross

A Widow Who Gives Like Jesus who gave His ALL

"Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many *who were* rich put in much. Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. So He called His disciples to *Himself* and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood." Mark 12:41-44

Offering Meditation

Your Gift to God is a Blessing

"I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Remember in Prayer:

- *Our Country & leaders
- *Michelle Gasper - has fibromyalgia
- *Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- *Alexa Rohr - eyesight
- *Phyllis Caldwell - eyesight, encouragement
- *Sue Petty (Shandar Thompson's Great Aunt) needing prayers
- *Family and friends of Dana Gray grieving her passing
- *Judy Thornhill (Lisa Miller's aunt) has cancer

How may we be praying for YOU?



~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Attendance and Contribution Record

Sunday, March 7		Wednesday, March 10	
Bible Classes	18	Attendance	17
AM Attendance	31	Contribution	\$804.00
PM Attendance	15		

Welcome to Greenville Church of Christ



March 14, 2021

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 happy that you have chosen to worship with us today. If you are visiting, you are our honored guests and 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.

The Effectual Fervent Prayer of a Righteous Man

Sam Willcut

Prayer is the statement of the sincere desire of the heart to our Creator. Personally, I do not believe that we can study this subject enough, and this issue will examine the prayer lives from some of the most righteous men contained in the Bible. Several verses previous to our text, James encourages his readers to pour out their hearts unto God in the midst of suffering (James 5:13) and in sickness (James 5:14-15).

Is your heart right in prayer?

By making a comparison between those who are physically sick and spiritually sick, James writes, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16). By inspiration, James designed this statement to encourage us to pray, which is why James has said everything previously to this grand declaration. Unfortunately, it may actually have the opposite effect on some of us. Instead of reading this as an encouragement to pray, one may say, "Well, I know that God will hear and answer the prayers of a righteous man, but I am a person with human frailties, and I fall very short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). Thus, I guess that God does not hear or answer my prayers," and we quit praying. How tragic that a statement of encouragement by design becomes a statement of discouragement through our misunderstanding of it. As Christians, we are made righteous, not by living a perfectly sinless life, but by virtue of the fact that the Lord died for us, and His shed blood keeps us cleansed and forgiven of our sins (cf. 1 John 1:7-10). Therefore, God may hear our prayers!

What a great blessing to know that "the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much!" To illustrate this, James mentions Elias (Elijah), the prophet. He "was a man subject to like passions as we are" (James 5:17). We find the expression "of like passions" only one other time in the New Testament (Acts 14:11-15), and it points to our same sorrows, heartaches, joys, human weaknesses and frailties. In other words, here was a man who was not sinlessly perfect like God, but as James continues, God heard his prayer! When we pour out our joys, our sorrows, our obstacles, our heartaches, our confessions, our admissions of human frailties, weaknesses and imperfections, then I know that God will hear me, just as he heard Elijah. When I become discouraged in life, then God will be there to hear me, just as He listened to Elijah! When I become fearful and afraid, then God will hear me, just as He heard Elijah! When I tread near the point of wanting to become critical with God for situations that have happened in my life, then God will be there to hear me, just as He heard Elijah! How fascinating that James picks Elijah as an example of "a righteous man" whom God heard in prayer.

I realize that a miracle is used in connection with God's answer to Elijah's prayer (James 5:17), which some may try to allude back to the previous verses. Yes, the miracle was only in connection with the revelation that God gave Elijah concerning the rain that would come after a drought that lasted three and a half years. We can read of this account in First Kings 18, and as Andy Griffith would say, "It came a frog's rain!" Nevertheless, the point in this passage is that through James, God used Elijah as a divine illustration to show that "the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much," and if Elijah was "a man subject to like passions as we are" and God heard his prayer, then we ought never to doubt the power of prayer! May this series of articles point to our need of living righteous lives, ever leaning fervently on Jehovah God through prayer, and realizing the great power that God works through them!

~~~~~

**Serving today and next Sunday:**

| Sunday AM Rotation     | March 14, 2021   | March 21, 2021   |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Announcements          |                  | Tim Bang         |
| Song Leading           | Owen Whittington | Bryan Allen      |
| Opening Prayer         | Curt Thompson    | Jerry Thompson   |
| Lord's Supper Comments |                  | Owen Whittington |
| Scripture Reading      | Aiden Rohr       | Isaiah Rohr      |
| Sermon                 | John McGiffin    | John McGiffin    |
| Closing Prayer         | Chris McGiffin   | Jason Bang       |

**Announcements:**

Communion is available as you come in the building, please take only what is needed for today. Hold on to the emblems until the proper time.

~~~~~

Happy Birthday!!

Brennan Arrell 3/19 Isaac Mayes 3/24 Shane Brock 3/31

~~~~~

Bible Readings for this week's Bible Class:

Topic: "Walking with God" and "Reading the Law"

Genesis 5:24

Deuteronomy 8:6

Deuteronomy 28:7-15

Ephesians 2:1-10

Nehemiah 8:1-10, 13-18

Nehemiah 9:1-3, 6-10, 16, 19, 25-26, 32-34, 38

Nehemiah 12:27, 43, 45

Nehemiah 13:1-9

~~~~~

North End Church of Christ Youth Rally
THIS COMING WEEKEND - March 19-20 in Parkersburg, WV
 See John for more details if you have a teen interested!

~~~~~

**MEN'S MEETING MARCH 20th @ 9AM**

~~~~~

Next month's Potluck will be NEXT WEEK, March 21st

Please let Carrie or John know what you plan to bring or write it on the paper at the back tables. Meat will be provided.

~~~~~

Gospel Meeting @ Tipp City Church of Christ

March 28th - 31st

Speaker - Terry Jones of Pennsboro, WV

~~~~~

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