



WEEKLY SERMON

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Sunday November 27, 2022
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Message: Character

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Text: See lesson

In the conclusion to I Thessalonians chapter 5, the Apostle Paul gives us a number of short principles of Christian ministry and Christian living. In verse 12 he uses a very familiar word, "**Brethren.**" This was Paul's favorite word for a believer,

He used it some 60 times in his letters.

In I and II Thessalonians' letters, he used it 27 times.

Now having said all that, I want you to notice verse 25 where we read, "**Brethren, pray for us.**" That was a common theme Paul echoed throughout his writings, **Please, pray for us.** For example, we read

In II Thessalonians 3:1-2 we read, "**Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified...and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men...**"

In Colossians 4:2-4 we read, "**Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance to speak the mystery of Christ...**"

In Ephesians 6:18 Paul challenges us, "**Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; and for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel...**"

In Philemon 22 we read, "**...for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you.**"

Back in I Thessalonians we again are challenged, "**Brethren, pray for us.**" And what a request, that all of us can participate in and involve ourselves in. From the littlest child up unto us as adults.

As a church family we say, "Brethren pray for us."

As Pastor's we say, "Brethren pray for us."

The Sunday School teachers say, "Brethren pray for us."

The Christian School teachers say, "Brethren pray for us."

Our missionary family says, "Brethren pray for us."

We must not forget the missionaries that go from this place on to the mission fields of this world. Remember they are **His ambassadors; they are our responsibility.** And when they come to your church get to know them.

Reach out to them, and invite them to your home -for breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

Take them aside in church and converse with them.

After they leave, then write to them.

REACH OUT TO THEM AND GET TO KNOW THEM.

But by all means, **Brethren we are to pray for them.** That is the scriptural injunction. Here are several suggestions for praying for your Pastors, Christian workers and missionaries.

1. **Pray for the Holy Spirit's control** and leading. Acts 13:1
2. **Pray for open doors in their area.** Open doors mean open hearts. In some cases, because of the culture, the costumes and the religious backgrounds of those around them, it takes weeks, months, maybe years, to reach people with the gospel in their area. Colossians 4:2-4
3. **Pray for their protections from the wiles of the Devil.** We are battling evil spirits in America. But often on the foreign fields the evil spirits and demonic control are much more powerful. Pray for their protections according to Ephesians 6:10-18.
4. **Pray for their Faith,** that it will remain strong. Pray that they will not faint in the midst of the battle for the souls of men and women. I Corinthians 16:13
5. **Pray for their family.** Pray for their family on the field. Pray for their family here in the states. Pray for those whose children in many cases are separated from parents because of schooling.
6. **Pray for their physical needs even of basics such as food and water.** Philippians 4:13
7. **Pray for their protection** from physical dangers, II Corinthians 11
8. **Pray for their loneliness based on separation from their families and friends back home.**
9. **Pray for their spiritual needs and problems.**
10. **Pray for their vision of souls** that need to be reached with the Gospel. Matthew 9:36-37

"Brethren, Pray for us."

Here are EIGHT Statements to PONDER:

One: If God gives you a few more years, remember they are not yours. Your **TIME** must honor God. Your **HOME** must honor God. Your **ACTIVITY** must honor God. And **EVERYTHING** you do must honor God. – A.W. Tozer

Two: **SIN** will take you **FARTHER** than you want to **GO**, **KEEP** you longer that you want to **STAY**, and **COST** you more than you want to **PAY**.

Three: “A day hemed in prayer is less likely to unravel.”

Four: We cannot force someone to hear a message they are not ready to receive. But we must never underestimate the power of planting a seed.

Five: Real **REVIVAL** is not first about corporate meetings; it is about individuals meeting with God. When revival comes, it is because God’s people get a hold of Heaven, and Heaven gets hold of them.” - Scott Pauley

Six: “You can do more than pray after you have prayed, but you cannot do more than pray until you have prayed.” – John Bunyan

Seven: “The joy of the Lord does not remove the pain; the joy of the Lord helps to bear it.”

Eight: “My memory is nearly gone. But I remmeber two things: that I am a great sinner and that Christ is a great Saviour.” John Newton

In His Amazing Grace,

Pastor David Miklas

Our Words and Actions Are Being Carefully Observed and Remembered By Others

Bible Study Objectives:

1. **To remind us** that we are to be like salt/light to those who are watching from our inner circle. In Matthew 5:13-15 we read, “Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savor, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. (14) Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. (15) Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.”

2. **To remind us** that we will be rewarded or reprimanded for being salt/light to our inner circle. In II Corinthians 5:10-11 we read, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. (11) Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.”

3. **To remind us** that we will leave a legacy somewhere between the hall of fame or the hall of shame. In Genesis 49:1-4 we read, “And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days. (2) Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father. (3) Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power: (4) Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy father's bed; then defiledst thou it: he went up to my couch.

In Genesis 49:20-22 we read, “Out of Asher his bread shall be fat, and he shall yield royal dainties. (21) Naphtali is a hind let loose: he giveth goodly words. (22) Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall:...”

Salt Application Principles:

1. As salt flavors food, we must use words that improve the flavor of any conversation: (Colossians 4:6, I Peter 3:15)
2. As salt improves food, we must demonstrate behavior that makes situations better not worse: (James 1:22-27)
3. As salt preserves, we must be used to preserve dysfunctional relationships from disrepair: (Genesis 45:5,7, 50:15-21)
4. As salt stings wounds, we must use words that sting the con-science of those who are disobedient: (I Samuel 26:21)
5. As salt is consistent, we must be consistent with others using Spirit- filled behaviors at all times: (Galatians 5:22-23)
6. As salt is predictable, we must be trusted/predictable in order to impact others: (Matthew 5:13, I Corinthians 9:27)
7. As salt is valuable, we must be exemplary in order to be valued by others: (James 4:8, I John 3:3, II Timothy 2:21)
8. As salt needs a shaker to be properly used, we must share the gospel at the right time/manner: (II Timothy 4:2)

9. As salt works immediately, we must quickly witness as God places before us an open door: (Acts 10:34, John 4:9-13)

10. As salt works quietly, we must learn to work quietly and let our behavior speak for us: (I Peter 3:1-17, I Kings 19:12)

11. As salt works when used, we must tell others how the gospel will always transform lives when applied: (Isaiah 55:11)

12. As salt creates thirst, we must create the environment for people to thirst for what we have in Christ: (Matthew 5:6)

Bible Study Summary: Remember this little saying – “Your talk talks, and your walk talks, but your walk talks louder, than your talk talks!” So, Here is an interesting concluding illustration:

He had often invited me to go to church with him. He made no bones that he was a Christian and he often told me that I needed Christ too. He never spoke to me with condemnation, though he knew that I was uneasy every time he said he was praying for me. He was always there to lend me a hand and when he did he'd always say that the good Lord and His blessings are what make him act that way. There were times I would observe him from a distance and he did not know I was watching him as he took time to love his children and to treat his wife better than she really deserved.

When I got the notice I had lost my job he was the first to show up on my doorstep and said he would be there for us till we got back on our feet. I never was much for religion, too many hypocrites had let me down but this man really showed me what I needed and he was there when I trusted Jesus to turn my life around.

This is the one thing I have learned from him. I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one any day. I'd rather have one walk with me, that merely tell me the way. Actions always speak much louder than all the finest words could ever say. That's why I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one any day.

The Above lesson was written by Tommy Dowling
a Sunday School Teacher for over 40 years.

If God has spoken to your heart after reading the sermon "**Our Words and Actions Are Being Carefully Observed And Remembered By Others**" right now talk to God about what He has spoken to you.

Do you have the assurance that one day you will go to heaven? If you have no assurance that you know Jesus Christ, then I trust you will decide to accept Him as your personal Savior. The Bible tells us in

Acts 16:31, "...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved..."

Romans 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

This prayer is here for those who need to ask Jesus to be their personal Savior: "I do want to go to Heaven. I know I am a sinner, and I do believe Jesus Christ died for me. I realize I cannot buy this great salvation, nor can I earn it. Knowing Jesus died on the cross and arose from the grave to pay my sin debt and to purchase my salvation, I do now trust Him as my Savior, and from this moment on I am completely depending on Him for my salvation."

If you made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, please let me know. Please send an e-mail to pastormiklas@aol.com and I will send you some literature that will help you in your Christian

life.

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