

Devotions – January 15-21, 2017
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Sunday, January 15, 2017

“Pray for That Person to Have What You Want for Yourself”

Text: James 5:16

“Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. “

Text: Matthew 5:44

“But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”

Here Jesus is talking about people who knowingly harass you, not accidentally persecute you. How does He want us to defend ourselves? By Prayer! Perhaps there is a situation you have agonized over and have tried some methods in hopes of alleviating this problem. Why not pray? Keep on praying; you will discover the hidden power of persistent prayer.

Let us Pray: Father, Almighty, You are aware of my situation, that I have been unable to find relief. I humbly ask today for this person to be filled with love, to absorb a kindness and to know the forgiveness of God’s love; in your loving Son’s name. Amen



Monday, January 16, 2017

“We Need Not be Lonely”

Text: Ephesians 2:19

You are fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household.

God does not intend for anyone to live our Christian lives alone or without friends. We need people in our lives, to challenge us to repent, who remind us of the good news of Christ. That Christ willingly redeemed us with His blessings. We Christians need to be supportive of one another. When families are separated by strife or miles, it creates a more urgent need for us to form our Christian families.

Let us Pray: *Father, thank you for my Christian friends and family. Thank you for providing the opportunity to come in contact with others who love you and need loving support! In the name of your loving Son Jesus. Amen*



Tuesday, January 17, 2017

“What is True Repentance?”

Text: Proverbs 28:13

He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

Repentance takes place when a person honestly sees who he is and acknowledges that God is right to condemn him. In light of the Holy Spirit, we completely appear as sinful beings. God wants us to be like the Prodigal Son, bowing to God’s judgment, acknowledging and submitting ourselves into His hands.

Confess to the offended person

Renounce the sin and feel remorse

Confess how we have hurt someone

Acknowledge myself as a sinner before God

2 Corinthians 1:4: God of all comfort: who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

Let us Pray: *Father, in heaven, forgive me- a sinner. I have been boastful. I have offended my loved one in deed and in neglect. Loving Father, I ask your forgiveness and that of my loved one; in Jesus name, Amen.*



Wednesday, January 18, 2017

“They Told Jesus About Her”

Text: Mark 1:30

“Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told Jesus about her.”

Christ is the Healer- not prayer. It is our job to bring the needs of others to Christ in prayer. It only needs to be a simple, natural, humble way and words. More elaborate does not mean more effective. Jesus is a loving God and He understands where we are coming from. He is awesome. Notice that the disciples joined together to tell Jesus. That's my example for us to pray together.

Let us Pray: Son of God, Loving Jesus, hear my prayer. Your child is sick of heart and in need of your healing powers. Lord, my prayer today asks special powers of yours to remove the pain being experienced by my loved one. Make this person able to respond to your enormous love and promises. Heal this person to the point of total acceptance of your will and the ability and desire to dedicate their life to you and your work on earth. Thank you, Jesus. Amen



Thursday, January 19, 2017

“Practical Results of Prayer”

Text: Colossians 1:19

“We have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of His will.”

Prayer is our most important task. Nothing can replace it. The place which prayer occupies in our lives shows what value we place on our faith as a whole. Paul prayed daily for his friends. Ought not we do the same?!

If we believe that prayer is our most important task, things in our everyday life would change. Complaints and accusations against other people would become pointed inward to self-accusations. We would come to see ourselves as guilty of those same behaviors we see in others. The opposite is also true. If we pray for our friend/enemy to have all the good things we so want for ourselves, we come to feel Christian love for the other persons.

Let us Pray: Father God, _____ (my friend, loved one, enemy) is in need at this time. They need to feel your love and protection. Please enclose him in your love and allow him to feel your nearness and warmth. Provide him with a comfort and peace of mind and body. Holy Spirit, fill his heart with love for our Lord as well as love for the people with whom he has daily contact. Help him to feel loved and cherished by those of us with whom he had daily contact. Father, we ask this in Jesus name. Amen



Friday, January 20, 2017

“Have You Brought Someone to Jesus?”

Text: John 1:42

“He brought him to Jesus”

The best thing we can do is bring someone to Jesus. He Himself will do the convincing. He Himself creates the faith. Jesus, the Lord will reveal Himself to them. Bring them to Jesus. People are not helped by being “religious”. A religious attitude and “religious” opinions do not satisfy the soul. We must be received into the company of Jesus. Why is it so difficult to bring another person to Jesus? Andrew knew Simon pretty well: they were brothers. He loved his brother. We cannot bring anyone to Jesus without love. Andrew had just been with Jesus and knew Jesus personally. How can we bring someone to Jesus unless we know Him personally? The disciple Andrew was new, a beginner. He still needed some training. But even a beginner can bring others to Jesus.

Let us Pray: Our Father, we know and love our Lord. We are in awe of all you are and the love which you bring into our lives. Help us and give us courage to say those words to the right people to “bring them to Jesus.” Work in our hearts to approach the ones you so desire to be brought unto you; in your Son’s holy name. Amen



Saturday, January 21, 2017

“Are We Ashamed of Christ?”

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:14 (NIV)

“For Christ’s love compels us”

Text: Luke 6:45

“For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.”

“ For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.” (NIV)

It’s easy to speak of those things which are dear to us: our children, grandchildren, sports, crafts, clubs. If we think highly of someone, that names come up easily to the tip of our tongue.

But what about our heart-relationship with our Savior? Many of us find it difficult to talk about Him and matters of the soul. It is with great effort that we can speak or ask about our personal struggle in our prayer life or about our personal belief-our relationship with Jesus. We can say that we “go to church” or we can pass on or share quotes or pictures of “religious” sayings, but to speak of our personal relationship with Jesus, we avoid. But He expects us to share our inner

battle with sin and how much we love the Lord and what it is like to live a Christian life. What is dear to our hearts comes easily to our conversations.

Let us Pray: *Father in Heaven, we want to be comfortable in conversing about our personal relationship with Christ, how we feel about Him and all He has done for us and how He helps us deal with sin on a daily basis. Give us the courage daily. Work with us as it becomes more comfortable. Help us to be so proud of you that it becomes difficult to NOT share. We ask these things in Jesus name. Amen.*

