

September Memory Verse

Ephesians 6:18

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Prayer in the Spirit is Watchful and Persevering

Another aspect of praying in the Spirit is being watchful. Paul says, "With this in mind, be alert." This is military terminology. It pictures a soldier on duty watching for signs of either infiltration by the enemy or advancement by his fellow soldiers. As Peter says in 1 Peter 5:8, "Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." Our enemy is like a prowling lion; therefore, we must always be alert. Jesus Christ warned His disciples right before He went to the cross in Matthew 26:41, "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." He called for the disciples to pray so they would not fall into temptation of the "evil day".

Paul says that we must "always keep on praying." Prayer in the flesh is often short-lived, but Spirit-led prayer is persevering. Prayer is something to do with all perseverance. This is especially important in spiritual warfare because many of our blessings and victories come only through persevering prayer. We do not pray once each day and then stop. We are to talk with God persistently and about all matters. Nothing is too big or too small to discuss with the Lord. When you pray with perseverance, God will give you the strength you need, the wisdom and power to conquer habitual sins, and everything else you need to live a godly life. Don't give up, Spirit-led prayers persevere.

It is so important to be alert and diligent in prayer. Daniel prayed for 21 days continuously, and Jesus Christ rose early and retired late to spend time with His Heavenly Father. We are not limited by times or by places, but we should ensure that we pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers in helpless dependence on Him – keeping alert and persevering in prayer for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

"PRAYER IS NOT SO MUCH THE ARTICULATION OF WORDS AS THE POSTURE OF THE HEART." John MacArthur

(Verse Cards are available on the bulletin board in the Narthex)

Additional Announcements

The Men's Bible Study will meet this Saturday, Sept. 23 at the Squeeze Inn Restaurant in Zillah at 8:00 a.m. All men are encouraged and invited to come for breakfast, fellowship and Bible Study. We will be looking at Romans 1.

REMINDER! "Ask the Lord of Harvest," Classis Columbia's prayer retreat, is this **Friday, September 22 from 4 - 9 p.m.** at the Sunnyside CRC. **If you plan on joining us for the retreat, dinner, and worship on Friday night, please let Duane and Cheryl Friend know TODAY if you can attend.** Such a time of prayer is greatly needed in a time such as this in which the Christian Church throughout our nation is in decline. We look forward to joining together in lifting up our hearts and hands to the One who answers prayer!

Meals needed! The Hospitality Committee is asking the church's help to bring meals for Deb & Mike Knight for the next several weeks on Fridays. If you can help, there is a sign-up sheet on the welcome center with more details. Please contact Norma Van Beek with any questions. Thank you!

Missionary Letter Updates –There were two new missionary letters sent out via email and there are also paper copies available under the missionary bulletin board. Thank you for supporting and praying for our missionaries.

You are invited to the Life Options Advancement Event "Legacy of Life" on Saturday, October 21st.

Social hour: 2:00 p.m. Program: 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Where: Neighborhood Church, 385 E. Allen Rd, Sunnyside.

Melanie Smeenk will share her insights on the significance of empowering all generations to take a stand in advocating for LIFE!

Register at lofriends.org or call 509-882-1899.

Birthday Greetings - Tony Beltman, a former member of our church, will be turning 99 years old on Sept. 26. If you like to send him a birthday card his address is:
12636 Algonquin St.
Nampa, ID 83651