

The Reminder

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX

“Acceptable Prayer”

Prayer does not consist in beautiful expressions, devoutly uttered. Neither does prayer consist of solemn looks, pious tones, or a humble posture of the body. It is possible for one to draw near to God with his mouth and honor Him with his lips and yet his heart is far from him ([Matthew 15:8](#)).

Acceptable prayer is the blending of certain essential elements. The following are some of the essential elements of acceptable prayer as found in the Bible:

1. Reverence – People sometimes approach God as if they thought they were His equal. Jesus taught His disciples to hallow the Father’s name ([Matthew 6:9](#)).

2. In The Name Of Christ – We should always approach the Father in prayer through Christ ([John 14:13-14](#)). He is our Mediator and High Priest ([Hebrews 8:1](#)).

3. Sincerely – Sometimes there is a temptation to pray to the people rather than to God. Jesus warns us against praying to be seen of men ([Matthew 6:5](#)). While praying to God is not the time to deliver a sermon or exhort those who are present.

4. Spirit Of Obedience – We should desire for God’s will to be done in our own life ([Matthew 6:10](#)). And when we keep His commandments, He will hear us ([1 John 3:22](#)).

5. Faith And Confidence – We should pray believing that God will hear our prayers ([James 1:6-8](#)).

6. Submission – We must realize that God knows what is best for us and we should ask for those things according to His will ([1 John 5:14](#)).

7. A Forgiving Spirit – We must be willing to forgive others if we expect the Father to forgive our sins ([Matthew 6:12-15](#)).

8. Humility – We can all learn a lesson from the publican, who prayed with downcast eyes ([Luke 18:9-14](#)).

9. Unselfishness – It is not wrong to pray for what we need, but it is wrong to pray for things to gratify our lusts and selfish ambitions ([James 4:2-3](#)).

May we all pray our prayers in an acceptable manner unto God with the spirit and understanding ([1 Corinthians 14:15](#)).

by Pat Hackney
Mt. Juliet Church of Christ



SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 22, 2015

BELLAIRE
church of Christ
8001 South Rice Ave
P.O. Box 1029
Bellaire, Texas 77402
www.bellairechurchofchrist.org

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY:
9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study
5:00 PM Worship

WEDNESDAY:
7:30 PM Bible Study



“Clock Watchers”

Morning Lesson

“Offenses”
Jack Smith

Evening Lesson

Harrison Banks

News and Notes:

Continue praying for those of our number who have on-going health issues. Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn and Don Hurd.

We were saddened to announce the death of Lana Hewlett. She is/was a member at Kleinwood and is the mother-in-law of Scott's sister. Many of the family have visited here during singings and gospel meetings.

Steve will be gone this week. He is in Japan on a business trip. Should return next Sat. but will be "jet-lagged" on Sunday. Be kind to him. Hope the trip is pleasant.

The Sanchez family had an immigration hearing on Thurs. Their permission to remain here was extended for another year. Rejoice.

New Classes begin next Sunday. Justin Seale and I will be teaching "World Religions." Steve will conclude the study of John and continue into Romans. Only two classes this quarter.

Shortly after he opened his first plant Thomas Edison noticed that his employees had gotten into the habit of watching the factory clock, which was the only clock in the plant.

To the indefatigable inventor who never thought about the time, this was incomprehensible. He did not express his disapproval verbally. Instead he had dozens of clocks installed all around the plant. His goal wasn't to make it easier for his workers to see a clock. He made sure no two clocks had the same time. Soon clock watching led to so much confusion that nobody cared what time it was.

I have a suspicion that one reason God does not tell us when the second coming will be is that He knows we are clock-watchers. Just as people were busy thinking about how much time they had left at work or until lunch break, so we might be tempted to focus only on getting ready when the time was near. Instead we are called to be the people of God every minute - not to get ready, but to be ready.

“Language is the expression of thought. Every time you speak, your mind is on parade.”

ASSIGNMENTS

MORNING SERVICE

Announcements - M. Miles
Hymn Director - R. McDonald
Scripture Reader - J. Martinez
Luke 23:39-56
Opening Prayer - J. Carithers
Closing Prayer - M. Miles

EVENING SERVICE

Hymn Director - M. Robinson
Opening Prayer - C. Cecil
Closing Prayer - M. Miles

EVANGELIST

Jack Smith
Steve Garrett

ELDERS

Mark Mann
Matt Miles
Mike Pharris
Jack Smith

DEACONS

Scott Clanton
David Davila
Dan Kimbrough
Jesse Knapp
Alex Morolez
Gregory Williams

BIBLE CLASSES

- Acts
- Holy Spirit
- Exodus and Deuteronomy
- Graded Classes for Children