

Preached at Lone Oak Sunday morning December 8, 1957

CHURCH OF CHRIST IN LONE OAK

2930 Lone Oak Road

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Phones: 2-1429; 2-2091

Sermon Number One

"WORSHIP IN PRAYER"

INTRODUCTION: Scriptures, Matthew 7:7, 8; Luke 11:9, 10; Matthew 6:9-15

JESUS' DOCTRINE OF PRAYER

1. We must learn to pray. Luke 11:1
2. Relationship is indicated in prayer.
  - (1) OUR FATHER...A child's petition to an all-wise, all-loving, and all-powerful Father. Matthew 6:9
3. This prayer that Jesus taught the disciples to pray is not in the name of Christ (Matthew 6:9-15; Luke 11:1-4). See also John 16:24
  - (1) Prayers since the death of Christ must be addressed to the Father in the name of Christ. John 14:13, 14; 15:16; 16:23; Colossians 3:17.
4. This prayer (Matthew 6:9-15; Luke 11:1-4) teaches us certain lessons.
  - (1) It teaches us that right prayer begins with worship.
    - a. "Our father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name." Note the plural OUR Father. Its proper use and application would cure every ill: wars, strikes, domestic feuds, ETC.
  - (2) Hallowed be thy name.
    - a. Treated as holy
    - b. Spoken reverently
    - c. Revered as the Supreme standard of truth.
  - (3) It teaches us that the interest of the church and matters spiritual are more important than mere personal matters.
    - a. "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done earth, as it is in heaven."  
NOTE: The kingdom has come. We might pray for the spread of the kingdom.
    - b. There is not anything in heaven to oppose the will of God. There must not be one thing on earth to oppose his will. There should be complete obedience to his will on earth.
  - (4) This prayer teaches us that we are to accept before hand God's will whether to grant our petition or withhold. "Thy will be done."  
Jesus our example: Matthew 26:36-44; Mark 14:36-42; Luke 22:39-46.
  - (5) This prayer teaches us that our prayers should be for present needs. "Give us this day our daily bread." NOTE:
    - a. Bread is the staff of life. We pray for necessary things.  
1 Timothy 6:8
    - b. The petition is not for milk and honey which are symbols of luxury; but for bread, and bread for today. We should leave tomorrow with God.
  - (6) This prayer teaches that one may pray for oneself.
    - a. "Give us this day our daily bread."
    - b. "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors."
    - c. "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil."
    - d. God does not tempt us (James 1.13-15) but when temptation does come he will provide a way of escape (1 Corinthians 10:13).

Reached at home Sat Sunday morning December, 15, 1957

## WORSHIP IN PRAYER

1 Thessalonians 5:17  
1 Timothy 2:8

Sermon Number Two

### WHEN SHOULD WE PRAY? Examples:

1. Moses prayed in the camp of the Israelites in the wilderness. Number 11:1-3
2. Moses prayed for the people who acknowledged sin. Numbers 21:5-7
3. David prayed for his sick child. 2 Samuel 12:16
4. Daniel prayed in his house and also before an open window. Daniel 6:10
5. Daniel prayed for a nation in captivity, that the people (Israel) might be restored to their native land. Daniel 9:1-19
6. Jonah prayed in belly of the fish. Jonah 2:1-10
  - (1) It is certain that all looked hopeless to Jonah.
  - (2) So far as Jonah was concerned all was hopeless.

### JESUS PRAYED OFTEN

1. Before he went on a preaching tour Jesus prayed in a solitary place. Mark 1:35-39
2. At his baptism the vision was given while Jesus prayed. Luke 3:21,22
3. Before he selected the twelve apostles Jesus continued all night in prayer to God. Luke 6:12-16
4. Jesus was praying in the mountain when the transfiguration took place. Luke 9:28-36
5. Jesus prayed that Peter's faith might not fail. Luke 22:32
6. Jesus prayed (gave thanks) for food. John 6:11

### THE DISCIPLES CONTINUED STEADFASTLY IN PRAYER. Acts 2:42

1. Prayer was made in the assembly. Acts 4:31
2. Paul and Silas prayed while they were in prison. Acts 16:25
3. Paul prayed with the Ephesian elders. Acts 20:36
4. Paul prayed with the men and women, and children on the seashore. Acts 21:5
5. Paul prayed (gave thanks) for his food in the presence of them all. Acts 27:35
6. Paul prayed for a sick man on the island of Melita now called Malta. Acts 28:7-10.
  - (1) This man was the father of Publius.
  - (2) It is not likely that Publius' father was a Christian. We do not know that he became a Christian but we hope that he did.
  - (3) We are taught to pray for all men. 1 Timothy 2:1-4

Preached at Lone Oak Sunday Morning December 22, 1957

WORSHIP IN PRAYER

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Isaiah 55:6

Psalms 32:6

Sermon Number Three

WE ARE COMMANDED TO PRAY

1. Watch and pray. Matthew 26:41; Mark 14:38
2. We are always to pray and not to faint. Luke 18:1
3. Continue in pray and watch in same. Colossians 4:2
4. Paul commanded the brethren to pray for him. Colossians 4:3, 4; 1 Thessalonians 5:25

WHERE AND WHEN SHOULD WE PRAY?

1. As a congregation:
  - (1) We should pray in the assembly. Acts 4:23-30 Note this prayer:
    - a. They lifted up their voice to God.
    - b. They were united "with one accord" when they prayed.
    - c. They did not pray for vengeance on their enemies.
    - d. They were hopeful. They prayed that, "signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus."
2. As individuals:
  - (1) Jesus prayed in secret. Luke 5:16; 6:12
  - (2) Jesus enjoined secret prayer. Matthew 6:6
  - (3) We should be always of a prayerful mind. Psalms 55:17; 88:1-3  
1 Thessalonians 5:17

WHEN SHOULD WE PRAY AS INDIVIDUALS? We should pray:

1. We should pray in the midst of violent trials. Examples:
  - (1) David prayed for the peace of Jerusalem. Psalms 122:6
  - (2) In the shadow of death itself, Jesus being in great agony prayed more earnestly, his sweat becoming great drops of blood. Luke 22:39
  - (3) The whole church prayed for Peter. Acts 12:1-16 NOTE:
    - a. We have no reason to believe that they were praying for Peter's release from prison.
    - b. A miracle would be required and God had not rescued James from Herod's sword. Acts 12:2
    - c. Perhaps, remembering that Peter had faltered one time before, they prayed:  
(See Matthew 26:69-75)
      - (a) That Peter's faith and courage might not fail in the crisis.
      - (b) That like Stephen and James, Peter might glorify the Lord by a triumphant death.
2. We should pray when affliction are upon us. Examples:
  - (1) Job prayed and worshipped God in the midst of afflictions. Job 1:20-22
  - (2) James teaches us to pray when we are afflicted. James 5:13
3. In the midst of temptation we should pray. When we are tempted to exercise ourselves in our temper, lust, pride, gossip, cursing, drunkenness, we should pray.
  - (1) Lead us not into temptation. Matthew 6:13
  - (2) A way of escape will be provided. 1 Corinthians 10:13

Preached at Lone Oak Sunday morning December 29, 1957

WORSHIP IN PRAYER

COLLOSSIANS 4:2-4

Romans 12:12

Acts 12:5

Sermon Number Four

WHEN THE PRIVILEGE OF PRAYER IS ABUSED

1. Prayer is not for the purpose of teaching men.
  - (1) Brother T. B. Thompson told the story of the time when he visited the services of a Christian meeting and was called upon for the prayer. According to Brother Thompson's own story he preached them a sermon in that prayer.
  - (2) In offering thanks for the bread and fruit of the vine we may try to teach by such expressions as "these emblems", or, "This fruit of the vine which is emblematic..." Concerning the Lord's Supper why not read (Matthew 26:26-30) and study the words that Jesus used in connection with the Lord's Supper and then not be afraid to use those words?
2. Prayer is not for the purpose of informing God.
  - (1) We cannot inform God.
  - (2) The story of the man who, in praying, quoted some Scripture and then in his prayer cited chapter and verse for that Scripture.
3. Prayer is not a substitute for obedience to God or a detour around his will.
  - (1) Many talk about "praying through." They mean of course, "To get saved" without doing God's will.
  - (2) Some pray only at a time of really great tragedy.
4. Prayer is not for the purpose of propositioning God.
  - (1) The story of the woman who promised God that she would be obedient to him if he would let her little child get well. The child died. The mother turned to infidelity.
  - (2) There was a daughter who did not want pray at the bedside of her sick mother because she did not want her mama to get the idea that she might not get well. That daughter did not understand prayer and, no doubt, prayed less.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People sometime confuse the Lord's Prayer with the prayer that the Lord taught the disciples to pray. This prayer is recorded in Matthew 6:9-15 and Luke 11:1-4. The prayer that Jesus prayed and that we call the Lord's Prayer is in John 17:1-26. Read and study both of these prayer. The prayer that Jesus prayed in John 17:1-26 should be read many times by every faithful Christian. If you will study these outline lessons on prayer you will have a much better understanding of prayer and, I think, will want to pray more often than many times we do.

READ AND STUDY YOUR BIBLE DAILY AND LIFE WILL BE MORE MEANINGFUL TO YOU.

Preached at Lane Oak Sunday Morning January 12, 1958

WORSHIP IN PRAYER

Psalms 145:18,19

Proverbs 15:29

Sermon Number Five

HOW WE SHOULD PRAY

1. We should pray in faith. James 1:6-8
2. We should pray sincerely. Matthew 6:6
3. We should pray according to his will. 1 John 5:14
4. We should pray continually. Luke 18:1-5; 1 Thessalonians 5:17

WHY WE SHOULD PRAY

1. It is a sin not to pray. 1 Samuel 12:23; Acts 12:5. Samuel was praying for the people and the church was praying for Peter. These are intercessory prayers. Such prayers may cease to be offered because of:
  - (1) A lack of right consideration for others. We forget about the worth of their souls and that their souls are lost.
  - (2) A lack of love and desire for their salvation.
  - (2) Delay in the granting of our request...such requests seemingly not granted.
2. Jesus prayed. The apostles prayed. The disciples and churches prayed. Because of our relationship as children of God we should pray often.

WHY GOD WILL NOT HEAR SOME PRAYERS. HE WILL NOT HEAR THE PRAYERS OF THE PERSON WHO:

1. Regards iniquity in his heart. Psalms 66:18
2. Turns his ear away from hearing God's law. Proverbs 28:9
3. Will not forgive. Matthew 6:14, 15
4. Who does evil. 1 Peter 3:12
5. Lives in sin. John 9:31
6. Lives a lustful life. James 4:3

PRAYERS GOD WILL HEAR

1. He will hear the righteous. 1 Peter 3:12; James 5:16
2. He will hear the humble. Psalms 9:12
3. He will hear the penitent. Examples:
  - (1) Those on the day of Pentecost. Acts 2:36-38, 41
  - (2) He heard Saul's prayer. Acts 9:10
  - (3) He heard the prayer of Cornelius. Acts 10:4

NOTE:

The question with all of us should be whether or not God will hear us as we pray. By a close study of the above outlines it should not be difficult to know whether or not God hears the prayer as it falls from our lips.

Preached at Lone Oak Sunday Morning, February 2, 1958

WORSHIP IN PRAYER  
Isaiah 59:1, 2

Sermon Number six

INTRODUCTION

1. God will not hear some prayers. Examples:
  - (1) Those who are determined to have their own way. We should pray, "Thy will be done." Matthew 6:10
  - (2) Those who regard iniquity in their hearts. Psalms 66:18.  
Isaiah 1:15-20

WE CONSIDER POSTURE WHILE WE PRAY. Bible examples:

1. Falling on face:
  - (1) Moses and Aaron. Numbers 16:22
  - (2) Joshua before the captain of the Lord of hosts. Joshua 5:14
  - (3) Jesus while praying in the garden. Matthew 26:39
2. Bowing of knees:
  - (1) Paul bowed his knees. Acts 20:36; 21:5; Ephesians 3:14
  - (2) Every Knee should bow. Philippians 2:10
  - (3) Jesus bowed (kneeled to pray) the knees. Luke 22:41
3. Lifting up of the hands:
  - (1) Moses lifted up his hands when he prayed. Exodus 9:29
  - (2) Solomon kneeled and also lifted up his hands. 2 Chronicles 6:12, 13
  - (3) David lifted up his hands when he prayed. Psalms 28:2
  - (4) All men to lift up hands. 1 Timothy 2:8
4. Standing while praying:
  - (1) The Pharisee who stood to pray. Luke 18:11, 12
  - (2) The Publican also stood when he prayed. Luke 18:13, 14
  - (3) When ye stand praying. Mark 11:25

I OFTEN SAY MY PRAYERS

I often say my prayers,  
But do I ever pray?  
And do the wishes of my heart?  
Go with the words I say?

I may as well kneel down,  
And worship gods of stone  
As offer to the living God,  
A prayer of words alone.

For words without the heart,  
The Lord will never hear;  
Nor will he to those lips attend,  
Whose prayers are not sincere.

-Author unknown

Note:

These six sermons on prayer were preached at Lone Oak the last of 1957 along with other sermons by Brother Jess Hall on the ITEMS OF WORSHIP. If these sermon outlines on prayer are helpful to even one person the time and effort in thus outlining them will be well repaid. February 8, 1958

*Preached at Lone Oak, Sunday morning 2-9-58*

WORSHIP IN SONG

EPHESIANS 5:19

Colossians 3:16

JESS H. HALL, SR., MINISTER

LONE OAK CHURCH OF CHRIST

INTRODUCTION

In the New Testament Paul teaches that all Christians should "sing and make melody with the heart to the Lord." Ephesians 5:19. In this instruction Paul pointed out that we should "sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs." See Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16. Here we are taught the kind of songs that we should sing in our worship to God.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC IN WORSHIP

1. Why we do not use instrumental music in our worship.

(1) We are not commanded to use it.

(2) We are commanded to sing as we worship. Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16

(3) It is not a New Testament theme.

(4) Congregational singing only is not in question by any one. The use of musical instruments in worship is questioned by many and freely admitted by many more to be without Scriptural authority.

(5) Jesus and the Apostle did not teach that we should use it and there is no record of its use in any of the early churches of which we read in the New Testament.

(6) The Bible says nothing about the use of musical instruments in our worship today. We go by what the Bible says so we follow what is admitted to be infallibly safe.

THREE TYPES OF SONGS MENTIONED BY PAUL. Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16

1. Psalms

(1) Psalms include poems inspired of God. David's Psalms. Such songs extol God and set forth his power. Too, they speak of the power, character, and works of God. Examples:

a. THE LORD MY SHEPHERD IS

b. THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD

(2) Psalms also speak of our devotion to God.

2. Hymns

(1) Hymns offer praise to God, or may breathe a prayer to God. Hymns may also include a pledge to God. We pledge our lives, time, talent, money and ability to God. Examples:

a. MORE LOVE TO THEE, O CHRIST

b. I'LL LIVE FOR HIM.

c. FURER IN HEART, O GOD.

d. BE WITH ME, LORD.

e. I'LL GO WHERE YOU WANT ME TO GO

3. Spiritual Songs

(1) Spiritual songs describe our joy and our hope. They help us to express our confident trust in God and his providential care of his children. Such songs too may indicate our feeling of dependency upon God. Some examples would be:

a. GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH

b. THERE IS SUNSHINE IN MY SOUL TODAY

c. HEAVENLY SUNLIGHT

e. I MUST TELL JESUS

GOOD CONGREGATIONAL SINGING IMPORTANT

1. Elders, preachers, song leaders, should ever be mindful of ways and means by which our singing might be improved. Song leaders should not rush into the auditorium a few minutes before the service starts and, all out of breath pick out a few songs to lead for the service. Time, consideration and prayer should be used as one directs a service so important to us all.

*Broached at Lone Oak Sunday morning 2-14-58*

## WORSHIP IN GIVING

Luke 6:38

Acts 20:35

### INTRODUCTION

1. The power of Money versus the weakness of money.

### WHEN WE LOVE MONEY

1. Paul tells us that the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil.  
1 Timothy 6:10. Money continually lures men. Examples:
  - (1) In the ruins of Pompeii, which was destroyed in 79 A. D., a man was found with a bag of gold clutched in his hand. He might have escaped but apparently he returned for his gold.
  - (2) Many people seeking gold rush to San Francisco, California in 1849 to Sutter's Mill where gold had been discovered the year before.
  - (3) The Chisholm Trail from Texas to Kansas passed near Brownwood, Texas. Mr. Chisholm had driven a large herd of cattle to Kansas markets. Carrying a large sum of money obtained for his cattle as he returned home he was set upon by a band of robbers or Indians northeast of Brownwood at which spot, according to report, Mr. Chisholm hid his money in the earth. Mr. Chisholm died without recovering his money. If you were to pass that way today you would still see the old scars on the earth left by men who tore up the earth looking for that money.

### BENEVOLENCE AND LIBERALITY

1. Benevolence and liberality do not drop into our laps like a Christmas present while we sleep. It is something that we develop... a grace we grow.
2. There is the story of oak trees 200 years old, in Japan, still standing in flower pots.
  - (1) In many lives the grace of giving is still standing in flower pots. Sam Jones said, "If God makes you wear in heaven what you gave to the poor on earth, you will not go calling very much the first few days."

### HOW GOD MEASURES OUR GIFTS

1. Mary of Bethany. Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; John 12:1-8.
2. The poor widow. Mark 12:41-44; Luke 21:1-4.
3. Ananias and Sapphira. Acts 5:1-11.
4. Dorcas and her needle. Acts 9:36-43.
5. There are no "Hall of Fame" pictures of "big givers" in the New Testament.

### GOD REQUIRES PURPOSEFUL GIVING... PLANNED GIVING. 2 Corinthians 9:2, 7

1. Purposeful giving rules out accidental giving.
  - (1) Of a sudden the contribution looms before us. We reach in our pockets for the change left from Saturday night. Change usually small.
  - (2) No thoughtful, prayerful consideration as to how much I should give out of my earnings.
  - (3) If one accidentally fell into the baptistry he might go all under but he would not be baptized.
  - (4) Purposeful giving comes from one's heart. 2 Corinthians 9:7

### GROUND WORK FOR PURPOSEFUL GIVING

1. Remember that giving is an act of worship. Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 16:1, 2
2. Remember that we, Reap what we sow. Luke 6:38; 2 Cor. 9:6; Gal. 6:7
3. Remember that "God loveth a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7
4. Remember that we are to abound in this grace. 2 Corinthians 8:7
5. Remember that giving is a proof of our love. 2 Corinthians 8:24