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Elgin Congregational Holiness Church

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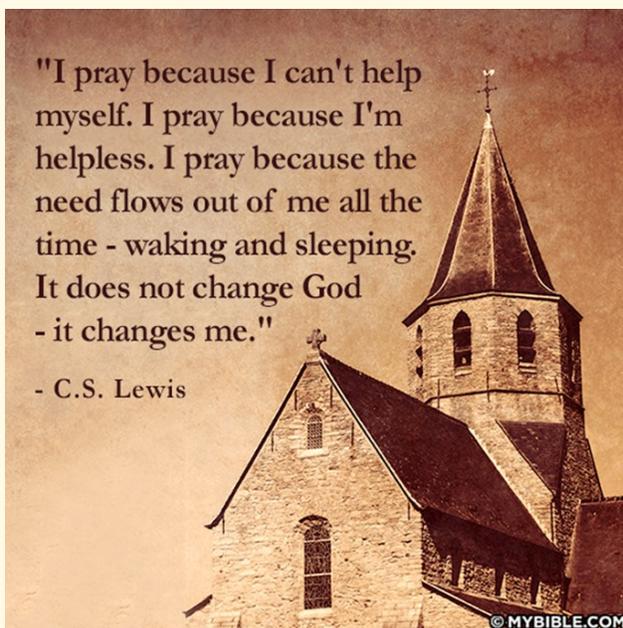
Special Points of Interest

- Men's Fellowship: Free Breakfast is the First Saturday of every month at 9am. Everyone Welcome! See Rev. Richard Abram for more information.
- Women's Meeting: Forth Thursday of every month. Speak to Sis. Judy Hensley to help or if you have any ideas
- EPIC Youth— see calendar for upcoming Youth Events. See Tangy Sims for details.
- Remember our youth: They need our help. Contact Tangy Sims to see how you can help.
- Want to write or help with the newsletter? Contact Pat Davis Email: zipzapitsme@gmail.com

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The Power of Prayer



If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

2 Chron 7:14

If your heart is sad and lonely, there's no joy anywhere.
If there's no one left to comfort, and there's no one left to care.
Just cast your cares on Jesus and upon His arms rely,
And reach out and touch the Lord as He walks by.

Though a stranger to the Master and His wonderful grace.
If you've never had the pleasure in beholding His face.
Would you lay aside earth's treasures for a home in the sky,
Then, reach out and touch the Lord as He walks by.

All along a dusty roadside, on His way to raise the dead.
Mighty was the crowd that followed, hungry for that Living Bread.
"I must touch Him", cried a woman, "I must touch Him or I'll die."
So, she reached and touched His garment as he passed by.

Reach out and touch the Lord as He goes by.
You will find He's not too busy to hear your heart's cry.
He's passing by this moment, your needs He'll supply,
Just reach out and touch the Lord as He walks by.

Nehemiah's Prayer

Nehemiah 1:5-11

As soon as you meet this man, Nehemiah, you discover what may be the most important thing about him: the rich activity of his trust in God illustrated by his prayer in Nehemiah chapter one (Neh. 1:4-11).

He lived in the capital city of Susa in Persia around 450 B.C. While serving as cupbearer of King Artaxerxes he heard the bad news that the people back in Judah were suffering in the ruins of Jerusalem. Nehemiah's first reaction was not political action, organizing a protest, abandoning his job, or getting drunk.

"As soon as" he heard this, he "sat down and wept and mourned for days." He fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.

He prayed:

"O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Even I and my father's house have sinned. We have acted very corruptly against you and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, and the rules that you commanded your servant Moses. Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples, but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.' They are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand. O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayers of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name, and give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man."

(Neh. 1:5-11).

Nehemiah knew Who he was praying to. This was no obligatory remark, "our thoughts and prayers" are with the suffering people of Judah. He spoke to the God he had known all his life, and in addressing God, he shows his personal familiarity with Him. He was praying to the great and awesome God of heaven, with full confidence in His power to hear, to respond and to guide the work that was ahead.

Nehemiah knew the situation wasn't God's fault. He put the blame on the people (including himself) who "acted very corruptly," in their disobedience to God's commands given through Moses. Nehemiah knew the history of the covenant and was aware of what had gone wrong. Someone said one time, "...might as well tell God the truth when you pray. He knows it before you start praying."

Nehemiah knew the people belonged to God. He said, "They are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand." After this prayer was offered, Nehemiah would recruit, organize and mobilize a huge number of people to rebuild the walls. He went into that project knowing the people didn't belong to him, they belonged to God.

Read Nehemiah chapter one, and learn how to react to bad news. Determine to read Nehemiah's prayer and see the mature faith he brought to that conversation with God. And the dependence on God and devotion to God that governed him after his prayer.

Here was a man who did not act without prayer, but did not pray without acting.

By Warren E. Berkley
From Expository Files 16.10; October 2009



DOVES JANUARY MEETING

The ladies of Doves learned that we can all be a Nehemiah and that we are chosen by God to produce everlasting fruits. Nehemiah produce these fruits:

Availability- Isaiah 6:8, Romans 12:2

Responsibility-I Cor. 12:28

Stability -Eph. 4:4-11

Dependability-I Cor. 4:2

Mobility-Gen. 12-1-3

Adaptability-Eph. 4:11-12

Teachability Acts 17:10-12, Colossian 2:10

Nehemiah used these fruits in the rebuilding of the gates and walls of Jerusalem. He saw the need and went into action mode.

He was able to do this through fasting, prayer, wisdom and physical labor. With the help of the priest, and the few people of Jerusalem, they built back the gates and wall in 52 days. Jerusalem at this time in history was about 30 acres in size, populations of 4500.

That is still a lot to accomplish. Nehemiah's wall is still there today in some part of Jerusalem. He used everlasting fruits.

What can each Christian do today if they would use these everlasting fruits.

Judy Hensley



We Must Prepare before we can Harvest



I know that all have sinned. I have and we all will continue to have sin in our life, but I go to Him to ask for forgiveness. I say not to be the judge and jury on the people you see around you. God said that those who are without sin to cast the first stone. My pockets don't have any stones to throw, because I admit I am a sinner, weak, frail, but I seek His power of forgiveness every day. Lord comfort me, guide my steps daily.

We must develop a relationship with God, just like the farmer plants his seeds for harvest later.

We as Christians, sinners, whichever we are, we start out with planting the seed and wait for that glorious harvest. But during this time you don't just watch it, you tend to those crops, work it daily, because if you didn't it would die, so will your relationship with God die. The word of God will give you the fertilizer to have an abundant crop at harvest time.

I am not perfect, only God the Father is. So my prayer is that we all look past the flesh and look at the inside of a person's heart. Keep close to His word.

Wayne Wright

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February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 EPIC Youth 	13	14 	15 Men's Fellowship Valentine Dinner
16	17	18	19	20 DOVES meeting	21	22
23	24	25	26 EPIC Youth	27	28	



On February 15, 2014
The Men's Fellowship
will sponsor a Couples'
Valentine's Dinner
At Ryan's on Two Notch
Road
At 3:30 pm

