

The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

James 5:16

“Prayer List”

Store In My Heart

Habakkuk 2:1

I will stand on my guard post
And station myself on the
rampart; And I will keep watch
to see what He will speak to
me, And how I may reply when
I am reproved.

Habakkuk was written between the fall of the Assyrians and the rise of the Babylonians. The concern of Habakkuk was why God would let wicked nations grow to wealth and power so He could use them to punish other, more righteous nations.

We often have similar questions about God's work. Why do the wicked prosper and the righteous suffer harm? The answer given to Habakkuk is also our answer today. "The righteous shall live by his faith." It is not our place to know the mind and ways of God. We must, just like Habakkuk, stand firm at our post and wait upon God.

We all have at least heard about the importance of prayer. I think we all recognize prayer's important place in our lives and service to God. For most of us it is a constant part of our daily life. We pray in the morning, at night, and throughout the day because we want God to be with us and we put our trust in Him to guide and help us along our walk through this world. Often we may start praying without really thinking about the need because it has become such a habit. This is good and right for we who are children of God.

There is one thing I have changed about my prayer over the last few years. I used to balk at the idea of a "prayer list." As one who is known as a follower of God, and especially as a preacher, I often get requests from acquaintances to "add to your prayer list." For many years I would hesitate to associate that phrase with my prayers. I certainly heeded the request for prayer, but I avoided the phrase because of it's denominational association. I expect some of you are scratching your heads in wonder, but maybe you had, or have, similar thoughts. Do you want to know what brought about my change? Common sense! Now some who know me may be surprised that I have any, but that is exactly what caused my change in attitude toward using this phrase.

I began to think about the things I include in my prayers and often it was a long list of things. Sometimes I even needed to write down at least part of those things so that I could make sure I would keep them in mind. Do you know what I had when I wrote them down? A list! Imagine that, a list of things to remember when I prayed to God. What would be the most sensible thing to call that list of things? A



Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

Church of Christ
1512 Tanner Street
Malvern, AR 72104
(501) 332-8806

Find Us Online

preacher@tannerst.com

tannerst.com
FB @TannerStCoC

For Our Information

Joyce Venable's blood pressure has stabilized and she has been doing much better the last few days.

Jimmy Gray is doing better after being sick last week. Kimber Gray is still sick.

Betty Ragsdale's Mom had a pacemaker put in last week and is back home and doing better.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

prayer list! Wait a minute, can I do that? That is one of those denominational things. If I start talking about a prayer list someone might begin to think I am part of this denominational stuff. But what else could I use? I could call it "things I want to talk to God about in prayer." Wow, that really rolls off the tongue, doesn't it? How about "prayer things"? Yep, that would work, but isn't that just being different to be different?

Another thing I thought of is the lists of names often included in the epistles of Paul. While he did not necessarily use the phrase "add them to your prayer list", he certainly listed them for that purpose. If Paul could ask brethren to add specific people to their regular prayers, certainly I can conclude that it is proper for me to do the same.

There are two things I want to get across with this article. First, we need not avoid certain terminology just because it has been used by those outside the Church in a manner that may not be Biblical. We need to exercise care, but if it is a Biblical idea we can use it in a Biblical way without worry of offending God with that choice. Second, I want you to add some folks to your prayer list for the next few weeks.

School is back in session, or soon will be, all around us. We need to pray for those who are being surrounded by the worldly attitudes of fellow students, teachers and administration. Here are a few names to start with: Gracie, Jon Ross, (Little) John, Jaina, Addison, Eli, Charlie, Karlee, Kimber, Koby, Drake, Adelaide, Jacob, and Zach. These kids are familiar to most of us and we can certainly ask God to watch over them. Though they might not be considered kids anymore, let's add a few more: Madison, Jordan, Candie, and Ruth. Yes, college and teaching can be challenging.

Maybe you have a few more to add to my list. I know that I did not remember all of the kids and grandkids of those who worship here. Maybe we should all start letting one another know who we include in our prayers to God. That way we can have even more "*prayer of the righteous*" benefiting our loved ones. Also keep in mind that school is not the only hazard we and our loved ones must navigate in this wicked world.

Study, Meditate, Apply, Pray, Repeat! (DLH)



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!