

all may be able to say “amen”. The Scripture we appeal to in defense of this prayer directive is 1 Corinthians 14:15-16 which says:

“What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also...Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest?”

I understand perfectly well that the text here offered is laced with the supernatural. Spiritual gifts were being manifested in that assembly in connection with prayer, singing, and teaching. But surely the principle of “understanding” in verses 15 and 16 is abiding. Let me explain. If those praying with you cannot understand the prayer you offer publicly, say because you are expressing strictly individual desires, then how in the world can they unite with you in that prayer by saying Amen? Simply put, they can’t. We all want the public prayers to be understandable to the entire assembly — don’t we? One suggestion I would make, which is by no means original to me, is that Christian men who expect to be called on to lead the church in prayer spend some time in deliberation of those prayers. However, I am well aware that at times we have no advance notice of our being asked to pray publicly. In fact, I have known several men over the years who have refused to lead public prayer unless they were given adequate advance notice — certainly this is their prerogative. But, it is because of those unexpected prayer appointments that I offer you another bit of advice from brother McGarvey:

“One is often called on to lead in prayers very unexpectedly. You have no time to reflect what you should pray for before beginning. On such occasions you have this relief: You know that there are certain spiritual wants and aspirations that are common to all worshippers, and if you present any of these you will not have gone amiss in respect to the present audience.”

McGarvey was certainly correct; there are wants and aspirations that are common to Christian brethren that can be keyed upon on these occasions. There is no need for the prayer leader to wander off into the realm of solely private sentiment on the occasion of public prayer.

I don’t believe the matter I have discussed is a problem in the church here. But because it is a live issue at some places, certainly it was deserving of this brief consideration. Let us be careful how we pray, so that we like David can say, “The Lord hath heard my supplication; the Lord will receive my prayer” (Psalm 6:9)

Mel Futrell <http://www.shadesmountaincoc.org/>

Those requesting prayer

Frances Hagar, Richard Rapert, Shirley Dixon, Gert Jacobson, Randy Land, Harvey Murphy, Ronnie Johnson, Billy Waymon, Quentin Cato, Randy and Edie Pursifull, Barbara Knight, Mackie McReynolds

Remember all the shut-ins and those in the nursing homes.

August 25, 2019

THIS WEEK'S RADIO LESSONS

on KPOC:

Sun: No Right to Teach

Mon: Household Conversions

Tue: Worship Affects Life

Wed: Lessons From Babel

Thu: Speaking the Truth in Love

Fri: Conversion Makes a Difference

Remember the shut-ins and those in the nursing home with a visit, call, or card. Also remember them in prayer

Stonebridge

Wanda Counts, 111

Pocahontas Health and Rehab

Jenafee Brunner, 500

Randolph County Nursing Home

Elsie Prewitt, 106

Earl Hagar, 109

Marie Murphy, 134

Jennifer Burr, 204

Charlcie Hufstедler, 223

Anna Lemmons, 332

Bonnie Kellett, 335

Gwen Futrell, 419

BULLETIN INFO:

Please give “News and Events” to **Tom and Carolyn Towell**. You can call 892-5087, 870-930-7344 or 870-930-7355 and leave a message. Email address is tctowell@centurytel.net

ITEMS for August

CHILDREN’S HOME

Tea/Fruit Drink Mixes

UKRAINE MISSION

Vitamins/ Eye Drops

NEWS AND EVENTS

Sue Gazaway got a good report Monday from her doctor in Little Rock. She doesn’t have to return for a year. She will be seeing a neurologist in Jonesboro in September.

Randy Land of the Westside congregation will be having surgery on September 27 to remove a mass. Test results will tell whether it is cancerous or not.

Brenda Nash is back at Randolph Home following surgery. She is still very sore but improving.

Mackie McReynolds of the Dalton congregation is home doing well following his surgery for colon cancer.

Arkie and Georgia Pierce are planning to move to town soon. Their new address will be 1004 Ridgecrest, Pocahontas. Please change this in your directory.

The **Ladies Bible Class** will resume on September 4th at 10:30. The next lesson will be Genesis 30. The class will again be conducted in the basement. All women are encouraged to attend.

Everyone is encouraged to stay for the potluck immediately after services today.

Ted Knight will be speaking this morning. We welcome him and Barbara today.

Plan of Salvation

Hear – Romans 10:17 “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God”.

Believe – John 8:24 “I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins”.

Repent – Luke 13:3 “I tell you, nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish”.

Confess – Romans 10:10 “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation”.

Be Baptized – I Peter 3:21 “The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us, not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ”.

Local Missions

KPOC 104.1 FM–RADIO PROGRAMS

Sunday morning @ 8:00 AM

Mon. – Fri. @ 6:15, 11:55, & 4:55

IN SEARCH OF THE LORD’S WAY

Sunday-7:30 AM on Cable 13 (Memphis)

Sunday-7:30 AM on Cable 4 (Little Rock)

Sunday-7:30 AM on Direct Channel 367

SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE

Sunday-9:00 AM on Cable 9 (KAIT 8)

PREACHING THE GOSPEL

Sunday-6:30 AM on Dish Channel 267

World Missions

Ted Knight, Romania

John Reese, World Bible School, Africa

Eddie Cloer, Truth for Today

Ted Lingren, Cambodia

Website—

www.pyburnstreetchurchofchrist.com

August 25, 2019

Announcements: Joey Bryant

Song Leader: Tom Towell

Speaker: Ted Knight

AM Sermon: Come and See What God Has Done

Scriptures: Psalm 66:1-7

PM: Singing Night Devotional

Presiding at Table

Wayne Smith

East

West

Elton Fielden

Byron Futrell

David Futrell

Don Gillean

Sunday Evening: Wayne Smith

Sunday Morning Worship

First Prayer Ed Stormes

Closing Prayer: Jeremy Burgess

Read Scripture: David Lemmons

Sunday Evening Worship

First Prayer: David Dement

Closing Prayer Don Gillean

Wednesday Night (August 28)

First Prayer Wayne Smith

Closing Prayer Max Long

Invitation Josh Dement

Preparation of Communion for September

David and Cindy Futrell

Sunday Services

Bible Study 9:00 AM

Worship 9:50 AM

Evening Service 6:00 PM

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM

Mats for Haiti -----
Ladies Bible Class Wednesday,
September 4 at 10:30

Elders

David Futrell 870-378-3513

Tom Towell 870-892-5087

Minister

Joshua Dement 870-378-5551

WELCOME VISITORS!!

**We appreciate our visitors
and encourage you to fill
out a “Visitor’s Card”
located on the back of the
pew in front of you.**

August Birthdays

Georgia Pierce--10

Cindy Futrell--19

Madison Byrd--21

Margaret McCarroll--23

Marie Murphy--23

Anna Johnson--25

In the Footsteps of Jesus

Pyburn Street church of Christ

305 Pyburn Street, P.O. Box 187, Pocahontas, AR 72455

870-892-5596

August 25, 2019

The Responsibility Of Public Prayer

I have preached and taught over the years what I have long believed, that prayer is a subject we were under instructed in. And that our attitude on prayer ought to be like that of our Lord’s disciples in Luke 11:1 when one said, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.” I still believe that to be true. Brethren, prayer is a subject worthy of instruction! Someone taught us, all of us, to pray. And I would further venture to say that public prayer is perhaps the weakest link in our instruction on this great Biblical theme. Young Christian men need to be taught how to pray publicly. Just possibly, we have considered the matter of prayer solely personal and private; to the extent that we would not dare suggest to another that their prayers were not meeting New Testament criteria (James 1:5-6; 1 John 5:14). The late brother J.W. McGarvey (1829-1911) in commenting on that very thing said such prayers, “reach no higher than the ceiling.” So I am inclined to believe that there will always be a need for instruction in prayer—both private and public. It would be my judgment that the man who doesn’t recognize the difference between private and public prayer is making a genuine mistake. Isn’t it the case that when one presumes to lead the congregation in public prayer but is actually verbalizing a private prayer, he is missing the whole point of public prayer? I would have to say yes. Praying publicly in an assembly of Christians involves verbalizing sentiments that not only glorify God (Matthew 6:9), but also express the thanksgiving, petitions, and supplications of those praying with you (Philippians 4:6; 1 Timothy 2:1-2). One end goal being that they (con’t)