

Prepare Communion for **FEBRUARY**—Teresa Clay

Suggested Daily Bible Reading for February — **James 1-5**

PRAYER LIST

Opal Agee (Concordia Nursing and Rehabilitation of Smith County, Carthage, Room 705B), **Patti Birdwell** (sister-in-law of Mel Smith who had successful surgery for a brain aneurysm last week), **Sawyer Cole** (grandson of Larry & Vickie Cole), **Linda Phillips** (friend of Janice Pinckley, battling pancreatic cancer), **Ruby Mae West** (friend of many) is now living with her daughter, **Rhonda Whitaker** (friend of Janice Pinckley)

OUR RECORD OF LOVE FOR CHRIST

The week of 2/10/19	
Worship Sunday AM.....	90
Bible Study Sunday AM.....	79
Daily Bible Readers.....	45
Worship Sunday PM.....	63
Wednesday (2/6/19).....	38
Offering.....	\$3,352.00

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- February 24**—Timothy & Dorcas classes
- February 24**—Fourth Sunday Fellowship
- March 3**—Elders/Deacons/Preachers Meeting
- March 10**—Instructor from SEIBS
- March 22**—Montrose Annual Singing

AREA EVENTS

- February 15**—Mid-TN Friday Night Singing, Findlay, Sparta, 7:00 PM
- February 17**—3rd Sunday Putnam County Singing, Silver Point, 2:00 PM
- February 22-24**—CYC, Gatlinburg, TN
- March 3-6**—Gospel Meeting, Celina, TN
- March 7**—Smith County Drug Prevention Coalition Meeting on Addiction, Smith County Chamber of Commerce Community Room, 6:00 PM
- April 13**—Ladies’ Day, East Main, Murfreesboro
- April 25**—Smith County Drug Prevention Coalition Meeting on Addiction, Smith County Historic Courthouse, 6:00 PM

Spiritual Potpourri

“Time changes, and weather changes, but Jesus Christ remains the same.”

“The world has too many cranks and not enough self-starters.”

“The best way to spend today is to invest in eternity.”

“Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to sell your parrot to the town gossip” (Will Rogers).

“God shall supply, all your need supply,

Ask not how, nor question why;

All you need, whatever it be,

All the need you cannot see.

Need for grace to conquer sin,

Need for power to fight, to win,

Need for patience every day,

Need for trust when dark the way.

Need for strength to bear each pain,

Need for cleansing from each stain,

Need for love to make life sweet,

Need for charity complete.

Need for pardon for each fall,

Need for mercy most of all,

Need for grace to live or die...

God shall all your need supply.”

—Anonymous

Communication

The key to a strong marriage is communication. However, communication is not just necessary within the marriage relationship, but it is necessary in any relationship, especially our spiritual relationship with God. We may communicate in our spiritual relationship in two ways: prayer and study.

We need to be a people of prayer. The Bible is replete with the command of communication through prayer. Paul tells us in First Thessalonians 5:17, *“Pray without ceasing.”* James said, *“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much”* (James 5:16). Daniel knew that prayer was important; he *“went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime”* (Daniel 6:10). Jesus must have thought that communication with our Father was important enough not only to teach it to His disciples (Matthew 6:9-13;

Luke 11:1-4), but to practice it Himself (Mark 1:35; Luke 4:42; 6:12). If Jesus needed to pray, then how much more do we need to pray? Prayer is the prelude to peace, the prologue to power, the preface to purpose and the pathway to perfection.

Since communication is a two-fold process, we should not only communicate to Jehovah through our prayers, but also allow Him to communicate to us through His written word. God not only wants us to read His word (1 Thessalonians 5:27), but He also wants us to understand it as well (2 Timothy 2:15). Moses gathered the entire nation of Israel and conveyed the importance of communication from God (Deuteronomy 5:22, 27). We need to have the conviction of Josiah towards the word of God:

And the king went up into the house of the Lord, and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great: and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of the Lord [2 Kings 23:2].

Jesus said in John 6:45, “*It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall be all taught of God.’ Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.*” The only way we can learn of God and His will for us is a daily study of the Bible. This is the only way we can allow God to communicate to us His desires, commands, and promises for us.

Communication is not sufficient alone, but action must correspond with the communication. Without such, communication is vain, and the situation places a severe strain on the relationship with problems to follow. May we always communicate with God through daily prayer and Bible study, and follow our communication with faith and obedience to the will of God. “*But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased*” (Hebrews 13:16).

—*Sam Willcut*