

# On Unanswered Prayers

By Mike Riley

We often hear an explanation for unanswered prayers: the person praying did not have enough faith. But Jesus said in Luke 17:6 that if we have faith the size of a mustard seed, we can command a mulberry tree to be uprooted and planted in the sea and it will obey us. In other words, the effectiveness of our prayers doesn't depend on "how much" faith we have, but on whether or not we even have any faith.

Luke tells of a Roman centurion who had "great faith" (Luke 7:9). His faith was expressed first as an appeal to Jesus to heal his dying servant (Luke 7:1-3). Then it was expressed as an acknowledgment that Jesus could heal his servant anytime, any place without Him even being there — just "say the word" (Luke 7:7).

Faith has been described as putting our complete trust in the Lord and His power (Proverbs 3:5-6; Matthew 28:18).

## The Answer to the Problem of Unanswered Prayers

Some seemingly unanswered prayers are simply instances in which God has lovingly overruled our wishes. He knows that what we have asked for is not the best. Or it may be that our timing is not His timing, or He may have some far greater purpose in mind (Romans 8:28).

Let us remember that even Jesus prayed to His heavenly Father, "Nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done" (Luke 22:42).

Do we have the centurion's great faith — a faith that trusts the Lord to do His work, by His authority? (Matthew 7:28-29).

Let's think about it!



**STERLINGTON**  
**Church of Christ**



P.O. Box 82  
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Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM  
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM  
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

## Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshiping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

## Those to Serve

### Today

**Announcements**- Paul Simpson

**Opening prayer**- Ronnie Hayes

**Communion**- Lyle Russell

**Closing Prayer**- David Repond

**Sermon**- Don DeLukie

### March 2nd

**Announcements**- Wayne Fowler

**Opening prayer**- Lyle Russell

**Communion**- Jerry McDonald

**Closing Prayer**- Tyrese McFarland

**Sermon**- Don Delukie

## Announcements

**—Prayer Request & information Group Message:** Our member group message is now being organized by Kathy Manning. If you would like to begin receiving these updates, please give your info to Kathy.

**—Question & Answer Series:** Our next Question & Answer Series will be when enough questions are collected. Give your questions to Don.

**—Children's Home Collection:** Our congregation is collecting items for the Children's Home in Paragould, AR. Collection boxes are by the nursery. A list of needed items is in the foyer.



Scan the QR  
code to visit  
our website.

CHARM IS DECEPTIVE,  
AND BEAUTY IS FLEETING;  
BUT A WOMAN WHO FEARS  
THE LORD IS TO BE PRAISED.

Proverbs 31:30

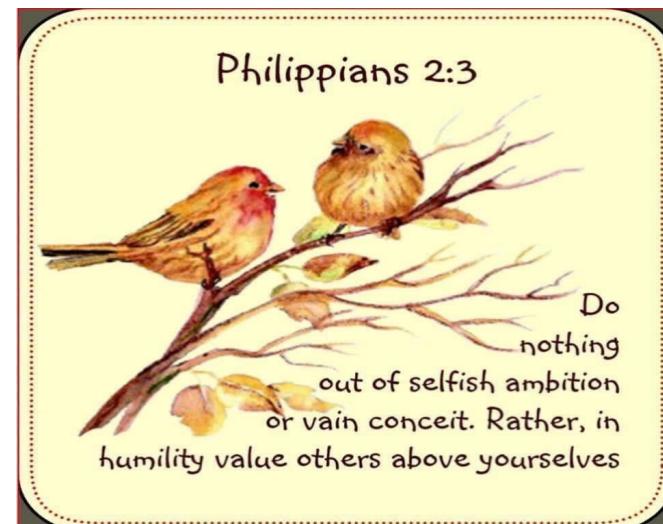
## Please Pray For:

Carolyn Jones, Vinod Raje family, Danaya Ross, Louvenia Dickson, Dave Garris, Chuck & Shannon Boyer, Katherine Simmons, Larry McDonald, Roy Lesh, Brenda Joyce Williams, Larry Randolph, Debbie Grice, Vee Boren, Pam Few.

**Bereaved:** Family of Lexi Harper, Ronnie White.

## Needing Long-Term Prayers:

Melanie Christy, Leo & Shirley Goodwin, Tommy Franklin, Carol Granger, Arthur Binford, Dan Ross Jr, Dena White, Joanne Randolph, Bettye Flowers, Linda Garris, Sharon White-Ross, James Johnson, Bobby Barker, Cindy Smith, Bobby Simmons, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross.



Philippians 2:3

Do  
nothing  
out of selfish ambition  
or vain conceit. Rather, in  
humility value others above yourselves



**Birthdays  
& Anniversaries**

### February Birthdays

- 1 - Jay Anthony McDaniel
- 8 - Ed Haltom
- 9 - Lottie Dickson
- 13 - Alex Townsend
- 22 - Sybil Binford
- 28 - Danny Silmon

### February Anniversaries

- 22 - Jacob & Kara Freeman
- 29 - Chuck & Shannon Boyer

