

On Unanswered Prayers

By Mike Riley

An explanation we often hear for unanswered prayers is that 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 at all.

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
1095 Highway 2
Sterlington, Louisiana 71280
www.sterlingtoncoc.com

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- Travis Rogers **Opening prayer**- Rick Cook
Communion- Wayne Fowler **Closing Prayer**- Ronnie Hayes

Sermon- Don DeLukie

June 9th

Announcements- John Chisley **Opening prayer**- Jerry McDonald
Communion- Rick Cook **Closing Prayer**- Damien Miller
Sermon- Don DeLukie

Announcements

—Fish Fry: Our next Fish Fry is scheduled for Saturday, June 29th. Save the date! More details to come.

—Question & Answer Series: Our next Question & Answer Series will be when enough questions are accumulated. 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.



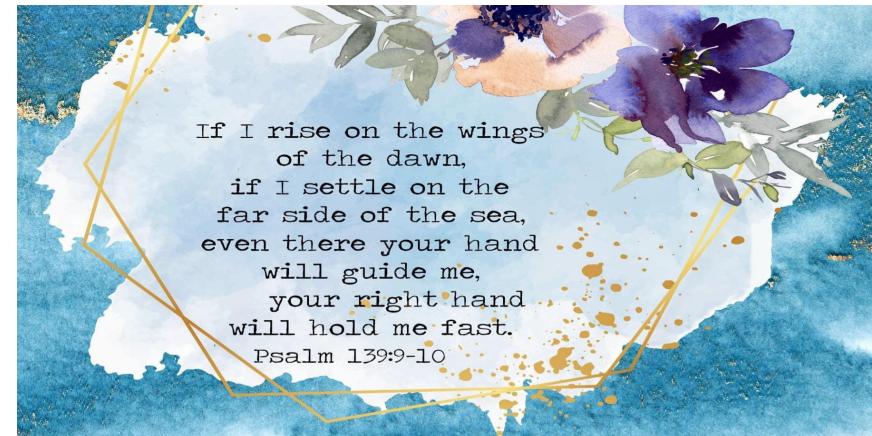
Please Pray For:

Jeanie Hollis Taylor, Carolyn Jones, Cindy Smith, Tommy Franklin, Phillip Simmons, Ed Haltom, Roger Love, Louvenia Dickson, Shaquita Anderson, Joyce Moses, Brenda Fricke, Walt Henson, Judy Smith, Hazel Bissell, Bernice Tubbs.

Bereaved: Families of Julie Williams, Ken Green, Marcille Matheny, Wallace Graves, Peggy Brantley, Steve Tores, Christie Wilson, Dwain Flowers.

Needing Long-Term Prayers:

Arthur Binford, Dan Ross Jr, Ronnie & Dena White, Joanne Randolph, Bettye Flowers, Linda Garris, Sharon White-Ross, James Johnson, Bobby Barker, Ronnie Tatum, Cindy Smith, Renee Gee, Bobby Simmons, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross.



June birthdays

- 10 -Sharon Harris
- 12 -Rachel Rogers
- 15 -Jesse Sewell
- 16 -Victor Binford
- 16 -Janice Hayes
- 20 -Debbie Grice
- 21 -Ashton Richardson
- 22 -Kara Freeman
- 22 -Damien Miller
- 25 -Don Delukie

June Anniversaries

- 17 -Brandon & Sydney Rogers
- 28 -Arthur & Cybil Binford

