



THE MESSENGER

APRIL 28, 2024

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting

May 11, 5:15 PM

Our Next Gospel Meeting

June 2-7

Weekly Bible Studies

Thursday at 1:15 on Zoom

Times of Service

Sunday

Bible study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM

(Immediately followed by a short worship service)

First Friday of Month

Singing

May 3

Address and Contact

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Christ

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PROMISES MADE IN TIMES OF TROUBLE

All adults have probably been there at various points in our lives. Some trouble rears its head and for a period of time we battle anxiety and perhaps even fear. The time from when the trouble arises to when it is resolved is stressful and nerve-wracking. If the trouble is especially serious, we might lose sleep and even find our health suffering. It is during these times that our prayers tend to become more frequent and intense. We pour our hearts out before God. This is good and right for we are encouraged to do this very thing. (Philippians 4:6-7; Hebrews 4:14-16)

These times also tend to promote honest, sober self-reflection. If we find that we've ceased walking worthy of our calling we might consider that God is using this trouble as a corrective to wake us up from our spiritual stupor. We promise God that we will do better, fulfilling our vows to him with love, consistency, and enthusiasm. We mean every word of it in that moment, too. Nothing promotes spiritual reflection and determination "to get right with God" as passing through the crucible of trial.

Then the trouble passes and we survived it. The stress and anxiety of those past moments become unpleasant memories we'd rather not revisit. Yet perhaps we *should* revisit them. I find a statement by the psalmist especially striking here. "*I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will perform my vows to you, that which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.*"

Members Needing Our Prayers

Ralph Fox, Jill Harrison, Joyce Bolton, Rick Small, Benny and Arlena Poynter, Janett Brundige, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

Others Needing Prayer

Ron and Phyllis Harmon, Sylvia Waller, Charles Patton, Jenny Thomas, Maurice Baker, Jeff Padgett, John Thompson, Georgia Patton, Glenda Miller, Alyse Nash, Patty Hill, Janice Parsons, Mark Nickles, Paul and Marrian Lyda

To Our Guests

Interested in a Bible study? Either let one of us know or mark it on your visitor card.

Visit us on Facebook, YouTube, or our website to watch or listen to sermons.

(66:13-14) When troubles of the past are relegated to the back shelves of our mind and then forgotten, the promises made to God within the trouble can just as easily be forgotten. I wish I had never done that in my life, but I have. Have you?

It's so easy. The stress that motivated the careful self-reflection is no longer relentlessly pressing on our hearts. The anxiety that prompted the brutal honesty vanished with the trial. The desperation that spurred the promises made to God left alongside the trouble. The psalmist refused to let that happen to him! He would remember the trouble and the promises that he had made. He decided to incorporate the event, and God's role in aiding him through it, into his conversation with others about God. (16) What a lesson he teaches us!

"Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he has done for my soul...Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!" (Psalm 66:16, 20) Adam Litmer

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
Adam Litmer	Marcus Lake	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	James Weatherholt	

