

A TIME FOR REFLECTION

[Pastor Gene Henderson (edits by Pastor)]

It isn't that prayer is passé as a function. The Bible – in fact the sacred writings of all faiths – certainly talk to us, teach us about prayer. But Jesus offered an entirely new approach to God, and it deserves some thought.

Like billions before us, we're faced with a problem: **how to talk to a God we cannot see**. Maybe it would be easier if He had an email address, or accepted text messages, or had a Facebook page. But apparently He prefers the more personal kind of communication, **the kind where people actually talk to each other**.

So, how to start ... *"Good morning, your Highness. Hope you slept well. It's really good to see you."* You're already shaking your head because this isn't working. He doesn't sleep, and we can't see Him. Maybe we should get right to the point. *"Your Majesty, I'm honored to have this opportunity to meet with You. Could I have a minute of Your time? There are some things I need Your help with."* Okay. Not bad. Courteous, respectful, brief. But ... is that all we ever think about? **Our list?** Yeah, we want God's help – we **need** God's help – but it's a narrow conversation if it's always about us, **if all we're ever concerned about is what we can get out of Him**. It certainly isn't much of a relationship, is it? Maybe we put our finger on the communication problem when we compare what we want from God with what God wants from us. What we want from God is His good will and His effort, His action, on our behalf. Contrast that with what God wants from us... wait, **what could God possibly want from us?** What can we possibly give God that He does not already have?

Us. Our friendship. Our love.

Now **that's** a lightbulb moment. What if what we wanted from God is what He wants from us? **His friendship and His love instead of His resources and His power**. Maybe we could reframe our prayers into conversations. *"Good morning, Father. Could we dispense with the usual list and just talk? A few things going on right now and I could use a confidential Friend. Are You in a listening mood?"*

"Absolutely, child. Good to hear your voice. What's on your mind?"

Welcome!

October 21, 2018



"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM

Unity In Prayer: 6:00 PM

Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM;
Kid's Club & Youth

Prayer ½ hour before services

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sunday Evening Prayer – our hour of prayer at 6:00 PM. Join us as we ask God for direction and revival.

Wednesday Bible Study – Romans and Kid's Club. Come and learn about the Word

of God!

Harvest Party – this Wednesday at 7:00 PM for all our children in the basement. If you are able to help by bringing candy and snacks it would be greatly appreciated.

Promoting Our Church – in order to make it easier to advertise our church one on one, Debbie DeVries designed and produced a one page flyer to introduce New Life to neighbors and friends. Please stop by the table in the foyer and take the number you need to help grow our church. God bless our efforts!

10th Annual Rebuilding the City Benefit – November 3rd, 6-8:15 PM at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 63 Mountain View Ave, Albany. The cost is \$30 per person. If you plan to attend, please sign up on the table in the foyer. Come and support this great Ministry while enjoying great music and fellowship.

Upcoming Elections – please take the time to read the bulletin insert about our upcoming elections. We will be praying for this pivotal election and we will plan to vote according to the Word of God.

Rev. Bill Pier Jr., Campus Pastor
Rev. Arthur Henderson – Pastor
Pastor's cell phone: 518.567.9788
Location: 292 Hays Rd, East Greenbush, NY 12061
Mail: PO Box 105, East Greenbush, NY 12061
Office Telephone: 518.479.3439
Email: pastorpier@newlifeaogeg.org
Webpage: <http://www.newlifeaogeg.org>

SERMON NOTES

A COUNTRY IN NEED

TEXT: Psalm 33:12; 1 Chronicles 15:1-15; 14:2

1. _____ **FOR GOD'S BLESSINGS**

- A. The Lord is with us _____ we are with Him.
- B. If we _____ Him, THEN He will be found by us.
- C. If we _____ Him, THEN He will allow us to go choose our way.

2. _____ **WITHOUT GOD'S BLESSING**

- A. The Land is filled with _____.
- B. The Land is filled with _____.
- C. The Land is filled with _____.

3. _____ **OF GOD'S BLESSINGS**

- A. God's people _____ God's people.
 - They _____ their corruption.
 - They _____ with a covenant.
 - They _____ a commitment.
 - They _____ in their correction.
 - They _____ in their connection.
- B. _____ leaders are needed.
 - He _____ the idols.
 - He _____ the House of Worship.

Haggai 1:1-7

- He _____ the people.
- He _____ authentic worship.

2 Chronicles 7:14