

The Christian Chronicle



Boones Mill Christian Church

5/8/2017

EDITION 5; VOLUME 2

PRAYER

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

**IF IN MY NAME YOU ASK
ME FOR ANYTHING,
I WILL DO IT.**

JESUS, JOHN 14:14

How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

JOHN 14:1-14

MAY BIRTHDAYS

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- 4TH: GELENE AMOS**
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- 7TH: ALEX HUNT**
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- 8TH: MARSH COLLINS**
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- 9TH: VIOLET LOWE**
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- 10TH: JIM COMPTON**
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- 11TH: MADISON AMOS**
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- 28TH: CAMERON WILSON**
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- 30TH: DAVID ROSENBAUM**
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY Y'ALL!

Jesus has just eaten his last meal when we enter the story here. The time for him to leave he again announces, is right around the corner, and in view of that departure he has a message for the disciples, that is for the church. This is not a message for the public, this is not an evangelistic discourse, but a farewell speech that begins with assurances for those he leaves behind in a sometimes hostile and indifferent world. It is not a stretch to see in this situation, his leaving them, the first major crisis for the nascent church. The situation today can feel very similar as we look at our world and its response to communities of faith on occasion. Jesus' assurance to them but also to us as modern day disciples of Christ, takes the form of three promises in our passage:

First, there is the promise of a home with God. The word that we translate "dwelling places" is the noun form of the verb "to abide." It denotes much more than a simple situation where there is shelter for us in another realm. The idea is that there is a relationship between us and God characterized by knowing and trusting like the relationship between Jesus and God. Jesus' death and departure will not sever but rather fulfill that relationship between Jesus' disciples and Jesus himself. Where he goes we will also go when he comes to get us. It is no wonder that this passage is read so many times at funerals and gravesides, those moments of the greatest transition of them all. Jesus does not want us to worry or be troubled because we cannot see him with our eyes.

The second promise here is that of a sure and clear way to God. John says that the way to the God whom no one has ever seen is Jesus Christ. We remember that Jesus said earlier **"...it is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known."** JOHN1:18. So disciples have access to God and that access is Jesus. He is the way, and the truth, and the life for all disciples for all time.

The third promise in this passage is that of a power not only to sustain the believing community in the world but also to enable it to do even greater works than Jesus did! Wow! Did you hear that? All there is to it is that we have to believe in Christ and offer prayer in his name. Oh yeah, there is one other thing that really doesn't translate all that well coming from the Greek to English. That is that the "you" used two times in the last part of this passage is a plural form. That means that in this instance at least, if we want to make a request of Jesus, it has to come out of the community. It means if we want to ask him for anything, then it has to come out of the community. Think about that with me for just a moment. If that is so, should we get together every day or maybe even several times a day for communal prayer asking for guidance on our journey as a faith community? It certainly seems so to me! The promise is pretty clear: **"I will do whatever you [the faith community] ask in my name..."** and again **"If in my name you [the faith community] ask me for anything, I will do it."** Jesus is a little redundant right here and I suspect that is because of our hearing problems. But its there – what do we [the faith community] do about it?

It is a bold thing to pray in the name of Jesus, isn't it? It is not simply a formula for closing a prayer. It really implies we know Christ, that we "abide" in Christ, and that we make our requests from that relationship rather than making selfish requests imported from an other-than-Christian value system. Essentially, to pray in Christ's name means that we are thoughtful about our prayers even to the point of praying about our motivation for what we pray for. May we practice prayer together as we seek guidance for our future in the Kingdom.

In the name of the one to which we pray,

Pastor Joe

DON'T FORGET!!!

BMCC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 3RD SATURDAY FROM 8:30AM TO 2:00PM

Our theme this year is **"DOWN ON THE FARM WITH JESUS."** Please see the Bulletin Board at the building or our FaceBook page for details. Please contact Faye Evans at 334-5546 to volunteer or to contribute. Homestead Creamery is going to bring a calf and we could use visits from other farm animals if you could arrange that or if you know someone for us to contact. Thanks and Blessings!



BMCC

MAY

2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 CHOIR PRACTICE 7:30 PM	4	5	6
7 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER STUDY @ 9:15 AM WORSHIP @ 10:30 AM *POT LUCK*	8	9	10 CHOIR PRACTICE 7:30 PM	11	12	13
14 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER STUDY @ 9:15 AM WORSHIP @ 10:30 AM MOTHER'S DAY	15	16	17 CHOIR PRACTICE 7:30 PM	18	19 CHOIR SHOWCASE 7:00 PM FAITH FELLOWSHIP	20
21 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER STUDY @ 9:15 AM WORSHIP @ 10:30 AM	22	23	24 CHOIR PRACTICE 7:30 PM	25	26	27 BMCC FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST THE ROANOKE 9:00 AM
28 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER STUDY @ 9:15 AM WORSHIP @ 10:30 AM	29	30	31 CHOIR PRACTICE 7:30 PM			JUNE 3 RD BMCC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL