

“Lord, increase our faith.” Jesus had just described how His followers must forgive a penitent brother who sinned against them seven times in a single day. We may struggle to forgive a person who wrongs us once in a lifetime, or at best we may think, “Three strikes and you are out.” However, the Lord looked at seven events in just one day. The apostles’ response was, “Lord, increase our faith” (Luke 17:5). His response to them was to describe how the smallest faith can cast a mulberry tree into the sea. Having trouble dealing with your life? Their prayer should be your prayer.

Want to enhance your relationship with the Lord? Think of these short prayers (or others that fit your particular situation) and pray them throughout your life. We sing about the “Sweet Hour of Prayer,” but it might help us all to spend more time in those “sweet minutes” of prayer in which our short prayers have such power! **(END OF ARTICLE)**

*What a Friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer!*

- Joseph Scriven (1855)

#### MINISTERS

**Minister**  
Josh Walker

**Campus Minister**  
Brad Tolbert

#### ELDERS

Mike Beard  
Larry Fisackerly  
Joe Moore

#### Deacons

Marty Baker  
Chris Bryant  
Ray Linder  
Jason Meier  
Jeff Newton  
Joshua Pettigrew  
Kerry Rice  
Jeremy Wilson

#### Assemblies

**SUNDAY**  
Bible Study 9:30 AM  
Assembly 10:30 AM  
Assembly 5:00 PM  
*Live on Facebook*

**WEDNESDAY**  
Bible Study 6:30 PM



MONTICELLO

# CHURCH OF CHRIST

*“...speaking the truth in love...” Eph. 4:15*

**January 22, 2023**

## THE POWER OF SHORT PRAYERS

*Dan Jenkins*

Sometimes you hear Christians say, “I do not know how to pray.” If by this they mean they could not pray the long, flowery prayers we sometimes hear, there is a sense in which this is a blessing. Remember what Jesus said about praying. “And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words” (Matt. 6:7). Long prayers are not wrong, unless they are filled with empty words or unless the one praying them thinks the length of the prayer is a measure of how powerful a prayer is. Consider some of the powerful short prayers in the Bible.

“Lord, save me.” The apostles had just been part of one of the most astounding miracles of Jesus. He had taken five loaves and two small fish and fed 5,000 men (not counting women and children). That night (actually it was during the fourth watch—somewhere between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m.) their boat was about to sink because of the storm. When they saw Jesus walking to them, Peter asked Jesus to bid him to walk to the Lord. It was an amazing step of faith which started his journey, but when he took his eyes off of Jesus and looked at the waves, he began to sink. His prayer was, “Lord, save me” (Matt. 14:30). It is the shortest prayer in the Bible. It was all that was needed.

“God, be merciful to me a sinner.” Two men entered the temple to pray at the hour of prayer. One prayed “with himself” and the other prayed “unto heaven.” The first told God what a good man he had been and how righteous he was. The other’s humility would not even allow him to raise his eyes toward heaven. He pounded his chest as a sign of his distress and simply prayed, “God, be merciful to me a sinner” (Luke 18:13). Think of the power of this short prayer.

## Memory Verse

**Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.**

**James 5:16 (ESV)**

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**HEART-TO-HEART**

**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**Sophie Mendez** (4 years old) had a tumor on her brain that was surgically removed this past week.. There is a possibility of more surgery and treatments depending on the results of the tests. Remember her and her family during this difficult time.

**Linda Bates** has an appointment with a specialist on January 31. Pray for answers and a plan forward. Pray for her and lone.

**Shirley Fisackerly** will have knee surgery on February 17th.

**John & Christine Riddle** (Mandy Tolbert's parents) are still dealing with some health issues

**Tona McKiever** had stints put in - pray for her recovery.

Bruce Huffman had stints put in, also.

Sandra Higgins has an infection in each ear.

Joe Spinaugle came home yesterday and will continue to rehab. Pray for his recovery.

**Rick Fagan** (Karli Walker's Uncle) is in the hospital after having a stroke.

**Sue Woodard** (Judy Beard's sister) is not doing well.

**Ben Nichols** is receiving treatment for bone cancer. They are not having the same effect as they did in the past.

**Sherry Brown** received some concerning news in

**HAPPENING THIS WEEK**

- *Small Groups Class w/book, "Coping" - Tonight*
- *Ladies' Bible Class - Wednesday @ 10 am*

**Heart-To-Heart cont'd...**

regards to her heart.

**Pauline McCloud** had a valve repaired and may need a pacemaker.

**Benita Forrest** has improved and is thankful for the prayers. Continue to keep her and those she cares for in your prayers.

**Kathryn Burton** (sister of **Gary Crook**) is in the Bellvue Nursing Home.

**Winnie Roberts** is in need of prayers.

**Donny & Janice Wright** and family are dealing with health issues. Donny had gall bladder surgery this past week.

**ADDRESS UPDATE:** Marcia Mowrer  
5080 Baldwin Rd., #B6  
Holly, MI 48442

**NOTE: if your child, grandchild, niece/nephew, etc. has any event (ballgame, play, concert, etc.) please email the details to: preacher.montcofc@gmail.com. These will be added to the bulletin so we can encourage them!**

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**



<b>January</b>	<b>23</b>	Kynslee Baker Linda Bates Lily Kate Vanderzwaln
	<b>28</b>	Brady Beard
	<b>29</b>	Gemma Walker
<b>February</b>	<b>1</b>	Mathew Tannehill
	<b>2</b>	Lucy Pugh
	<b>5</b>	Jessica Meier
	<b>6</b>	Corey Dial
	<b>13</b>	Tom Weaver
	<b>16</b>	Emily Thompson
	<b>17</b>	Chris Bryant Kerry & Becky Rice
	<b>18</b>	Ryan Halbert
	<b>21</b>	Dana Hughes

**Daily Bible Reading Schedule**

<b>01</b>	<b>Genesis 30-31</b>
<b>02</b>	<b>Genesis 32-34</b>
<b>03</b>	<b>Genesis 35-37</b>
<b>04</b>	<b>Genesis 38-40</b>
<b>05</b>	<b>Genesis 41-42</b>
<b>06</b>	<b>Genesis 43-45</b>
<b>07</b>	<b>Genesis 46-47</b>



**SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY**

The Small Group Bible Study will continue this evening. The book "Coping" by Steve Lloyd will serve as the topic. Please make plans to attend this very beneficial study.

**OUTREACH PROJECT**

The youth are making baskets for the school lounges. Please bring individually wrapped snacks or other things a teacher might need. Please have it here before this evening's small groups class.

**ANNUAL AREAWIDE**

The areawide is scheduled for February 5th, at 2:30 p.m.

**LADIES' DAY**

A Ladies' Day is planned for February 18th, 9 am—2 pm. The speaker is Amanda Scott from Hot Springs, AR. Visitors are welcome.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MONETARILY CONTRIBUTE TO THE PURCHASE OF DOOR PRIZES, PLEASE SEE TERRY BOYKIN OR KARLI WALKER**

**Attendance**

<b>Bible Class</b> .....	<b>75</b>
<b>Sunday AM Worship</b> ...	<b>104</b>
<b>Sunday PM Worship</b> ....	<b>76</b>
<b>Wed. Evening</b> .....	<b>73</b>
<b>Contribution</b> .....	<b>\$N/A</b>

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Monticello, AR 71657 phone: 870-367-3919

**MISSIONS**

Truth for Today  
In Search of the Lord's Way  
Ghana Radio

**NURSERY**

**Communion Preparation**

<b>Jan 22</b>	Mandy Tolbert
<b>Jan 29</b>	Stacy Usry
<b>Feb 5</b>	Stacy Usry
<b>Feb 12</b>	Karli Walker

**Ladies' January Duties**

**Cards:** Shirley Fisackerly  
**Food:** Anna Koonce  
Rachel Wilson  
**Pencils/ Cards:** Becky Rice