

Ellendale Church of Christ

7365 US Hwy 70 (Summer Ave.)
Bartlett, TN 38133-2631
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E-mail: ellendalechurch@bellsouth.net
Web Site:
ellendalechurchofchrist.org

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Worship service at Culpepper.....1:30 p.m.
Worship.....5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study and Devotional...7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study at Culpepper.....1:00 p.m.

ORDER OF SERVICES

December 9, 2018

A.M. Services

Announcements
Lead Singing - Mike O'Guinn
Opening Prayer
Communion
Sermon
Closing Prayer

P.M. Services

Sermon

(Please meet in the library as soon
as possible after Bible Study.)

Mission Work

Eastern European Mission
Haiti
India (Jerry Bates)
India (Purpose and Vision)
In Search of the Lord's Way
Paragould Children's Home

FOR THE LORD'S SERVICE

December 2, 2018

Budget. \$2,900.00
Contribution..... \$3,173.00
Attendance..... 64

OPPORTUNITIES WHEN HOMEBOUND

John DeBerry - Coleman Ave.:
WTWV TV 23 Sun. 4 p.m., Tues. 6:30 p.m., Weds.
6:00 p.m., Sat. 6:30 p.m. Channel 14 Comcast/Direct
TV

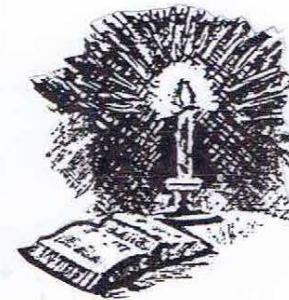
John Shannon - James Road:
YouTube; TV: Channel 17, 20 & 21 - Weds. 6 p.m.;
Channels 14 & 23 - Fri. 6 p.m.; Sat. 12:00 p.m.

GBN - The Truth in Love:
WHBQ AM 560 - Sunday 8 a.m.

In Search of the Lord's Way:
WLMT TV Channel 30 - Sunday 7 a.m.

The Bulletin...

December 9, 2018



Ellendale Church of Christ

"Where Christ is our Lord and the Bible our guide"

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105
Jesus said, "...I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in
darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12



POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to:
Ellendale Church of Christ
7365 US Hwy 70
Bartlett, TN 38133-2631

The Effectual Fervent Prayer of a Righteous Man

Prayer is the statement of the sincere desire of the heart to our Creator. Personally, I do not believe that we can study this subject enough, and this issue will examine the prayer lives from some of the most righteous men contained in the Bible. Several verses previous to our text, James encourages his readers to pour out their hearts unto God in the midst of suffering (James 5:13) and in sickness (James 5:14-15).

By making a comparison between those who are physically sick and spiritually sick, James writes, “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (James 5:16). By inspiration, James designed this statement to encourage us to pray, which is why James has said everything previously to this grand declaration. Unfortunately, it may actually have the opposite effect on some of us. Instead of reading this as an encouragement to pray, one may say, “Well, I know that God will hear and answer the prayers of a righteous man, but I am a person with human frailties, and I fall very short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). Thus, I guess that God does not hear or answer my prayers,” and we quit praying. How tragic that a statement of encouragement by design becomes a statement of discouragement through our misunderstanding of it. As Christians, we are made righteous, not by living a perfectly sinless life, but by virtue of the fact that the Lord died for us, and His shed blood keeps us cleansed and forgiven of our sins (cf. 1 John 1:7-10). Therefore, God may hear our prayers!

What a great blessing to know that “the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much!” To illustrate this, James mentions Elias (Elijah), the prophet. He “was a man subject to like passions as we are” (James 5:17). We find the expression “of like passions” only one other time in the New Testament (Acts 14:11-15), and it points to our same sorrows, heartaches, joys, human weaknesses and frailties. In other words, here was a man who was not sinlessly perfect like God, but as James continues, God heard his prayer! When we pour out our joys, our sorrows, our obstacles, our heartaches, our confessions, our admissions of human frailties, weaknesses and imperfections, then I know that God will hear me, just as he heard Elijah. When I become discouraged in life, then God will be there to hear me, just as He listened to Elijah! When I become fearful and afraid, then God will hear me, just as He heard Elijah! When I tread near the point of wanting to become critical with God for situations that have happened in my life, then God will be there to hear me, just as He heard Elijah! How fascinating that James picks Elijah as an example of “a righteous man” whom God heard in prayer.

I realize that a miracle is used in connection with God’s answer to Elijah’s prayer (James 5:17), which some may try to allude back to the previous verses. Yes, the miracle was only in connection with the revelation that God gave Elijah concerning the rain that would come after a drought that lasted three and a half years. We can read of this account in First Kings 18, and as Andy Griffith would say, “It came a frog’s rain!” Nevertheless, the point in this passage is that through James, God used Elijah as a divine illustration to show that “the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much,” and if Elijah was “a man subject to like passions as we are” and God heard his prayer, then we ought never to doubt the power of prayer! May this series of articles point to our need of living righteous lives, ever leaning fervently on Jehovah God through prayer, and realizing the great power that God works through them!

Sam Willcut

OUR SICK

Joe Neil Brown
Betty Harder
Ronnie Harder
A. J. Henson
Glenda Kirk
Yvonne Meyers
JoeAnn Patterson
Evan Rasberry
Ron Rasberry
Frances Williams
(Quail Ridge Alzheimer Special Care Center,
Rm. 6, 2820 Kirby Whitten Rd., Bartlett, TN
38134)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun., Dec. 9 - A student from Memphis School of
Preaching will be our speaker
today.
Sun., Dec. 9 - Devotional at Hearthside, 1:30 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 13 - Bible Study at Hearthside, 1:00
p.m.



Pick up a visitation card in the library after evening services. A card, call and/or a visit means a lot to those who are unable to attend.

Just close your eyes and open your heart,
And feel your worries and cares depart.

Just yield yourself to the Father above,
And let Him hold you secure in His love.

For life on earth grows more involved,
With endless problems that can't be solved.

But God only asks us to do our best,
Then He will take over and do the rest.

So when you are tired, discouraged and blue,
There is always one door that is open to you.

And that is the door to the House of Prayer,
And you'll find God waiting to meet you there.

And the House of Prayer is no further away,
Than the quiet spot where you kneel to pray.

For the heart is a temple when God is there,
As we place ourselves in His loving care.

And He hears every prayer and answers each one,
when we pray in His name, Thy will be done.

The burdens that seemed too heavy to bear,
Are lifted away on the wings of a prayer.

~Helen Steiner Rice~

