



On the Same Page

“Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.” (1 Peter 5:6–7 ESV)

A Developing Direction

Forever-Family Fellowship

We will teach and practice truth-and-love relationships with brothers-sisters in Christ that must survive/thrive in the present because we believe that these relationships will last forever

All-Week-Long Worship

As the local body of believers gathers each Sunday for worship, **we will inspire a worship experience for all age groups that will travel with you all week long.** What we do on Sunday will assist you in your singing, in your praying, in your devotion, and in your witness.

Conversely, it is as you worship all-week-long that you will be prepared to enter into gathered worship on Sunday.

Day-to-Day Discipleship

As followers of Christ, we are disciples every single day. Respect for and commitment to Scripture is essential. **We will show you how to interact with and respond to God's Word, both as individuals, and in groups.**

Moment-by-Moment Mission

God, the Architect of the world and of our lives arranges appointments and interruptions. Each of us is called to represent His Son for the glory of His Name. **We will cultivate a mind-set for moment-by-moment mission, whether close to home, or far away.**

Turning Inside Out: Psalm 6

Sunday, February 25, 2018

Just a note: I did a “quick” read-through of the Bible, marking all references to men and women talking to God. I’ve written about a few of these, all from Genesis so far. Now I’m attempting to do more of a “deep dive” in the Psalms, which, of course, are full of prayers to the Lord. My goal is to have Biblical prayers shape our prayers.

I’ll come back to Psalm 5 in another post, but in Psalm 6, we find a person overcome by the grief or adversity, so much so that he is **turning inside out**. It’s a sickness, and an unpleasant illustration would be a person who has the stomach flu, when what is inside just cannot stay there, and bursts out. Sometimes, sadly, people’s grief and anxiety does likewise.

In the good old days, people were better at bottling this stuff up. Keep the sickness in. Now, I’m not serious about that. Bottling up is not good. But you also know the pendulum effect. We go from keeping too many secrets to keeping none. And so today we have people gushing on Facebook about all kinds of drivel, actually manufacturing crises so they have something to post. That’s not what is happening in this psalm. This is real pain, and it reveals itself in real prayer.

Wouldn’t it be better if our soul-sicknesses were published to God in prayer rather than on Facebook? 1 Peter 5:8 doesn’t say, “Casting all my cares on social media, because all these so-called “friends” care so much.” They don’t. But God does. The text actually says, “Casting all your anxieties (burdens, griefs) on Him (God), because He cares for you. The verses before says, “Humbling yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that, at the proper time, He may exalt you.” This kind of prayer to God is actually part of the process by which God brings grace into our lives.

I don’t know that there are any redemptive qualities to the stomach flu. But I know that there are from cares, anxieties and grief. These events in our lives are not the product of “dumb luck.” God, in His wisdom and providence, so orders that we are improved through this experience of tragedy. Now some tragedies are clearly the product of evil, but even there, God can use these for our good.

If nothing else (and I believe there are many other benefits), grief and despair drive us to prayer. And that seems to be something of what prayer is, a person **turning inside out** to God.

This is a quote from the 1st in a series of 9 sermons on Galatians 6:14, preached in London, 1963.

"What right have you or anybody else, what right has any ecclesiastic, to get up and pour his scorn upon the blood of Christ, and to say the cross does not matter, that it is the teaching we want, or that it is the imitation of the person that we need? The whole of the New Testament is proclaiming the blood of Christ, the death of Christ upon the cross, on Calvary. It is the heart and centre of the Christian evangel, the good news of salvation."

Lloyd-Jones, Martyn. The Cross: God's Way of Salvation
(Kindle Locations 55-57). Crossway. Kindle Edition.

News and Notes

Prayer Time: Sundays, 9 a.m., in the sanctuary

Ladies Bible Study meet on Tuesdays, 10 a.m., in the sanctuary, studying Matthew's Gospel.

W. Hickory Haven service will be Tuesday, February 27, 10:15 a.m.

Circle of Grace ladies fellowship next meets on Tuesday evening, March 6.

Awana meets on Wednesday evenings, 6 - 7:30 p.m for ages 3 through 8th grade. The **Awana Grand Prix** is this week: Wednesday, February 21 (weigh-in, Tues, Feb 20)

We would like to invite interested people to join **Milford Baptist's Facebook prayer page** (search 'Milford Prayer') - a user-by-permission forum to post/read church family prayer requests.

Please note the church's phone number: 248-717-3564

Weekly Worship @ 11:00 a.m.

This Sunday, February 25, we are confronted (for the 1st of two times) with the question, **"What shall I do to inherit eternal life?"** (Luke 10:25-37). We find a lawyer who seems to ask a less-than-sincere question, and our Lord, who gives an answer that drives deeper than we suspect.



Last Sunday, February 18, we continued following Jesus to Jerusalem, and noticed the limited careers of three "Would-Be Witnesses" (Luke 9:57-62). These show interest in following Jesus, but each has an excuse why they must delay. We must think about what it means to follow Jesus and be involved in radical mission, even as we live "normal" lives. [Listen to the message here.](#)

Sunday School for adults and children each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. Adults are studying themes related to the upcoming morning message. Children are studying stories from the life of Daniel.