

FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH

April 1, 2022

Volume 3, Issue 4

Pastor's Word

The word for April is "prayer".

Prayer is more than most of us realize.

Prayer is not about getting God to do our bidding, rather for God to use us in doing His bidding.

Answered prayer brings Him glory.

Prayer unleashes God's power. "According to the Bible, the power of prayer is, quite simply, the power of God, who hears and answers prayer...The power of prayer comes from the omnipotent One who hears our prayers and answers them."

(www.gotquestions.org)

The key to unleashing God's power is in our praying according to His will.

His Word reveals His will. His will is that our lives produce fruit that brings Him glory and accomplishes that which He has appointed us to accomplish.

***"But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! 8
When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father."***

John 15:7-8 NLT

***"You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you
whatever you ask for, using my name."***

John 15:16 NLT

His Word gives us guidance in praying in line with God's will. Living in obedience to God's Word is part of God's will.

The Holy Spirit who lives in the life of those who are in Christ, always prays in line with God's will and He intercedes for us when we are unsure of how to pray.

²⁶ And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. ²⁷ And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will."

Romans 8:26-27 NLT

We would be wise and empowered if we would learn to pray prayers that are in the will of God.

Prayer empowers us to live out God's purposes for our lives. Prayer empowers us to worship, to serve, to grow spiritually, to participate in the fellowship of the church family, and to share Christ with others who do not know Him.

Prayer causes the Holy Spirit to be actively at work in and through our lives.

In April let's raise prayer to a higher level, let's seek to pray for God's will to be done in and through our lives for His glory!

Pastor Jerry

First Southern Baptist Church

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559-784-1641

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Office Hours are Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

There is a **'prayer' opportunity** taking place on Sunday mornings following the worship service

AND

You are Invited

to join us!

Following the morning service, we gather briefly at the front for a season of prayer. We are praying for our church, and for God to reveal His vision for our church this year. We would love to have you join us.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

NEW Women's Bible Study starting Friday, April 22nd



"Take Courage"

by Jennifer Rothschild

For further information, please see Debbie Lovelady

Follow us on the church's Facebook page at **First Southern Baptist Church**:

- "Worship and Word" broadcast at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays by Pastor Jerry; upon viewing you are encouraged to **Share** and **Like** so that it will be available to your friends on FB



- Also, "Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor Jerry" broadcast on FB at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays

April Verse of the Month

***The LORD lives!
Blessed be my Rock!
Let the God of my salvation be exalted.***

Psalm 18:46 NKJV

A Pinned Note from the Pastor's Wife



Pastor Jerry's article this month is about prayer. What I've learned is that the power of God through prayer starts personally first. I know most of us have learned the acronym used quite often for prayer – **ACTS** – which stands for **adoration, confession, thanksgiving** and **supplication**. But I have found that if I am to stay in an attitude of prayer **at all times** that the order doesn't always make sense.

I remembered that back in 2012 I created my own acronym for the word "prayer" that helps me. Check it out, along with the Scripture references, and see what you think!

P - **perseverance, persistence, praise**

Ephesians 6:18; Psalm 63:4

R – **repentance (confession of my personal sins), radical (dream bigger than myself), real (honest), rejoice**

Psalm 66:18; Ephesians 3:20; Philippians 4:4

A - **awesome adoration, acknowledgment of who I am (and am not!), attitude (check it!)**

Lamentations 3:19-26; Habakkuk 3:17-19;
Colossians 4:2

Y - **yield, yes Lord**

Proverbs 3:5-6; Isaiah 30:21; Proverbs 16:9

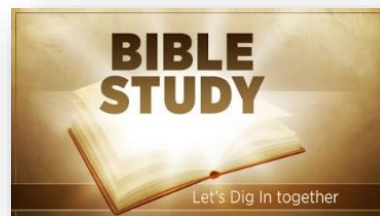
E - **earnest, exalt (lift up)**

Acts 2:33; Psalm 18:46; Psalm 145:1

R – **release, relinquish**

1 Timothy 2:8

Jessie



Opportunities available at FSBC to study God's Word together:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. both in-person (Book of Romans) and on FB

Fridays at 11:00 a.m. - Women's Bible study

JOIN US

For more information call the church office at 784-1641.

North American Mission Board

Prayer Requests – April 2022

Michael and Traci Byrd

Church Planter

Faith Community Bible Church

St. Louis, MO

mtbyrdsr@fbcstl.org



Pray members of Faith Community Bible Church will embody making Christ known in the community by caring for the community, which is why we exist.

David (Clay) and Kimbreia (Kim) Carroll

Chaplain

Alabama Air National Guard

Federal Prison Supervisor

Aliceville, AL

ccarroll@bop.gov



Pray we chaplains would have success in reaching, healing and restoring hope to incarcerated women and their families. Pray for us as we also mentor, protect and support law enforcement officers as they face spiritual and physical attacks from Satan.

David and Theresa Martin

Church Planter

Graceway Church

Auburn, IN

dmartin@gracewaypeople.com



Pray we would be faithful leaders and followers of Christ and that we would find a permanent location for Graceway Church.

Brandon and Laura O'Sullivan

Church Planter

Gospel Community Church

Santa Cruz, CA

brandon@gospelcommunitysc.org



Pray for us as we reach out to students and staff at our local elementary school and university and residents at nursing homes. Pray the lost would be reached in Santa Cruz County.