



Power of simple prayer

When you pray, do you have a vague feeling that something is lacking ...that there isn't any power in your prayers? Do you struggle with doubt or fear, or simply lack confidence that God even hears you at all?

I used to have feelings like this.

It was so frustrating because I didn't want to waste time, wondering if it was doing any good.

After I pray, I want to know that God is working and my prayers are making a difference.

It's easy to complicate our relationship with God and think we have to do certain things a certain way for them to be effective. But I've discovered that powerful, life-changing, dynamic prayer is amazingly simple!

TWO THINGS WE MUST DO

It's vitally important for us to have faith in God when we pray. Hebrews 11:6 (AMPC) says, "Without faith it is impossible to please and be satisfactory to Him. For whoever would come near to God must believe that God exists and that He is the rewarder of those who earnestly and diligently seek Him."

Ask yourself, "Do I believe God hears me, that He cares about me and wants to be involved in every area of my life?"

If we don't really believe God loves us and wants to help us, we will struggle to have faith in Him.

That's why knowing and experiencing the love of God is critical to developing a powerful prayer life.

It's also important to approach God with a sincere heart. James 5:16 says, "The earnest prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available."

A sincere heart is focused on God, trusting that He hears

you and will answer. It doesn't mean you have to cry or raise your voice to pray with sincerity; it's all about the attitude of your heart toward God.

YOU HAVE TO ASK

It's exciting to get the revelation that God loves us, cares for us and wants to help us. But we have a part to do in getting the things God has for us—we have to ask. James 4:2 says, "...You do not have, because you do not ask."

Now, it's important to understand that we have to ask for God's will to be done, not just for the things we think we want or should have.

James 4:1 tells us that striving to get what we want based on our carnal or fleshly desires leads to strife and conflicts. This causes us to be jealous, covet what others have and become angry when we can't obtain the gratification, the contentment and the happiness we are seeking (James 4:2).

These verses show us what causes problems in people's

lives. We think we're unhappy because we don't have all the stuff we want.

But the reality is only God can give us what we're longing for in our hearts. He alone is the source of righteousness, peace and joy (Romans 14:17). And we will never enjoy life until we learn to abide in Him and trust Him to do what's best for us.

The Key to Praying for God's Will

If you're not sure whether you're asking for God's will in your life (and we all go through times like this), then you need to take time to just abide in Christ.

In John 15:7, Jesus says, "If you live in Me [abide vitally united to Me] and My words remain in you and continue to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you."

To abide means to live, dwell and remain; it's not just spending time with God on Sunday morning and then

going through your week doing what you want apart from Him. God wants to do life with us Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday too.

As we spend time studying His Word, meditating on the Word, communicating with Him through prayer, and asking Him to fulfill His plans for us, we will know His will in our hearts.

It's an amazing privilege to be able to talk to God.

I want to encourage you to come to Him with humility and ask Him for the desires that are in your heart. Tell Him, "Lord, I don't want anything You don't want me to have. So if this is not Your will, don't give it to Me. I'm trusting You and want You to be in control of my life."

Pray about everything that's on your heart and keep it simple. Remember, prayer is simply talking to God, and you can pray anytime, anywhere, all day long ...and He will answer.

Watch
"In Search of the Lord's Way"
Sunday, 7:30 AM
KMTR Channel 12

Then visit the
Florence church of Christ
1833 Tamarack
Florence, Oregon

and experience the joy and simplicity of
pre-denominational New Testament Worship. (Romans 16:16)

Bible Study: Sunday, 10:00 am
Worship: Sunday, 11:00 am

www.churchofchristflorence.org

Garden Club offers \$500 scholarship

The Florence Garden Club is seeking applicants for a scholarship which awards local adult students pursuing specific technical certifications.

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Applications and information are available by email request to deettemiller@gmail.com. Deadlines for submitting application are:

- Oct. 17 for the Winter 2018 term
- Jan. 11, 2018, for the spring 2018 term.

OCHS CHRISTMAS STORE RETURNS IN NOVEMBER

Preparations for this year's Oregon Coast Humane Society Christmas Store have been well underway for months, and soon many holiday decorations and gifts will begin filling the Christmas Store, 2775 Highway 101, between Domino Pizza and the Verizon store.

Set up will begin Monday, Oct. 9, and plenty of Santa helpers are needed to help with unpacking and setting up for display, truck-loads of Christmas wreaths, ornaments, garlands, Christmas trees and gifts for kids and big kids alike.

Volunteers to assist shoppers will also be needed in November when the store opens.

Anyone who would like to volunteer and be a part of setting up the Christmas Store, or in November assisting shoppers, is encouraged to stop by any time between Oct. 9 and Oct. 13, between 10 a.m. and 2p.m., or call Director of Development and Christmas Store Manager Danielle Dickson at 541-999-5702 for more information.

Additional Christmas Store details will be available soon.

Spirituali-Tea will celebrate Baha'i Holy Day Monday

This Monday, Oct 9, beginning at 6:30 p.m., everyone is invited to join a group that enjoys finding the common ground in diverse spiritual thoughts and paths.

This year, in mid-October, the Bahá'ís of Florence will be holding the 200th year anniversary of the Birth of Bahá'u'lláh. The Holy Day mark the happiest and most festive time for Bahá'ís. The Baha'i community is invites friends, neighbors and acquaintances to come and

take part in the celebration.

In anticipation of Monday evening, Spirituali-Tea will, for the second week, be focused on the life and teachings of these two events.

The gathering will end at 8 p.m. with prayers for the requests left in the Prayer Pole in the garden of the Florence Playhouse, as well as those shared by the group.

For more information call Suzanne Mann-Heintz at 541-590-0779.

'Loving neighbors, ourselves' focus of next UU meeting

Rev. Dr. Ruth Miller will lead the Florence Unitarian Universalist worship service on Sunday, Oct. 8, from 10 to 11 a.m.

The title of Miller's talk will be "Loving Our Neighbors as Ourselves."

Miller will explore the following questions in the context of our current socio-political climate, with some pointers for getting through it.

"Love. What is it? What does it mean? What does it

take to love our neighbors? What does it take to love ourselves?" asks Miller. "In a world where most of what sells separates us from others, can we begin to overcome the pressure?"

The UU Fellowship, 87738 Highway 101 at Heceta Beach Road, is wheelchair accessible.

For more information, visit www.florenceuuf.org, or call 541-997-2840.

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THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Located at Munsel Lake Road and North Fork Road
Worship Services 10:00 AM Sunday
All are welcome! 541-997-7268

COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

4590 Hwy. 101, Across from Fred Meyer -- 997-7418
Sunday School, 9:30a.m. - Worship, 10:45
Wed. Prayer - 6:00 p.m. - Wed. Ministries 1-8 Grade 7 p.m.

CROSS ROAD ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Corner of 10th & Maple - 997-3533
Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Family Connections
Adult Bible Class, 9:30am on Sundays.
Sunday Services, 9am and 10:45am.
florencecrossroad.org • office@florencecrossroad.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - SBC

1935 25th St. - 997-7660 • Pastor, Dr. Marvin Owen
Series "People of the Bible." on Wednesdays 6 p.m.
A friendly place to worship, vacationers welcome.
Sun., 11am & 6pm, Sunday school 9:45am.

FLORENCE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

2nd & Ivy - 997-2961 -Non-Denominational
Worship Service: 9:00 am & 10:30 am
Middle School and High School youth groups meet on Wednesday.

FLORENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pre-Denominational (Romans 16:16)
1833 Tamarack Street (2 blocks east of Hwy. 101 on 18th St.)
Bible Study: Sunday 10 a.m.; Worship: Sunday 11 a.m.
www.churchofchristflorence.org

FLORENCE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

12th and Nopal - 997-9020
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
10 am Wed., Women's Bible Study
Saturdays, Mens' Breakfast @ 8 a.m.
Online Worship Service@ www.florencecnaz.com

FLORENCE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

1318 Rhododendron Dr. -- 997-2523 - Worship at 11:00 AM
-- Sunday School at 9:30 AM - Variety of Sunday evening activities - 5 PM
Wed. Bible & Children classes at 6:00 PM
Call for details.

Join Us In Worship

4 lines, approx 15 words, \$10 a week
4 week Minimum
Deadline 3 p.m. Mondays.

FLORENCE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

4445 Hwy 101 (South of Fred Meyer) - 997-3951
Worship on Saturday 10:30 A.M.
Adult/Children's Sabbath School 9:15 A.M.

FLORENCE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

87738 Hwy 101 at Heceta Beach Road
RUAUU? All are welcome to explore the answer.
Sunday Worship Service ~ 10:00 a.m.
www.FlorenceUUf.org - (541) 997.2840

FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Services 10:30 on 1st Sunday of each Month
9:00 and 10:30 each following Sunday
Adult Classes at 9am; Children's Sunday School at 10:30m
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1624 Highway 101 (next to A&W) -- 997-6337
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Website:florence4square.com

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Senior Center, 1570 Kingwood • 541-991-9398
Sunday Services: 10am and 6pm
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00pm

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A.

21st & Spruce Street - 997-8113
Adult Forum 9 a.m. - Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
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Pastor Lori Blake
www.lutheranchurchflorence.com

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE SIUSLAW

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To be included in this directory contact
the Siuslaw News at 997-3441, or drop off
information at 148 Maple St., Old Town, Florence.