

Communion/Prayer Service August 29, 2021 App Notes

The Challenges Before Us:

- America has two days to complete her evacuation plan from Afghanistan.
- The resurgence of COVID across our nation & the world
- Dysfunction government across most all spectrums
- Immigration Challenges: So. Border & Afghans on the way
- Our communities AND churches are divided over how to best solve these crisis: masks or no masks, Vaccine or not, having contact with people or not. Friends & families are being divided as societal tensions rise.

BEFORE We Pray Today We will Celebrate the Lord's Table (you'll see why):

1 Corinthians 5:7-8 NKJV *"Therefore, purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Therefore, let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."*

1. PURGE the old leaven
2. RECEIVE & REMEMBER Christ as your Passover
3. KEEP the Feast with the bread of sincerity & truth

Christ fulfilled the demands of the Law when He was crucified on Passover weekend. John the Baptist declared: *"Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the whole world"* (John 1:29 NKJV).

1 Cor. 10:14-17 *"Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread."*

1 Cor. 10:19-22 NKJV *"What am I saying then?...I do not want you to have fellowship with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons. Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?"*

It's time to pray. The Bible answers the question: "what do you've done everything you can do and nothing is changing!?" There are three things we need to know & believe as we pray:

1. Who are our enemies?

Ephesians 6:10-12 TLB "Last of all I want to remind you that your strength must come from the Lord's mighty power within you. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand safe against all strategies and tricks of Satan. For we are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against persons without bodies—the evil rulers of the unseen world, those mighty satanic beings and great evil princes of darkness who rule this world; and against huge numbers of wicked spirits in the spirit world.

2. What are our tools?

Ephesians 6:13-17 TLB "So use every piece of God's armor to resist the enemy whenever he attacks, and when it is all over, you will still be standing up. But to do this, you will need the strong belt of truth and the breastplate of God's approval [righteousness]. Wear shoes that are able to speed you on as you preach the Good News of peace with God. In every battle you will need faith as your shield to stop the fiery arrows aimed at you by Satan. And you will need the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit—which is the Word of God."

3. Why has God given us the armor?

Ephesians 6:18-20 TLB "Pray all the time. Ask God for anything in line with the Holy Spirit's wishes. Plead with him, reminding him of your needs, and keep praying earnestly for all Christians everywhere. Pray for me, too, and ask God to give me the right words as I boldly tell others about the Lord and as I explain to them that his salvation is for the Gentiles too. I am in chains now for preaching this message from God. But pray that I will keep on speaking out boldly for him even here in prison, as I should."

So we will pray for...

- a. YOUR needs according to the Holy Spirit's wishes (expressed in the Bible He inspired to be written)
- b. Christians EVERYWHERE
- c. Ministers to speak BOLDLY the Words of God