

Sermon Outline

Looking Ahead:

- March 19 *"Possessing Certainty"* ~ 1 John 5:18-21, Pastor Corey
March 26 *"Having Confidence for Life, Because of our Relationships with the Lord and within the Body of Christ"* ~ Conclusion to 1 John, Pastor Phil
April 2 **Palm Sunday** ~ *"Being in the Presence of Christ,"* Luke 19:28-44

If you would like to TEXT a prayer request to The Chapel Staff, text the word "prayer" to 269-280-2878.

"Praying for Those in Need ~ Are We Our Brother's Keeper?"

1 John 5:16-17

March 12, 2023

Introduction: "Are we our brother's keeper?"

Gen.4:1-9

Rm.12:10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. (NIV © 1984)

Phil.2:3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

I. What are we to do for Others? We are to Pray.

- A. Because of what we are, *1 Cor.12*.
 1. We are a body.
 2. We belong to one another.
- B. Because in scripture, we are told to pray for others.
 1. Pray for our fellow believers, *Eph.6:18-19*.
 2. Pray for all people who need to be saved, *1 Tim.2:1-4*.
- C. Because we have examples of those who did pray for others, *Rm.1:9-10, Phil.1:3-4*.
 - Weekly Prayer Sheet
 - Monthly Prayers & Missions Calendar
 - "The Watch" ~ Noon on Tuesdays
 - Men's Round Tables & Women's Bibles Studies, ABFs, Small Groups
 - Muslims Prayer Booklet for Ramadan
- D. Because prayer affects God, *1 Jn.5:14-15*.
- E. Because prayer affects us. *Amos 7:1-9*.

II. For Whom are we to Pray, v.16?

- A. We are to pray for our brothers and sisters who are sinning.
 - The first interpretation: John is referring to an unsaved person, a fellow human being who is in need of eternal life.
 - The second interpretation: This passage refers to a genuine believer who needs a right relationship with God the Father. *1 Jn.2:9-11; 3:10-17; 4:20-21*

B. Not for those who are hardened in their sin against Christ.

1. Some thoughts.
2. This one is not a “brother/sister.”
3. What is this “sin that leads to death?”
 - a. This is a specific sin.
 - b. This is the sin of apostasy.
 - c. This sin is blaspheme against the Holy Spirit.

Mat. 12:25 Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. ²⁶ If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand? ²⁷ And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your people drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. ²⁸ But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.”

Mk. 3:28 Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, ²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin.” ³⁰ He said this because they were saying, “He has an impure spirit.”

Jn. 8:23 But he continued, “You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. ²⁴ I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am he, you will indeed die in your sins.”

d. This is a hardening rejection of Jesus Christ.

1 Jn. 3:9-10; 2:18-19, 22-23, 26; Rm 1:18-26

Isa. 55:6 Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. ⁷ Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Rm. 1:18 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹ since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse ... ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles. ²⁴ Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵ They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen. ²⁶ Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones.

C. Application: We need to pray for those with spiritual needs. Are you? Will you?

III. Why are we to Pray for Believers who are Sinning, v.17?

A. Because we see the seriousness of sin.

B. Because forgiveness is available.

1 Jn. 1:7,9

C. So that the believing sinner can be restored.

D. Application: We are our brother's keeper. We need be involved in the lives of others.

Conclusion:

1 Thess.4:9 Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. ¹⁰ And in fact, you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more ...

~Action Steps~

1. Today, I need to place my faith in Jesus as my Savior, believing that He died on the cross to pay for my eternal death. Today, I repent of my sin and receive His gift of forgiveness and eternal life.

2. To all believers, how is your prayer life? Is it organized? Can you improve it? Will you set a time to pray? When?
My plan of action:

3. To pray for the spiritual wellness of others, I need to pray for the spiritual wellness of my own heart. There is sin in my life that I need to confess to the Lord today.