

The Union Baptist Church Newsletter



Volume 7, Issue 13

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A DEVOTIONAL FOR MEN ON THE GO

A Promise We Can Count On

*"I will not fail you or abandon you!"
(Joshua 1:5)*

At first glance, today's verse seems to be a promise of shelter from danger. It sounds like the words of a father offering his young child comfort. But in reality, it is the battle cry of a God who wants to do great exploits in the life of a man named Joshua.

Joshua was preparing for his finest hour. He was about to miraculously cross the Jordan River, miraculously face the most barbaric people of the earth, and walk the nation of Israel through the complicated task of settling in new land. The promise that *"I will never fail or abandon you"* is *God's commitment* to go with Joshua on the journey ahead of him.

There was no escape or back door for Joshua to go through, only the seemingly insurmountable challenge ahead for him to face down. History was counting on it, and God's plan included a guarantee of his success. That guarantee was the very presence of God Himself.

This is what a man's life is about. It's about recognizing the challenges God places before you and meeting those challenges head-on, knowing that He is with you. Without challenges, a man's life is just a list of chores; but with challenges, life is a humble pursuit of doing what is beyond your own ability, only because God is with you.

What seemingly insurmountable is God calling you to face today? Whatever that challenge is, your *only guarantee of success is God Himself and His promise: "I Will Never Fail You or Abandon You."* AMEN.

Lord, constantly remind me that Your presence guarantees that *"I Can Accomplish Your Will."* AMEN.

*Perspective
Devotional Thoughts for Men
— Dr. Richard Halverson*

A MEDITATION FOR EVERY MARRIED COUPLE

Praying for Each Other

"Far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you." (1 Samuel 12:23)

Does the Scripture give any example of couples praying for one another? *Genesis 25:21* reads, "Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because *she was barren*. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant." God answered, and He blessed them in a unique way. *Rebekah gave birth to Jacob and Esau.*

Is prayer in the context of marriage, just another aspect of living out a faithful Christian life or, do the prayers of husbands or wives for their spouses have special meaning of effectiveness? The answer seems to be both. Marriage partners who pray draw on some key spiritual principles for blessing:

1. *In marriage we can pray with the power of oneness.* A married couple has become – and will always be in the process of becoming – *"one flesh"* (*Genesis 2:23, 24*). When we pray as part of this *mysterious union*, we invite God to accomplish His original purpose to bless and complete us through the relationship.
2. *In marriage we can pray with the power of His presence.* Jesus said He is present in a special way when two or three of His own meet in His name (*Matthew 18:20*). When we pray and agree together as a couple, we obey Christ's invitation, and we experience the *"power of three"* (*See Ecclesiastes 4:12*).
3. *In marriage we can pray with the power of insight that comes from intimacy.* No one can pray for us with as much *understanding and sincerity as our lifelong partners*. When we know and love each other completely, our requests are more likely to be in line with God's purposes. And our thanks for our spouses will flow more naturally (*Philippians 1:3-11*).
4. *In marriage we can pray with the power of true love.* The effectiveness of every spiritual ministry in the lives of others begins in love; anything else is just a waste of effort, Paul wrote (*1 Corinthians 13:1-8*). When husbands or wives pray in love, they pray with a power that God promises cannot fail. AMEN.

*After You Say, "I Do"
— H. Norman Wright*

**TEEN'S CORNER –
GOT QUESTIONS –
GOD'S GOT ANSWERS...**



QUESTION:

What does the Bible say about the need to share my faith with others?

THE QUICK ANSWER:

D. L. Moody, the famed Evangelist from Chicago, said, "Remember, a small light will do a great deal when it is in a very dark place. Put one little tallow candle in the middle of a large hall, and it will give a great deal of light." Make certain that your candle is always lit. Give your testimony, and trust God to do the rest!

"Your Testimony"

*The following night, the Lord stood by him and said,
"Have courage! For as you have testified about Me in Jerusalem,
so you must also testify in Rome."
(Acts 23:11 HCSB)*

Genuine faith has never meant to be locked up in the heart of a believer – to the contrary, it is meant to be shared with the world. But, if you sincerely wish to share your faith, you must first find it.

How can you find and strengthen your faith? Through praise, through worship, through fellowship, through Bible study, and through prayer. When you do these things, your faith will become stronger, and you will find ways to share your beliefs with your family, your friends, and your dates, and with the world. And when you do, EVERYBODY WINS! AMEN.

— 100 Questions Teens Ask with Answers from God's Word
— By Freeman Smith

**A Little Humor For The
"Hearts and Minds of God's People"**

**Topic: BEAUTY
"Lady Lied to Mom"**

A Little girl was watching her mother apply some facial cream, when she asked her mother what kind of stuff she was putting on her face?

Her mother answered, "This is facial cream, honey. The woman at the store told me it would make me beautiful."

The little girl looked carefully at her mother's face and said, "Mommy, I think that lady at the store lied to you."

Laughter
is an
instant
vacation.
— Milton Berle



MANNERS THAT LEAD TO SUCCESS IN LIFE

“Getting Along With Others”

Learn to get along with others. We’re all the same inside. All of us want happiness, good health, and to get the best out of life.

Don’t shout or say “*shut up.*” Talk or discuss “*quietly.*” This is good manners.

It isn’t right or normal to throw a tantrum and yell to get what you want. Talk things over in a normal voice and discuss what bothers you. Treat others *the way you would like to be treated*. Don’t say things to hurt family or friends. I don’t like to be around people who are always putting other people down.

You’ll never be sorry for things you haven’t said. If you say something hurtful, you can never take it back despite saying, “*I’m sorry.*”

People who try to start fights or arguments are not going to be with you for the rest of your life. You are going to be with yourself. If you let someone upset you and you lose your temper, *then you are not in control of yourself*. We are responsible for how we feel.

Learn to *use self-control*. Think before you do something bad. Afterward, you might be punished or your *conscience will bother you*. You have to live with yourself. Learn by other people’s mistakes.

Stay away from bad people. Choose your friends. To have a friend, *be a friend*. Live and play around good people. AMEN.

~ Manners are Magic — Jean Abramson





A Devotional for Singles

"Listening Builds Relationships"

"Be a quick hear [a ready listener]."

(— James 1:19 AMP)

One of the greatest gifts you can give to another person is the gift of listening. As *James 1:19* tells us, we are to be ready listeners.

The *Amplified Bible* sheds light of the fact that listening is a gift you must be *quick and ready* to give.

It is a gift of such spiritual significance to others that it can recreate a sense of importance, hope and love where rejection, hopelessness and despair have previously wreaked havoc.

Proverbs 20:12 says, *"The hearing ear and the seeing eye, the Lord has made both of them"* (Amp.). Listening is a tool God has provided for His creation to nurture and validate each other. But as with all other tools, you must learn how to use it.

Listening requires that you make full investment of your spiritual, emotional and physical senses. It requires you to see with the eyes of your heart. Listening is looking beyond the spoken words and seeing what the person's actions are saying as well. To really listen you must be willing to focus fully on the other person.

Listening requires using the ears of your heart; hearing not just the spoken words, but the unspoken words of the spirit that are too painful to share. It may mean leaning your *spiritual ear* against the *emotional chest* of another to hear the heartbeat of one who is under attack.

Listening requires an openness to whatever is being shared; feelings, attitudes or concerns. This can be difficult because *real listening* means that you give up *not only the desire to fix it, but also to defend yourself*. Defensiveness and listening are incompatible. Listening is putting yourself in a position to feel from the other person's point of view and to lovingly respond to whatever is being shared with you. You will often have to be silent when you would rather speak:

He who answers a matter before he hears the facts – it is folly and shame to him (Proverbs 18:13 Amp.)

When you *are listening*, you are also *receiving a gift*. You are receiving an invitation to be a guest in the heart of another. Thoughtful guests are often welcomed to return because they have earned trust. And *trust is the soil in which safe relationships are cultivated*.

You can help others to deepen their roots in your friendship by setting an example. Take the initiative to *share openly and lovingly*. Respond with trust and gratitude. Welcome others into your life and you will find that others can make room for you too.

Keep in mind that men and women listen differently. Women tend to give more feedback to indicate they are tracking with the other person. Men tend to give less verbal feedback; and when they do, it means they agree with you. Thus, if you are a single woman, do not mistake a man's silence for being unheard. And if you are a single man, you can learn to be more open. (My book *What Men Want* will provide an in-depth look at the ways men listen.)

Remember, there is a **distinct difference between listening and hearing**. The goal of hearing is to gain content or information for your own purposes. In hearing, you are concerned about what is going on inside you during the conversation. You are tuned in to your own responses, thoughts and feelings.

The goal of friendship, however, is to be a listener. If you want to be known as a friendly person, you will want to care for and empathize with others. The world needs those who listen because few people do. Years ago a man said, "Listen to all the conversations of the world between nations as well as married people. They are for the most part dialogues of the deaf." Sobering thought! AMEN.

Questions for Reflection

How well do you know God?

How willing are you to share Him with others?

Who will you share Him with today?

~ Single Purpose—A Devotional for Singles- H. Norman Wright

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR
UNION'S 184th ANNIVERSARY/REVIVAL CELEBRATION
SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2015



"Congratulotions & Happy 184th Church Anniversary to Union Baptist and It's Membership

— and —

Happy Birthday" Wishes to Everyone Born in the Month of July!

Welcome to Zion

Pastor Yates, the Ministerial Staff and the Union Baptist Church Family wholeheartedly welcome our Sister Church, Zion Baptist Church, on this glorious occasion of our 184th Church Anniversary Worship Celebration. May we "walk together" in our efforts to glorify God and our service be a "beacon of light" to Our Community.

A "Thank You" From the 2015 Co-Chairs of the 184th Church Anniversary:

Deacon Marvin and Betty Grizzard would like to thank all who assisted in making our 184th Year Anniversary a "Success." Praise God from whom all blessings flow...

Thank you for Last Sundays Wonderful Homecoming Day Worship experience With Love from New Zealand:

A.J. & Vikki wish to thank you for the wonderful worship experience we had in Cincinnati and Union last weekend.

By the way, we are members of City Bible Church, Hamilton N. Zealand.

Thank you again for such a warm and inviting welcome. We may be from half way around the world – but we have "One Lord" and "One Faith."

May you all be greatly blessed! A. J. and Vikki

**CONTINUED INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR
SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2015**

UBC COMMUNICATION CARDS: Anyone worshipping with us today and “making a decision for Christ” by using one of our UBC Communication Cards found in the pocket of the pews, is **encouraged to follow-up your decision TODAY, by contacting REVEREND ALVIN L. WYATT, Minister of Christian Life and Witness at (513) 381-3858.** When calling, please leave your name, the spelling of your name, the date and time of your call, and, most importantly, **a telephone number where you may be reached.** Reverend Wyatt will be in touch with you, as quickly as possible, after receiving your telephone call, as to the next steps regarding your decision(s) for Christ. **GOD BLESS YOU.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYER MINISTRY: For the convenience and support of the Union Baptist Church membership and our guests, a **Prayer Request Box with Forms is available in the vestibule leading into the Sanctuary.** Please feel free to place your Prayer Request(s) in the box at any time. Our Prayer Partners stand ready to pray with you, and for you. Thank you, **Deacon Norman and Sister Ann White, Ministry Leaders.**

NEED A RIDE TO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR 10:20 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE? If you are in need of a ride to Church, please call **(513) 981-0423** and leave your name and your telephone number.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS: If you have not already done so, please take a moment and join Pastor Yates in showing your love and support by welcoming our newest members, to ***The Union Baptist Church of Cincinnati.*** They are as follows:

Brother Demetrius Hyneman, who united with us on Sunday July 12, by Baptism;

Sister Destiny Gamble, who also united with us on Sunday July 12, by Baptism.

We are thankful for all our new members, and wholeheartedly welcome each and every one of you to ***The Union Baptist Church of Cincinnati.*** **AMEN.**

WEDNESDAY NOON DAY BIBLE STUDY: *Our afternoon Bible Study is held every Wednesday from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 p.m. (a light lunch is served immediately following the Bible Study).* This **Series Subject** is: **“The Study of God-Life’s Most Meaningful Pursuit.”** The Study of God is the most meaningful pursuit in life. **Jeremiah 9:23-24** expresses the importance of knowing God: **“Thus says the Lord, Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom and not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let Him who boasts boast of this, that He understands and knows Me.”** Of all the things that matter in life, to know God through a purposeful study of His nature, His character, and His perfections should be our driving force. Only then will we be able to define everything else accurately. Remember all are welcome, it’s never too late, and may we be blessed with your presence very soon. **PASTOR YATES.**

MEN: A NEW BIBLE STUDY SERIES WILL BEGIN ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 AT 7:15 P.M. The name of this Series is entitled, **“Uncommon Manhood,”** By Tony Dungy. Coach Dungy led the Indianapolis Colts to Super Bowl victory on February 4, 2007; the first such win for an “African American” Head Coach. In his book, Tony Dungy shares these thoughts, **“What does it really mean to be a man? The truth is that young men get pulled in every direction by people and society today. Everyone has a different expectation for us as men: be a provider, be tough, be sensitive, don’t cry, go to work, stay home, go hang out with the boys, don’t hang out with the boys, and so on. Over and over through the years, I’ve seen the results of these confusing messages. Unfortunately, the kind of ideas that our young men are buying into and the pressure to conform are causing them to follow the path of least resistance.”**

This incredible four-session series will inspire and energize us. No matter what kind of team you lead – a sports team, a class, a family, a church, people are looking to MEN for guidance and we want to lead them well. Tony challenge’s you to instill uncommonly strong character in your team members – and teach them how to win in life. We look forward to ALL MEN OF UNION joining this new Bible Study Series and Men’s Fellowship when it resumes on September 8th. Reach out and bring someone with you. God Bless You, PASTOR YATES.

CONTINUED INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2015

WEDNESDAY EVENING CHURCH-WIDE PRAISE & WORSHIP, PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY 7:00 – 8:30

P.M.: Mid-week Praise and Worship, Prayer and Bible Study is held every **Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.** in the sanctuary. **Private Prayer and meditation begins at 6:00 p.m.** for those who come early. It is also my prayer that the entire **Leadership of Our Church and each member, Will Make Every Sacrifice to be Present to Worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to Pray and Study His Word from the Bible.** Remember the words of **Hebrews 10:24, 25:** “**And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is: but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.**” **God Bless You, PASTOR YATES.**

THE CITY GOSPEL MISSION OUTREACH MINISTRY: The following schedule of the longstanding participation of **Union Baptist Church Ministers** began with **Reverend Shawn D. Pate**, is as follows:

Saturday, June 27, 2015	Reverend Barry L. Hixon	Preaching at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 27, 2015	Reverend Alvin L. Wyatt	Preaching at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, August 22, 2015	Reverend Emanuel Marshall	Preaching at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 26, 2015	Reverend Barry L. Hixon	Preaching at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 24, 2015	Reverend Alvin L. Wyatt	Preaching at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 28, 2015	Reverend Emanuel Marshall	Preaching at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 26, 2015	Reverend Barry L. Hixon	Preaching at 7:30 p.m.

Union is asked to **Pray for and Support, in every way possible, our Associate Ministers in their ministering at “City Gospel Mission”** during this season of evangelism both now and in the near future. **City Gospel Mission** is located at **1805 Dalton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214, (513) 241-5525.** Thank You. **PASTOR YATES.**

SUMMER FOOD AND ENRICHMENT PROGRAM: We still have room and scholarships for all ages for The Union Foundation/Union Baptist Church **Summer Food and Enrichment Program, at Peoples Church.** Please pick up a registration form or call **513-981-0421** to have a registration form emailed to you. The first 15 children, per age, will be accepted provided, all other requirements are met. The program this year is for **10 weeks, and began June 8th.** Classes are **Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through August 14th.** **Parent Orientation is Mandatory. You must call to make special arrangement to have the Mandatory Parent Orientation.** The Orientation will be at **Peoples Church, 220 William Howard Taft Road, 45219.** **No child will be able to start the program until Parent Orientation is completed.** Come and hear about the exciting outings and changes we will have this year. Meet the returning and new staff. Registration forms may be emailed to aibellwellness@yahoo.com; Forms may be **dropped off at Peoples Church; dropped off at The Union Foundation/Union Baptist Church; or mailed to either church.** Feel free to share with others. Call me at [513-981-0421](tel:513-981-0421) if you have any questions/concerns.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

YOUTH REVIVAL/WORKSHOP: Union’s Youth Revival Workshop will be held **Monday, July 27th through Thursday, July 30th, 7:00 p.m. nightly.** Several Youth ministries from other churches throughout the city will minister through song and dance. **Reverend Cameron Cunningham**, a teen preacher and high school senior, who serves at **Mt. Zion Glendale Baptist Church** will be the evangelist. The annual theme for the **PDYM** is **"Keeping God First" (Matthew 6:33).** On **Wednesday, July 29th at 6:00 p.m.** we will have our Youth Workshop. The theme for the Workshop is **"Tools for Effective Living."** We will be giving the young people the tools that will help them to be effectively positioned educationally, vocationally and spiritually. Assisting us with this will be **Reverend Emanuel Marshall, Sister Tempest Alexander, Sister Annette Bell and her team of career professionals, and Reverend Darnell Lee, Youth Minister, St. Marks Baptist Church.** Please support our Youth Revival/Workshop with your presence and prayers. **God Bless You Always. Reverend Alvin Wyatt, Dr. Raven Jackson and the PDYM Staff.**

CONTINUED INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR
SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2015

A Thank You From A 2015 High School Graduate:

"Thank You, Pastor Yates for being there for me my whole life.

You really helped me get through some really tough times just listening to you and praying.

Thank you for leading me to 'Salvation – Jesus Christ', when I was little.

*That was the best thing that happened to me. I want you and First Lady Yates and the Whole Church
Family of Union to know that wherever*

I go, I will never forget the Church and I will keep in contact.

Thank you again. Sister Keisha Thompson!

"Hugs"

(By Dean Walley)

It's wondrous what a hug can do

A hug can cheer you when you're blue

A hug can say, "I love you so"

Or "Gee, I hate to see you go."

A hug is "Welcome back again"

And "Great to see, where've you been?"

A hug can smooth a small child's pain

And bring a rainbow after rain.

The hug: There's just no doubt about it

We scarcely could service without it.

A hug delights and warms and charms —

It must be why God gave us arms.

Hugs are great for Fathers and mothers,

Sweet for sisters, swell for brothers

And chances are your favorite aunts

Love them more than potted plants.

Kittens crave them, puppies love them.

Heads of State are not above them.

A hug can break the language barrier

And make your travels so much merrier.

No need to fret about your store of them.

The more you give the more there's more of 'em

So stretch those arms without delay!

And give someone a Hug today!