

SERMON

DATE: Saturday - Sunday, November 23-24, 2019

SERMON TITLE: How to Pray at Thanksgiving

Ephesians 1:15-23

[15] For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people,

[16] I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.

[17] I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

[18] I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,

[19] and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength

[20] he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,

[21] far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

[22] And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church,

[23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

November 23-24, 2019

Title: How to Pray at Thanksgiving

1. Thank God for the good others do.

- For Paul, thanksgiving was the mark of Christian maturity.

2. Pray positively.

3. Pray for life change.

- To truly know God is to become like Him.
- To be like Christ is the goal of a life in Christ.

4. Pray specifically.

- To understand our hope - which is confident expectation.
- To understand our rich inheritance.
- To understand our power – the power that raised Christ from the dead - ***Ephesians 1:19-23!***

5. Pray to live as you are – a Child of God.

Lagniappe

This past Wednesday evening, November 20, 2019 the church met for our fourth and final congregational meeting for the year.

This was an important meeting for the church.

Here are the major items we discussed and executed:

First, the church extended a unanimous call to Adam Watson to serve as Worship Pastor. Adam has accepted our call and will begin service with us January 1, 2020 and will worship with us for the first time in this new capacity January 5, 2020. Adam will be part of our worship team, working alongside David Logan and Barry Carpenter and under the direction of Associate Pastor Jay Johnston who leads this team.

Second, the church received and discussed the 2020 Proposed Budget of \$6,900,000. The budget for the new year is a \$200,000 increase over the 2019 budget. The church will vote on the 2020 budget the weekend of November 30-December 1. Our by-laws require that we have a meeting to discuss the budget without a vote (this past Wednesday) and a meeting to vote without discussion (Nov 30-Dec 1).

Third, the church affirmed deacons who will serve the two-year period of 2020-2021. Included in this list are three new deacons: Sydney Gibbs, Charles Paradelas, and Daniel Roberts - who will be ordained in the weekend services January 4-5, 2020.

Finally, the church elected those members who will lead the various ministry teams of the church. These members help lead the church in carrying out our mission "To help people know and accept Jesus Christ and through Him to experience life-changing relationships."

I pray that you have a Blessed Thanksgiving.