



# PRAYERWATCH NEWSLETTER

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**Fall 2006**

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## *Four Simple Words*

By Greg Dunn, Maranatha Chapel Prayer Pastor

It doesn't take a lot of words to communicate the basics. Just a few words and phrases and a bit of pointing can, in most cases, express your simple immediate questions. That's not to say we shouldn't develop a rich full use of the languages we communicate in, like the language of prayer but in any language, simple questions can often be answered with a few simple words. Answers like "Yes", "No", "Wait" and "Go" can be very powerful instructions when coming from the right source...God for instance. In past newsletter articles we have looked at what the Bible has to tell us about hearing from God. I believe He does speak to us, I operate my life around that principle. If you want more information about hearing from God you can check out some of our past newsletters at the Maranatha Chapel website. Go to "Spiritual Help", then "Prayer", then click on [Prayer Watch Newsletter](#).



It is very possible to hear from God, in fact it is essential to a Spirit-lead life. Our hearts have to be right, and we have to have quieted ourselves down so we can hear His still small voice giving us simple directions, to our simple questions. OK, let's say we have done that, we are ready and we are listening, what then? When we hear Him speak how do we apply His guidance to our daily lives? We know that Jesus got ALL His instructions from the Father. We read in John 5:19-20, "...Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel." So we see that Jesus not only heard the Father but He got His orders accompanied with full video input as well. John chapter seven, verses two through eighteen, gives us an example of Jesus hearing and seeing "No", "Wait", "Yes" and then "Go" instructions all in the same chapter. Let's read the first few verses:

*Now the Jews' Feast of Tabernacles was at hand. His brothers therefore said to Him, "Depart from here and go into Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing. For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world." For even His brothers did not believe in Him.*

Verses two through five of John chapter seven show us that at least in Jesus' brother's minds, the answer to their question was a firm "no". Jesus did not seem to be planning to go to the feast. It is important to note at this point that when it came to mandatory feasts, as a devout Jew you had to go and if you didn't you got into a lot of trouble with the community and with God. Now Jesus, as we read in John 5:19-20 is an accomplished expert at talking with God, so He probably had a bigger picture in mind at this moment than we might. But let's put ourselves in His place. If we were there asking God what to do next, I think most of us would present a prayerful question that was something like this; "God, do you want me to go up to the feast at this time?" God's answer to that question would be "No". A little later we might ask the same question and we would get the same answer, or if we changed the question a bit, knowing this was a special feast, and asked, "God, is it time for me to go to the feast?" God would then tell us "Wait". We see this is how Jesus seemed to hear it in verses six through nine:

*Then Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready. The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it that its works are evil. You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, for My time has not yet fully come." When He had said these things to them, He remained in Galilee.*

(Four Simple Words, continued on page 3)

# Prayer Opportunities

## † [For Prayer](#)

Contact: Greg Dunn  
(858) 613-7800 ext 110

## † [Emergency Prayer Chain](#)

Contact: Greg Dunn  
(858) 613-7800 ext 110  
After Hours Call:  
760-443-5899

## † [Sunday Morning Prayer](#)

Contact: Bill  
(760) 591-7525  
9:15–9:55 am Prayer Chapel

## † [Prayer Chapel](#) (After Services)

Contact: Greg Dunn  
(858) 613-7800

## † [Moms in Touch](#)

Call for a location near you  
(858) 486-4065

## † [Weekly Prayer Walk](#)

Contact: Christy  
(858) 505-2566  
Every Wed. 5:00–5:45 pm  
Meet at Gazebo

## † [Wed. Pre-Service Prayer](#)

Contact: Greg Dunn  
Wed. 6:15–6:55 pm,  
Prayer Chapel

## † [College and Career](#)

Contact: Glenn Hirashiki  
(858) 613-7800  
Thursday 7:00 pm  
Fellowship Hall

## † [Men @ Prayer](#)

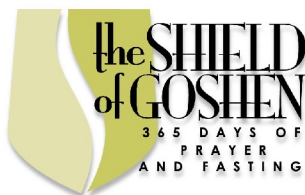
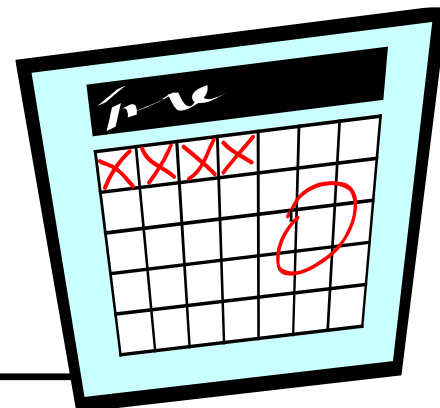
Contact: Elmer Getz  
(858) 675-0500  
Sat. 7:30–8:30 am, F-107

## † [Prayer for Revival](#)

Contact: Candace  
(858) 565-0314  
Every Other Saturday  
call for location



# Prayer Event Calendar



## **New Sign-ups Begin 9/20/06 For 365 Days of Prayer**

Sign-up to pray and fast for  
Maranatha's Pastors, Staff and

Congregation. Prayer begins October 1, 2006–September 2007

Sign-up for your day at the prayer tables in the foyer.

## **See You At the Pole**

September 27, 2006

[www.syatp.org](http://www.syatp.org)

See You at the Pole is a student-led, student-initiated movement of prayer that revolves around students praying together, usually before school and usually at the school's flagpole. It involves students in elementary schools, middle/junior high schools, high schools, and colleges/universities all over the world. Adults often pray in support of the students on campus by gathering nearby, at their places of work or worship, or at city halls.



**DAY OF PRAYER  
FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM**

October 1, 2006 (Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement)

[www.daytopray.com](http://www.daytopray.com)

## **The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church**

November 12, 2006

[www.persecutedchurch.org](http://www.persecutedchurch.org)

The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP) is a global day of intercession for persecuted Christians worldwide. Its primary focus is the work of intercessory prayer and citizen action on behalf of persecuted communities of the Christian faith.

(Four Simple Words, continued from page 1)

Observe what Jesus said; *"My time has not yet come.... I am not yet going up to this feast"*. We see that God has told Him to "wait". Please notice with me that Jesus uses the word "time" in this passage. In the Greek language there are several words that can be translated into English as the word "time". The word for time that Jesus uses here is "kairos". Kairos is used to describe a specific strategic time. It's not like the time of day, or like the fixed times set on a clock. Kairos is a time not tied to the course of the sun but to the course of events. Kairos time is flexible, unfixed but very targeted. Jesus was waiting until just the right time to make His move, the time when his actions and words would have the greatest effect on His audience and yield the most effective outcome to His ministry efforts. Let's look at verses ten through thirteen to see what Jesus is up to next:

*But when His brothers had gone up, then He also went up to the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret. Then the Jews sought Him at the feast, and said, "Where is He?" And there was much complaining among the people concerning Him. Some said, "He is good"; others said, "No, on the contrary, He deceives the people." However, no one spoke openly of Him for fear of the Jews.*

God had told Jesus to "Go", but secretly. Jesus heard God's instructions to be discrete. It is time to "Go" but with the special orders of "In secret". Lets read on:

*Now about the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and taught. And the Jews marveled, saying, "How does this Man know letters, having never studied?" Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone wants to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him."*

Those of you who have studied John chapter seven know that Jesus at this point in the story goes on to boldly inject His teaching perfectly into the course of the ceremony. He completely fulfills the true meaning of this important feast, revealing that He is the true meaning of an event that the Jews have been somewhat blindly celebrating all those centuries before His arrival. As they say in real estate, humor and life in general, "Timing, it's all about timing". Or maybe we should say "Kairos, it's all about kairos".

Recently my wife Millie and I experienced a series of events and subsequent answers to prayers that in a small way showed us how God's answers change with the course of events. We were reminded of how important it is to ask the right questions, at the right time, to get the clearest direction. A few months back and over the course of a few days, Millie began to experience intense but intermittent pains in her abdomen. Of course it was always at night and as it seems with all illnesses, the weekend was coming. It was not likely we could get in to see our doctor and we dreaded to go to our local emergency room. In the past we have found our ER to be a four to six hour nightmare of uncomfortable delay. We prayed for healing and when the pains were at their worst we would pray, "God, is this something bad, should we go to the emergency room?" He said "No". Then the pains would go away. Next evening, same scene, same prayers, and the answer is, "Wait". The pain then went away. Then we get to Saturday morning, the pain is back with a vengeance. Millie is in such pain I could not move her if I wanted to. I pray for healing, I pray for instruction, "Should we call 911?" God says, "Yes, go, call now!" Within moments our small living room was filled with big burly fireman all bustling in their assigned responsibilities. Millie is immediately loaded up, hauled out the door and loaded into the Paramedic's bus. Following as fast as I can in my own car we arrive at the ER in less than two minutes. Millie is whisked into an exam room (which just all happen to be empty at this moment), she gets a MRI, a KUB and all the other tests with cryptic initials. In the meantime all the pain is gone and in just a few more minutes the doctor pronounces the diagnoses; "kidney stone", prescribes a treatment and says, since Millie is not in pain, "We might as well go home". In just over two hours we are able to get delivered to Emergency, get tested, diagnosed and released. I think we must have set a new record! I am sure if we sought care at any other moment in this situation we would have spent many, many long frustrating hours as victims of "The Hospital Zone", it's like The Twilight Zone except the suspense includes entering a whole different kind of time-space continuum and it costs vast sums of money.

All this to say that as you seek God for your next step, be careful how you phrase your questions. Keep them simple. And don't think that a "No" is necessarily a "No forever". Things change and God's instructions change as the events of our lives unfold. The important thing is that you keep up the dialogue. This is how we get to know our Heavenly Father and knowing Him better is what He most desires from us.

Remember:

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

## *Praise Reports!*

Taken from the praise reports placed in our weekly offerings.

### **Prayers are answered!**

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Thanks be to God and His Son Jesus Christ for healing our marriage after three years of separation!

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My husband came back from Iraq safe and sound!!! Thank you for your prayers. I gave him a mustard seed before he left, he kept it in his left pocket and never removed it for seven months! Not one person died in his company. They are infantry Marines. This is a miracle! We believe in the mustard seed of faith contained in everyone's prayers! Thank you and all praise to Jesus!

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A little over two years ago you prayed for me that I would quit drinking and smoking. Well my prayer has been answered. I have been two years sober today!

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*Do not be anxious about anything,  
but in everything,  
by prayer and petition,  
with thanksgiving,  
present your requests to God.  
And the peace of God,  
which transcends all understanding,  
will guard your hearts and your minds  
in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7*



## **We are Praying for You 9:15 am Every Sunday**

By Bill Mattingly

As I was waiting in a doctor's office, I picked up a magazine to read. I think there was something on the cover about health that caught my attention (appropriate for a doctor's office), but as I thumbed through the pages I found myself reading an article on what activities men and women find most spiritually satisfying. To my surprise, out of 1625 respondents, 37% of the women and 26% of the men reported that PRAYER was their most spiritually gratifying activity! I was astonished - what about Bible study, worship, fellowship....

For me, fulfilling prayer began when I participated in the Shield of Goshen; a personal day of prayer and fasting. I didn't think I could go a day without food! After successfully completing that day, I had an insatiable desire to pray! I had previously pretty much just prayed for myself, but now everything was fair game - armed with the knowledge that it pleases God for us to pray (talk to Him), and He delights to answer our prayers for all kinds of people and situations, according to His will. I realized that without prayer, God's work could not advance. I began to pray for Maranatha, the pastors, the various ministries, each and every person that walks through the doors. I prayed for the government, world crises, persecuted Christians, people with special requests...there is no end of things that can be prayed for.

God has asked us to pray continually. I never quite understood that verse—how could I pray every minute I was at work—I would not have a job long? Pastor Estean encouraged me to pray before my feet hit the floor in the morning. I took his advice, and now when I do this I feel like I am going into the day fulfilled and prepared. But how could I pray at work all day and still concentrate so that my work pleases the Lord? It dawned on me that when God asks us to pray continually, he doesn't mean every minute of every day. He wants us to set aside some time regularly (and that is different for each person) and to make this a priority and a discipline that we continue throughout our lives.

But there is more...God said that if two of us agree about anything we asked for, it will be done (Mt. 18:19). Not only that, the next verse in Matthew (in the context of prayer) says "where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." So in God's eyes, there is something really special about praying with others in the Body of Christ. Ever since I stepped out and joined the 9:00am Sunday Prayer Group a few years ago, I now understand what this means. Praying together in unity has a unique impact and power (the gates of Hell cannot prevail against the Church!) and brings a blessing from God that is satisfying beyond description.

I want to encourage everyone to be involved in a prayer group as a part of your commitment to continuously pray. The 9:15 am Sunday group would welcome you - just show up when you can and share the blessing!

Prayer Watch is published several times a year. If you have a question, a comment, or an article on prayer you would like to submit, please contact:

Greg Dunn at Maranatha Chapel  
858-613-7800

[prayerwatch@maranathachapel.org](mailto:prayerwatch@maranathachapel.org)