





# Bro. Jeff Encouragment THE PASTOR



"Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints. 19 Pray also for me, that the message may be given to me when I open my mouth to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel."

(Ephesians 6:18-19 CSB)

The idea that power is inherent in prayer is a very popular one. According to the Bible, the power of prayer is, quite simply, the power of God, who hears and answers prayer. Consider the following:

1) The Lord God Almighty can do all things; there is nothing impossible for Him (Luke 1:37). "For nothing will be impossible with God." ESV "For no word from God will ever fail." 2) The Lord God Almighty invites His people to pray to Him. Prayer to God should be made... PERSISTENTLY (LUKE 18:1) "Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not become





Join Pastor Fuller each
Tuesday morning
beginning September 9 for
a time of prayer,
fellowship, and great food.
All men are welcomed to
attend!







Encouragment THE PASTOR

continued from page 1

discouraged," WITH THANKSGIVING (PHILIPPIANS 4:6)

Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

#### IN FAITH (JAMES 1:5)

Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God—who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly—and it will be given to him.

WITHIN THE WILL OF GOD (MATTHEW 6:10) FOR THE GLORY OF GOD (JOHN 14:13-14) Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

FROM A HEART RIGHT WITH GOD (JAMES 5:16)
Therefore, confess your sins to one another and
pray for one another, so that you may be healed.
The prayer of a righteous person is very powerful
in its effect.

3) The Lord God Almighty hears the prayers of His children. He commands us to pray, and He promises to listen when we do. "In my distress I called to the LORD; I cried to my God for help. From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came before him, into his ears" (Psalm 18:6)

The world will not make faithfulness easy, yet we are commanded to stand firm in the faith.

This doesn't happen by crossing our fingers and hoping for the best. It happens only by intentionally pursuing it.

**Knowing Jesus Ministries** 

4) The Lord God Almighty answers prayer. "I call on you, O God, for you will answer me" (Psalm 17:6). "The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles" (Psalm 34:17).

Another popular idea is that the amount of faith we have determines whether or not God will answer our prayers. However, sometimes the Lord answers our prayers in spite of our own lack of faith. In Acts 12, the church prays for Peter's release from prison (v. 5), and God answers their prayer (vv. 7-11). Peter goes to the door of the prayer meeting and knocks, but those who are praying refuse at first to believe that it is really Peter. They prayed he would be released, but they failed to expect an answer to their prayers.

The power of prayer does not flow from us; it is not special words we say or the special way we say them or even how often we say them. The power of prayer is not based on a certain direction we face or a certain position of our bodies. The power of prayer does not come from the use of artifacts or icons or candles or beads.

continued on page 3



As of July, the monthly newsletter will be available on the website tab DIGITAL COMMUNICATION. Due to the increase in postage, the newsletter will no longer be mailed to individuals; yet copies will be available in the Atrium.

By this change, we are advancing into the present. We live in a digital world, using PDF documents in many areas of our lives, therefore this is just a another way for you to help us save financially and globally.



## Encouragment THE PASTOR

continued from page 2

The power of prayer comes from the omnipotent One who hears our prayers and answers them. Prayer places us in contact with Almighty God, and we should expect almighty results, whether or not He chooses to grant our petitions or deny our requests. Whatever the answer to our prayers, the God to whom we pray is the source of the power of prayer, and He can and will answer us, according to His perfect will and timing.



"To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing."

C.S. Lewis

#### **Good Ole Sunday School**



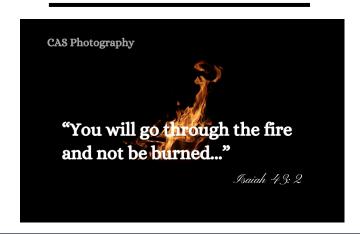
That special time before worship or as some use to call, "BIG CHURCH," is a time of fellowship, encouragement, and digging in to the Word of God. It is called by a many names: Sunday School,

Bible Study, Small Group. What we call this unique time depends on the structure of the church organization or the people you are trying to reach.

We use Bible Study and we meet at 10 AM. Since the 2020 Curse, we have attempted to maintain the adult classes and focused on pushing the Worship Celebration at 11 AM. In doing so we have built an average attendance over 40; with Bible Study being average attendance of 25.

To boost our Sunday Bible Study hour we have added the children class back to the weekly schedule. Mary Emily Jacobs, Judy Long and Lilly Lynch are working to lead ages 3 to 12 year old.

Let folks know, invite friends, neighbors, family to join you for Bible Study at Rockford Church.





#### New Media Production

Five years ago we expanded our media through Facebook and YouTube. Our morning



worship services are broadcasted live-uncut and unedited.

During that time we began broadcasting a morning devotion each day of the week (Monday-Friday), which also been live, with the exception of several times where we have posted a pre-recorded video.

Both of the these have blessed many individuals. Some live outside the area, while others might live in the area and unable to attend in person. We have heard from many individuals who are thankful for the opportunity to worship and learn at their convenience.

Special occasions, such as revivals or special programs have been broadcasted live or recorded and shown at a later date.

With the offering of these media productions, we are truly exalting the Savior, equipping the Saints, and evangelizing the Sinners. We are carrying the message of Christ to the world.

When we talk about reaching the world, we do have individuals who attend the services from various places in the United States and around the world (Japan, Laos, and Philippines). What a wonderful opportunity we have in reaching people.

With these opportunities, we will add an additional media product in September. To advance the message of standing firm in our faith, we will be producing Season 1; beginning in the month of September. The plan will be to produce 12 episodes for each season. The seasons will be in the fall of the year, with an emphases on discipleship, following Jesus, and a deeper relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Standing
Lirm

a Podcast with

Paster Jeff Fuller

STANDING FIRM; THE PODCAST will be posted to the YouTube channel, Jeff Fuller, Standing Firm and will be available to view on the rockfordbaptistchurch.org website. By using the QR Code below, you will be take directly to the page on the website, hosting the podcast.

Come join the adventure as we learn together how to STAND FIRM in Jesus Christ.





#### What the World needs Now!

Dr. Jeff Fuller

Over the past two weeks, I have found myself humming the same two songs again and again. You have been there, haven't you? The song seeps into your head, rolls around and around like the water in a washing machine, and at some point, begins to flow out from your mouth like a waterfall gushing over rocks and rills.

Honestly, I have found myself not just humming, but singing these two songs at the top of my lungs.

"What the world needs now is love, sweet love It's the only thing that there's just too little of What the world needs now is love, sweet love, No not just for some but for everyone. Lord, we don't need another mountain, There are mountains and hillsides enough to climb

There are oceans and rivers enough to cross,
Enough to last till the end of time.
Lord, we don't need another meadow
There are cornfields and wheat fields enough to
grow

There are sunbeams and moonbeams enough to shine

Oh listen, lord, if you want to know.

No, not just for some, oh, but just for ever, (Source: LyricFind; Songwriters: Burt

F. Bacharach / Hal David; What the World

Needs Now Is Love lyrics © Warner Chappell

Music, Inc, BMG Rights Management,

Royalty Network)

Love, sweet love is an answer for the world we live in; a world broken, as if beyond repair. We have issues and problems on every side. Insurmountable things without any solution. Yet, what is most disheartening with the dawning of each new day a new problem appears more complex and becomes another number on a growing list of demands for attention.

Congress will make laws.

Organizations will press for reforms.

Individuals will raise up grassroots efforts to clean up or make changes.

These are good thoughts, but the ultimate answer is not in making laws, establishing reforms, and making efforts to clean up.

How it is possible to live in a fallen world?

"But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven. For he causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous." (Matthew 5:44-45 CSB)

Until next time...

From the blog page at rockfordbaptistchurch.org | July 23, 2021

JOIN US

**SUNDAY** 

WEEKDAY

WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
10:00 AM Sunday School | Bible Study
11:00 AM WORSHIP CELEBRATION
(Sanctuary/Online Campus)
6:00 PM SHORT-TERM DISCIPLSHIP

9:00 AM Standing Firm Devotion (Online)

6:00 PM Prayer and Inspiration (FLC)



Wing His Words Pam Ford Davis

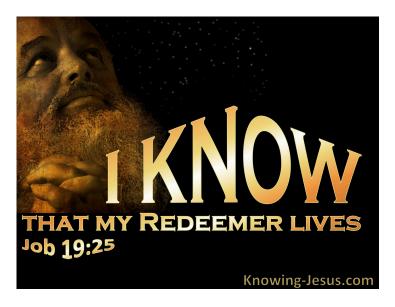
#### **Playtime**

School age children spend long hours studying and working on their lessons. The schoolroom is their main place of study but many are not finished when the final bell rings. Their teachers assign additional study as homework.

Children need education but also need the fun and playtime of recess. Well informed elementary school teachers allow their classes regular opportunities for both indoor and outdoor play.

Do you play: are you playing church?

"And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear my words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, but their heart goeth after covetousness. And, lo thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument: for they hear thy words, but they do them not (Ezekiel 33:31-32 KJV)."



God doesn't want us to play church.

He wants us to worship.

"But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth (John 4:23-24 KJV)."

There's a time for work and a time for play. It's always time to worship. The Father seeks...

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6 PM
Friday's
(On dates below)

September 19
October 17
November 21
December 12

A time of fellowship, food, and door prizes!