



# Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ  
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February 24, 2008

## Kingdom of Self

By: *Bill Denton*

“Pray, then in this way: **“Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.”**”  
(Matthew 6:9-10, NASB95)

The prayer that comes naturally for all of us is, “My name be hallowed, my kingdom come, my will be done.” This is a prayer of independence and willfulness. It is the liturgy of the kingdom of self. The prayer that goes against our nature and that can become our prayer only through the action of divine grace is the Lord’s Prayer. It inverts everything in the liturgy of the kingdom of self . . . **“Thy name be hallowed, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done.”** It is a prayer of surrendered autonomy and willingness. It is the liturgy of the kingdom of God . . . David G. Benner, *Desiring God’s Will*, p. 33.

The “Kingdom of Self.” It’s an interesting little kingdom. Its borders are limited to the skin encasing our bodies, yet it imposes itself further than one’s physical reach. It is a kingdom populated by a single person, yet it seeks to subjugate all others with whom that person come into contact. Comparatively speaking, the needs of this kingdom are as narrowly limited as could possibly be defined, yet the king of this kingdom seeks to accumulate, possess, use and even waste what might go to others. The king of this kingdom may age physically, but seldom matures. It is an interesting little kingdom. Selfish, self-centered, self-absorbed, self-willed, self-serving are all watch-words of this kingdom. “Self” is at the heart of its king.

It is easy to allow ourselves this little kingdom. It is easier to beg or even

demand that God give us what we want because we want it, than to seek for what is good, fair or right. We seek blessings with little concern for whether or not they will truly bless us in a positive, godly way. We’re often just after the satisfaction of having what we want. Watch how we treat our families, our friends, our work associates, neighbors, folks at church, fellow citizens in the community and more. It is much easier to desire that “my name be hallowed, my kingdom come, my will be done.” God’s will is often hidden behind our own.

When Jesus taught His disciples to pray, one of the first things He wanted them to understand was that their little kingdom of self was not the issue. Praying to God, it is always, **“Thy name be hallowed, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done.”** That is far more difficult to pray with meaning than it is to recite the words in an exercise of memory. The “Kingdom of self” cannot possibly compete with the Kingdom of God. Any hallowing of your name or my name is a feeble attempt to honor an undeserving person. Hallowing God’s name is not only right, but His is the only name worthy of such honor. Our little kingdoms of selves are nothing compared to God’s kingdom. Why would anyone want a puny kingdom instead of the greatest? Neither is it our will that counts, but God’s. Next time you pray, pay attention to your prayer. Does it honor and seek the will and the rule of God, or is it just an exercise in self-promotion? You might have to listen carefully, but you might be shocked to find your self sitting on a self-made throne.

Used by *Merrell Shoptaw*  
*Wednesday Night Devotion*  
*January 23, 2008*

## Beautiful Prayer

Author *Unknown*  
Submitted by: *Merrell Shoptaw*

I asked God to take away my habit.  
God said, No.  
It is not for me to take away,  
But for you to give it up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.  
God said, No.  
His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience.  
God said, No.  
Patience is a by-product of tribulations;  
it isn’t granted, it is learned.

I asked God to give me happiness.  
God said, No.  
I give you blessings;  
Happiness is up to you.

I asked God to spare me pain.  
God said, No.  
Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow.  
God said, No.  
You must grow on your own!  
But I will prune you to make you fruitful.

I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life.  
God said, No.  
I will give you life, so that you many enjoy all things.

I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me.  
God said . . . Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.  
**THIS DAY IS YOURS, DON’T THROW IT AWAY**

## Lines for Ladies

*By Pat McAlister*

### 1915 Rules for Teachers:

You will not marry during the term you are under contract.  
You are not to keep company with men.  
You must be home between the hours of 8 PM and 6 AM unless attending a school function.  
You may not loiter downtown in ice cream stores.  
You may not travel beyond the city limits unless you have permission of the chairman of the board.  
You may not ride in a carriage or automobile with any man unless he is your farther or brother.  
You may not smoke cigarettes.  
You may not dress in bright colors.  
You may under no circumstances dye your hair.  
You must wear at least two petticoats.  
Your dress must not be any shorter than two inches above your ankle.  
To keep the school neat and clean: sweep the floor at least once daily; scrub the floor at least once a week with hot soapy water. Clean the black-boards at least once a day. Start the fire at 7 AM so the room will be warm by 8 AM.

*Source: Arkansas Teacher Retirement System*

*Submitted by: Julie Moss*

Julie and I enjoyed reading these rules for teachers in the 1915's. We thought you might get a kick out of them too. Certainly the rules today are quite different than they were over 90 years ago. If these rules were in effect now we would no longer have any teachers! Our Constitution would not accept these rules. Too many rights would be violated. However, it is interesting and does remind us of the difference in our schoolroom today and those in 1915.

## Remember Our Sick

**Bob Bennett** – serious health problems.  
**Jessalyn Davis** – home, hospice.  
**Troy Curtis** – hip replacement surgery went well.  
**Amanda Dodson** – Freida Arnold's niece, much improved with medication.  
**J. R. Hale** – surgery Thurs., Feb. 14, pins to stabilize elbow.  
**Leota Hickey** – cataract surgery February 27<sup>th</sup>.  
**Annette Hull** – thyroid cancer cells, started treatments Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>.  
**Cleon Johnson** – surgery, still in UAMS, needs to improve.  
**Ray King** – serious health problems.  
**Pat McAlister** - lower back surgery scheduled March 12<sup>th</sup>.  
**Jannie Myers** – second cataract surgery February 20<sup>th</sup>.  
**Tom Williams** – had surgery, doing better.  
**J. D. Whiteside** - Dennis's father, improving from stroke.

### Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Evelyn Burton**  
**Bernice Brown**  
Russellville Nursing & Rehab Center:  
**Evelyn Driver**  
**Melba Hodges**  
Stella Manor: **Pauline Dale**  
**Louise Killer**  
**Mae Vanzandt**  
Towbin Health Care, LR:  
**Charles Hickey**

### Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Amie Barkley, A. G. Barton, Carolyn Bennett, Lloyd Boley, Lois Boley, Wm and Susie Boley, James Chadwick, Bobby Coker, Mike Cushman, Jeff Davis, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Hoyt and Sarah Ensey, Jeania Griffin, Paul and Sue Griffin, Dorothy King, Jim Lackey, Robert and Rose Lee, Liliya McDaniel, Linda Melton, Charles Proctor, Don Sheeran, Reedie Smith, Tanya Smith and Judy Will.

**Special Children:** Elysia Lee, Emmy May, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

**Expectant Mothers:** Kelley Chance, Beckie Clark, Amy Johnson, and Kristen Nordin.

**Our Military:** Greg Davis, Cole Wetzel and Rudy Will.

## Assaying Value

Imagine a bank that credits your account each morning with \$86,400. It carries over no balance from day to day. Every evening it deletes what ever part of the balance you failed to use during the day. What would you do? Draw out all of it, of course!

Each of us has such a bank. It's name is *Time*. Every morning is credits you with 86,400 seconds. Every night it writes off as lost whatever you have failed to invest to good purpose. It carries over no balance. It allows no overdraft.

Invest it so as to get from it the utmost in health, happiness and success!

The clock is running. Make the most of today!

To realize the value of:

One year, ask a student who failed a grade.

One month, ask a mother who gave birth to a premature baby.

One week, ask the editor of a weekly newspaper.

One hour, ask the lovers who are waiting to meet.

One minute, ask a person who missed the train.

One second, ask a person who just avoided an accident.

One millisecond, ask the person who won an Olympic silver medal.

Value every moment you have, and count it a gift from God.

Treasure it by sharing it with someone special – especially your spouse and children.

Remember that time waits for no one.

Yesterday is history.

Tomorrow is a mystery.

Today is a gift. That's why it is called the present!

*“Teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.”*  
(Psalm 90:12)

*From: House to House,  
Heart to Heart*

## Events

### Dover Church of Christ Children's Church

Every Sunday  
11:15 - 12:00 Noon

Ages 4 thru 8  
Bible Story and  
Activities

Ages 1 thru 3  
Nursery Class

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### TEA PARTY!!!

February 23, 2008  
Saturday, 11:30 AM

For All the Ladies of the  
Dover Church of Christ.

Fellowship Hall  
Hosted by the  
Leaderettes

Door Prizes and  
Entertainment

Please RSVP to:  
Shirlie Chadwick

Men's Business Meeting  
March 3, 7:00 PM  
Dover Church of Christ  
Deacons: 6:00 PM

## Mark Your Calendars

Lads/Leaderettes Leaders  
Dover Church of Christ  
Meet every Sunday, 5PM  
Song leading  
Bible Reading  
Advanced Bible Reading

Lads to Leaders' Convention  
March 20 thru 23  
Nashville, Tennessee

### CHRISTEENS 2008

February 22 thru 24th

West Side Church  
Of Christ  
2300 West "C" Street  
Russellville, Arkansas

### Conway County

#### Ladies Day

Saturday

March 8, 2008

Hosted by the Downtown  
Church of Christ  
100 W. Church Street  
Conway Arkansas

Breakfast 8:30 AM  
Lunch: 12:00 PM

Theme: "Facing Your Fears"  
Including the dramatic  
monologue "Save Momma"  
and keynote address by:  
Lynne Gentry, Dallas, Texas

## February Birthdays

- 03 Mildred Turner  
Jon David Vance  
08 Mary McAlister  
09 Juanita Whitted  
11 Kristen Nordin  
12 Shawn Bates  
Emily Straight  
15 Zackary Shelton  
16 Rachel Curtis  
19 Carolyn Bennett  
Tyler Mullins  
20 Kaci Statler  
21 Julie Moss  
22 Eugene Davis  
Keri Letson  
Troy Meadows  
23 Bernice Brown  
Pat McAlister  
Linda Herron  
24 Earl Kennedy  
27 Caleb Chance  
28 Theresa Motley

If we missed your birthday,  
*please* let us know so it won't  
happen again.

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### **Dover Church of Christ** **Ladies Day**

**Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Theme: "He is the potter,  
We are the clay."**

**More info to follow!**

# ***THOSE TO SERVE***

***February 24, 2008***

**Sunday A.M.**

**Announcer:** Randall Walters  
**Song Leader:** Merrell Shoptaw

**Prayers**  
Gary Williams

**Communion**  
**Podium:** Allen Veasman  
**Serve:** Jeff Myers  
Jim Killer  
Marion Helton  
Rex McDaniel

**Scripture Reading**  
Gary Williams

**Sunday P.M.**  
**Prayers**  
Earl Whitted  
Donny Forehand

# **SPEAKER**

**Sunday A.M.**  
Micah Williams

**Sunday P.M.**  
Micah Williams

**Prepare Table for  
Communion**

Alan and Sandra Boatright

**Communion to Shut-Ins**

William Boley  
Alan Boatright

**Greeters**

Jim and JoAnn Killer

**Wednesday Night  
Devotional**

**February 27, 2008**

William Boley

**Meeting Times**  
**Sunday Morning Bible Classes**  
9:45 A.M.  
**Sunday Morning Worship**  
10:45 A.M.  
**Sunday Evening Worship**  
6:00 P.M.  
**Ladies Tuesday Bible Class**  
10:00 A.M.  
**Wednesday Bible Classes**  
7:00 P.M.

**Minister:** Micah Williams  
**Church Office:** 479-331-3428  
**Or Cell:** 479-264-9244

**Elders:**  
William Boley 858-7131  
Jim Killer 331-2802  
Allen Veasman 331-2156  
Sid Womack 967-2367

**Deacons:**  
Chris Besterfeldt  
Donny Forehand  
Brent Hottinger  
Chris Loper  
Rex McDaniel  
Joe Miller  
Chris Moss

**Nursery Attendants:**  
**Sunday Class:** JoAnn Killer  
**Sunday Church:** Pat McAlister  
Kaeli Miller

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