



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas 72837-0299
Web site: www.dovercoc.org

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Seeking God Successfully

Wade Webster, via Power

“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.” (Matthew 7:7-8)

No doubt, most of us have heard these words hundreds of times. Even those in the world are fairly familiar with them. However, most people know nothing about how to seek God successfully. In this study, we will see three things that are required of those who hope to find God.

Men Must Seek God Completely

In the long ago Moses instructed the children of Israel that they could find God *“if”* they sought Him with *“all”* of their hearts. (Deuteronomy 4:29; II Chronicles 15:12, 15; 31:21) In like manner, the palmist declared, *“Blessed are they that keep His testimonies, and that seek Him with the whole heart . . . With my whole heart have I sought thee; O let me not wander from thy commandments.”* (Psalms 119:2, 10; Psalms 63:1)

Through Jeremiah, God said, *“And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart.”* (Jeremiah 29:13) Notice that individuals would find God *“when”* they sought Him with *“all”* their hearts. In answering a lawyer’s question about the greatest commandment, Jesus declared,

“Thou shalt love thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.” (Matthew 22:37) Do you recall how Philip answered the eunuch’s desire to be baptized? He said, *“If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”* (Acts 8:37) Again, notice the conditional *“if.”* Only those who seek God completely can hope to find Him.

Men must Seek God Continually

In a Psalm of thanksgiving, David said, *“Glory ye in His holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD and His strength, seek His face continually.”* (I Chronicles 16:10-11) In like manner, Isaiah spoke of seeking God *“daily.”* (Isaiah 58:2) Sadly God’s people were prone to only seek Him in times of trouble. When things were good, they sought other things instead of Him.

Through Hosea, God warned that the day would come when they would seek Him and not be able to find Him. (Hosea 5:6,15, Proverbs 1:28) In like manner, Isaiah warned his people to seek the Lord while He could be found and to call upon Him while He was near. (Isaiah 55:6) Don’t you think that the same holds true for us today?

On one occasion, Jesus said, *“If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.”* (Luke 9:23) Notice the emphasis on *“daily.”* Those who only take up their crosses on Sunday can not expect to find

Him. If we want to find Him, we must search our Bibles daily as the Bereans did and offer the sacrifice of praise to Him continually as the Hebrew saints did. (Acts 17:11; 13:15)

Men Must Seek God Correctly

Do you remember the story of David and the new ox cart? (I Chronicles 13) Do you remember how that Uzzah lost his life when he reached out to stay the ark? Clearly, the people’s retrieval of the ark shows that they were seeking God. No doubt, they were sincere in their actions. However, they did not find God, at least not in the way that they hoped to find Him (peace and favor), because they did not seek Him correctly.

David explained, *“Ye are the chief of the fathers of Levites; sanctify yourselves, both ye and your brethren, that ye may bring up the ark of the Lord God of Israel unto the place that I have prepared for it. For, because ye did it not at the first, the LORD our God made a breach upon us, for that we sought Him not after the due order.”* (I Chronicles 15:12-13)

After the ox cart became a funeral cart, David and the people went back to doing things God’s way. They had learned that to find God, they had to seek Him correctly. (Leviticus 10:6) Doesn’t the same hold true today? If we want to find God, we must seek Him after the *“due order.”* We must seek Him in *“faith”* and with fervor (diligently seek – Hebrews 11:6). Seek Him *“in spirit and in truth.”* (John 4:24)

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

In Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, he quoted from the prophet Joel. "And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21)

Was this all that Peter would ask of them? Absolutely not! Later, Peter makes that clear when he tells them to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38)

Some preachers and teachers may tell you that all you have to do is put Jesus in your heart and you will be saved. I don't find that in the Bible. I agree that you must put Jesus in your heart. And also your heart must be right with God. But for salvation, Jesus Himself said, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven." (Matthew 7:21) He also said that many of them would do good works but He would declare to them, "I never knew you, depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness." (Verse 23)

Then, how can we be saved? What does the Bible say? Can we pick and choose what we want to do and expect to be saved? It isn't as simple as calling on the name of the Lord. We must do the will of the Father.

Paul tells us that we cannot be conformed to this world, but be transformed by renewing of our mind, that we may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. So, by searching the Scriptures, we can know the will of God. In fact, we find a lot about the will of God in the writings of Paul. (Romans 12:2)

After repentance and baptism we are a new creature in Christ. We have begun our journey into the new life of which Paul spoke. Continually, he encourages us to pray for the knowledge and wisdom of spiritual understanding. We need this in order that we can fully please Him, being fruitful in every good work and strengthened in His power. This gives us patience and long-suffering. Then we give thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints. (Colossians 1:9-12)

Remember Our Sick

Yvonne Adkisson – home, on dialysis.

A. G. Barton – home, recovering, serious health problems.

Bill Brunner – Bonnie Vinson's friend, surgery pending.

Eugene Cox – Bob & Rose Lee's son-in-law, auto accident. Severed main artery, ICU. Lacey Lee Hospital, MO.

Troy Curtis – in St. Mary's, Rehab.

Tim Green – serious health problems, Bonnie Vinson's friend.

Sue Griffin - ICU at St. Mary's.

Marion Helton – eye surgery rescheduled for April 22.

Eddie and Mark – sons of Pat Holloway, serious health problems.

Annette Hull – test results good.

Ray King – serious health problems.

Pat McAlister – had back surgery, home, doing okay.

Annie Robinson – home at her Mother's house, Hospice.

Margie Ratchford – Larry Mahan's sister, diagnosed with cancer.

Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Bernice Brown**
Evelyn Burton
Robert Lee

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, Bob and Carolyn Bennett, Lloyd Boley, Lois Boley, Wm and Susie Boley, Jeff Davis, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Hoyt and Sarah Ensey, Paul Griffin, Leota Hickey, Cleon Johnson, Dorothy King, Jim Lackey, Rose Lee, Liliya McDaniel, Julie Moss, Charles Proctor, Don Sheeran, Reedie Smith, Tanya Smith, J. D. Whiteside, Tom Williams and Judy Will.

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

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

Expectant Mothers: Kelly Chance, Amy Johnson, and Kristen Nordin

Be Careful What You Plant

Sent In By Clara Hefley, Dover, AR

If you plant HONESTY, you will reap TRUST

If you plant GOODNESS, you will reap FRIENDS.

If you plant HUMILITY, you will reap GREATNESS.

If you plant PERSEVERANCE, you will reap CONTENTMENT.

If you plant CONSIDERATION, you will reap PERSPECTIVE.

If you plant HARD WORK, you will reap SUCCESS.

If you plant FORGIVENESS, you will reap RECONCILIATION.

If you plant FAITH IN CHRIST, you will reap a HARVEST.

What ever you plant now; it will determine what you will reap later.

Life Lines ONLINE

As a lot of you already know we also publish this weekly bulletin in an on line version at our website, www.dovercoc.org. The online version is an exact copy of the paper version that you are reading now. Because we know that a lot of you also use a computer regularly to access the Internet and communicate using E-Mail, we would like to know your feelings about substituting the online version of Life Lines for the printed one you now receive. The big advantage of this for us is a savings in printing and postal expenses. We will not stop sending your printed Life Lines bulletin in the mail unless you tell us that this would be acceptable to you, so if you would like to make this change, please send us an E-Mail at staff@dovercoc.org authorizing us to stop mailing you the Life Lines. (After all . . . you do have a computer!)

Thanks for your help.
The Life Lines Staff

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

5th Sunday Celebration

March 30th

Potluck

Fellowship Hall
Following **evening** Services
Dover Church of Christ

Dover's Youth Devotional

April 6th

Home of Micah & Cara
Williams

Following evening services.

Mark Your Calendars

Dover Men's Business Meeting

April 7, 7:00 PM
Deacons' Meeting 6:30 PM
Dover Church of Christ

Dover Men's Devo

April 10th, 7:00 PM
Home of Alan Boatright

Dover Ladies Monthly Devo

Cancelled for the
Month of April

Dover Church of Christ

Ladies Day

Saturday, April 26th

**Theme: "He is the Potter,
We are the clay."
(Isaiah 64: 8)**

**Speaker: Barbara Kee
Wichita Falls, Texas**

Continental Breakfast
and Registration: 9:00 AM
Program: 9:30 AM
Lunch: 12:00 Noon

For more information:
Phone (479) 331-3428
E-mail: staff@dovercoc.org

April Birthdays

03 Aidan Pointer
09 Skylar Creel
Suzy Pennington
14 Danielle Smith
15 Loredana Qualls
16 Zach Pennington
17 Shannon Walters
18 Gicala Lee
19 Earlene Davis
22 Curtis Rackley
Brett Walters
23 Rusty Parker
27 Sharon Rackley
Mae Vanzandt
29 Kati Pennington
30 Lindsay Hollis

**OOPS!! We missed Jim
Clark's Birthday. It was
March, 9th. Sorry!**

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

**Mae Vanzandt will be 102
years young on April 27,
2008!!**

**"In Search of
the Lord's Way"
Now 24/7**

**The Search Program can
now be accessed any time
website: www.searchtv.org**

**Mack Lyon's weekly lesson
can be heard and seen on
KARK, Channel 4
Sunday, 7:30 AM.**

THOSE TO SERVE

March 30, 2008

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Marion Helton
Joe Miller

Communion

Podium: Earl Whitted
Serve: Jeff Myers
Jim Killer
Rex McDaniel
Rick Hollis

Scripture Reading

Brett Walters

Sunday P.M.

Prayers

Jim Killer
Jeff Myers

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.
Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.
Micah Williams

Prepare Table for Communion

Chris and Amanda Besterfeldt

Communion to Shut-Ins

Jim Killer
Marion Helton

Greeters

Allen and Marilyn Veasman

Wednesday Night Devotional

April 2, 2008

Donny Forehand

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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Dover Church of Christ
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