

**New Caney
Church of Christ**

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Assembly Times

Sundays
Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

***Retaining The Standard
Of Sound Doctrine***

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Know Your Bible: Answers

1. An angel (Acts 12:6-17)
2. Judas (John 18:2, 12)
3. Nicodemus (John 3:1-2)
4. David and Abishai (1 Sam. 26:7-12)
5. Gideon and his men (Judges 7:19)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Eddie Bowen
Announcements: Robert McCorkle
Encouragement Talk: Josh Emerson
Opening Prayer:
Song Leader: John Franks
Table Talk: Brad Smith
Helper: Todd McAdams
Fruit of Vine: Kyle Crain
Contribution: Tyler Blazek
Helper: Billy Lovell
Helper: Sandon Spyker
Scripture Reading: Harper Flores
Closing Prayer: Peter Galvan

Sunday Afternoons

Jan 8 Devotionals 4pm: Men, Women, Youth
Jan 15 3PM Personal Evangelism Meeting
Parent Planned Youth Devotional
Jan 22 Nothing
Jan 29 3PM Men meet with the Elders
3PM Teacher Classroom Work (quarter change)

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Harper Flores
Speaker: Tony Gross



Standing Firm

“Take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist
in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm”
Ephesians 6:13

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Morning Devotions

We live in a very busy society. Many of us feel like we run all day long and there are never enough hours in the day to accomplish all that we want to do. This gives rise to our falling victim to good intentions but not doing the good things we know we ought to do. Throughout the Bible we are given godly examples of individuals who made time for their daily devotionals, and I'm convinced we need to learn from them.

At about the time of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah we are told *“Abraham went early”* to the place where he stood before the Lord (Gen. 19:27). This occasion was to witness the burning of the cities, but it also tells us he had a habit of meeting God in this place and we have every reason to believe it was a regular morning meeting. After Hannah had spoken with Eli about the desire for a son, 1 Samuel 1:19 records she and Elkanah arose *“early in the morning”* and worshiped God prior to the return to their home. Job 1:5 tells us Job *“rose up early in the morning and offered burnt offerings.”* We know of the problems Job had after this, but this again seems to point to a habit of morning devotions. We know Daniel prayed three times a day (Daniel 6:10) and have every reason to think one of these was in the morning. More than any other is the example of Jesus in Mark 1:35, *“and early in the morning, while it was still dark, He arose and went out and departed to a lonely place, and was praying there.”* Even our Lord sought a morning occasion to commune with God. While it is not taught as a command in Scripture, I think it is beneficial to set aside a few moments of the morning to remember God, even if just on a sporadic basis.

A morning devotion sets the tone for the day. If God is one of the first things we think of we will be less likely to fall to temptation. The remainder of the day will be tinted with thoughts of God. It is a very good way to remember God and keep Him in the forefront of our thoughts. Especially when coupled with other regular moments of devotion such as demonstrated by Daniel. A frequent “visit” with God helps us

remember that we are His child and that God has expectations for us each and every day - to live righteously.

A morning devotion helps put life and it's problems in perspective. We all face challenges, some days more than others. Through prayer we are able to "cast our cares" on Him (1 Peter 5:6). By speaking to God first and worshiping Him first we remember that whatever happens this day, being right with God is the most important. The consistency of our faith in God helps us manage the day, whether it be good or bad. It is difficult to take pride in our own actions if we are starting the day with prayer and praise to Jehovah! Likewise it is easier to deal with failure when we know we are right with God and ultimately that is what is important!

A morning devotion indicates there is a purpose to life more than just living for the moment. It is easy to rouse ourselves out of bed, go through the morning routine, and hustle off to work to being a day of labor that seldom gives opportunity to think of God. This is living for the moment, living life in order to sustain oneself. How much better to get up every day with a few moments of praise and thanksgiving to God who has granted us a day of life. I believe this morning "purpose" will help provide direction and impetus for the remainder of the day. We will see more opportunity to praise God and more opportunity to devote a few moments to Him. It is a habit that grows to fill more of our day. Surely this must be seen as a good habit. For those of us who are not "morning people" we may think this is too difficult, but I would suggest it is even more meaningful when we make a special effort to arise early for the purpose of praising God. In many households I'm convinced this takes place on Sunday mornings and God is please. Perhaps we should try it during the week as well.

As I have said, this is not a command of God, but I hope through this article you have been made to think and see the benefit of an early morning devotional. Serving God every day is the need of every Christian and you may find that devotionals help.

by Charles Willis

Know Your Bible

Late-Night Callers

1. Who came to Peter late at night and released him from prison?
2. Who led some officers from the priests to pay a late night call on Jesus?
3. What Pharisee came to Jesus late at night?
4. Who took Saul's spear after sneaking into his camp late at night?
5. Who attacked a Midianite camp late at night?

Answers On Back

Sunday Sermon

Point your phone camera at the square below, then click on the link to hear the sermon. Recordings will change mid-week.



I Love The Lord

REALLY?

"f you love Me, you will keep My commandments"
John 14:15

"He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me"
John 14:21

"If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word"
John 14:23

"If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love"
John 15:10

"By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and [a] observe His commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome."
1 John 5:2-3

"And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments"
2 John 6