

From The Ministers Desk

How Sin Affects Your Prayer Life

“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear.” – Psalm 66:18

Habitual sin in the life of a Christian can bring his or her prayer life to a screeching halt. That is not to say we have to be sinless to pray. If that were the case, none of us could ever approach God. The Bible even says, “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us” (1 John 1:8). It also tells us that when we sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous (1 John 2:1).

The Bible makes allowances for sin in our lives and offers God’s mercy and forgiveness to us, but unconfessed sin certainly can hinder our prayers. The psalmist said, “If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear” (66:18). Another way to translate the word *regard* would be “hold on to.” In other words, if we cling to iniquity in our hearts, the Lord will not hear us.

There is a difference between sin and willful sin. There is a difference between stumbling, being sorry for it, and turning from it, and continually, willfully, and habitually sinning. If you are sensing God’s conviction and know what you’re doing isn’t right, that is God’s Holy Spirit lovingly trying to wake you up and warn you of the perilous path you have put yourself on.

Hebrews 12:6 says, “Whom the Lord loves He chastens.” Because He cares about you, he applies the “board of education” to your “seat of understanding.” When that happens, don’t recoil and complain that it’s unfair. Instead, rejoice that God loves you enough to deal with you as a father deals with his son or daughter.

Donald

Sermon Topics:	Notes: _____
AM: Broken and Contrite Heart Psalm 51:1-17	_____
PM: Shepherd Group Meetings	_____
Hispanic Studies: JJ Espinoza	_____
Class: El Libro de los Hechos	_____
Sermon: “Puedes estar Eternamente Seguros?”	_____

Poteau church of Christ

Reaching Up, Reaching Out, Reaching IN

Elder on Call for September: Rendall Thompson 918-647-6662



Welcome to the Poteau church of Christ!

If this is your first time to worship with us, please know that we are thrilled to share in your journey of faith. We invite you to join in the singing of praises, praying, studying from God’s Word; to enjoy the warmth of just being together with fellow seekers. Our prayer is that you will feel the love & grace of God during your worship experience this morning. We are honored to have you as our guest today and look forward to meeting you after our worship service. May God bless you richly and deeply.

DEACONS:
 Danny Baker –Worship
 Ben Bentley –Missions
 Russ Campbell –Fellowship
 Joe Harbuck –Building
 Don Johnston –Building/Vans
 Philip Kirkes - Youth
 Bob Marchant –Benevolence
 Brad McMillin –Missions
 Tim Olive –Youth & Budget

ELDERS:
 Winfred Ashley
 Randy Lum
 Dick Moore
 Rick Parker
 Rendall Thompson

MINISTERS:
 Donald Cherry –Pulpit
 J.J. Espinoza –Hispanic
 Paul Fletcher –Youth
 Robert Martin –Prison

OFFICE:
 Sue Taylor-Dunn - Secretary
 Loretta Sisco –Secretary

Contact Information:
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Or go to www.poteaucoc.org for prayer requests, our audio & video sermons and classes as well as upcoming events. You will also find online study tools and other information to help you grow stronger in your faith. We’re also **‘Live-Streaming’** the 9:30 a.m. Bible Class, our 10:20 a.m. Worship Service and the 6:00 p.m. Evening Service.

By The NUMBERS

Week of September 3, 2017

Worship Attendance-AM	230
Bible Class	141
Auditorium Class (Don)	76
Jr. High & High School	20
Women's Class (Marilyn)	17
Hispanic Class: (JJ)	3
Prison Class:	30
NewLife Behavior Ministries	29
Wednesday Attendance	136

Week of September 3, 2017

Contribution	\$8,578.
Budget - Weekly:	\$7,385.
Contribution - YTD	\$233,738.
Budget - YTD:	\$250,315.
Over/(Under):	(-\$16,577)

Monthly Events

First Sunday - Cake & Ice Cream for birthdays & anniversaries after evening worship.

First Sunday - Elders, Deacons and Minister's meeting after evening worship service.

First & Third Sunday - Elder's Meeting after worship service.

Second Sunday - Shepherd group meetings after evening service.

Third Sunday - Deacon's Meeting after evening worship service.

Sunday Morning - Women's Outreach Class @ 9:30 am. taught by Marilyn Ashley in the MPB.

Sunday Evening - The ladies meet for prayer meeting in the auditorium after evening service.

Wednesday Nights - Mid-Week Manna - has started.

Wednesday Nights - Fishers of Men - Class in the Auditorium @ 6:30pm.

Wednesday @ 6:30 - Ladies' class: taught by Shirley Martin, in the GAP classroom.

Second Thursday Game Night - @ 6:00 p.m. in the MPB.

Elders Prayer List

Health: Joseph Seaman (hospital, pain, confusion); Darlene Seaman (health issues); Tammy Hackworth, Becky's sister (recovery/boil on leg); Nancy Frier (numbness in hands); Wanda Broyles, friend of Loretta Capell (inoperable brain tumor); Bruce Maynor (Hospice care); Sandy Long (back/leg pain); Brylee Lamb (cat scratch fever); Jeremy Baker (speedy recovery, Tonsillectomy); Carter & parents, Crystal's cousin's baby (Heterodoxy, organs misplaced); Ronnie Lum (recovering from shoulder surgery); Tim Cauthen (back issues, intestine problems); Karen Daugherty (stroke); Bob Marchant (home/prayers for a speedy recovery); Hunter Morris (injured knee); Sue Williams (leaking heart valve); Mike Qualls (heart issues); Jess Hurlocker (Hospice, pray comfort & strength); Winnie Bowen, Ted, Kaye & Mary's mom (Hospice care); Will Reese (upcoming double knee replacement); Sue Carty, Benny's sister (needs liver transplant); Debbie Little (healing); Will Bryan (Tourette's Syndrome); Gamble family. Our loved ones in the nursing homes and our Alzheimer's patients and their caregivers.

Miscellaneous: Kevin Lashley (starting his new class at J.E.H.C.C.); Flooding in Texas; Joe Stanfill (traveling to Texas to work/flood zone).
Cancer: Cindy Wallace, Joe Wise, Mia Miller, Sandra Lum, Don Bentley, Angela Collett (Mandy), Angele Watts (Hugo), Shirley Holter, Pat Price, Larry Didway.
Prisoners: Dwight Cross, Bryan Kirby, Tanelle Turner, Jr, Jeffery McCarley, Curtis Rodgers.

Responses

- Ralph Hawkins asking for prayers and forgiveness of his sins.
- Manny Rivera asking for the guidance of the holy spirit to handle life issues.
- Rita Broom asking for strength and prayers to help her forgive people and things in her past.
- Linda Lashley asking for prayers and forgiveness of her sin of unforgiveness.
- Jerry Lewis asking for forgiveness of his sin of unforgiveness.
- Susan Fenton feeling trapped in a prison of hate, anger, and bitterness, seeking to be more like Jesus.
- Melissa Kilgo needing to forgive her parents, brothers and sister. Asking for God's strength and guidance.
- Nicki Sullard needing prayers for strength to be able to hand over the situations of life for God. Asking God to help her to empty self and be filled with His spirit.

Update List on Our Sick

- Dick Moore's sister, Tuffy, passed away on August 31, her funeral was on Thursday. Please pray for the family during their time of bereavement.
- Rodney, Regina's nephew has pancreatitis.
- Jerita Minyard has cancer, cousin of Lonnie Renick.
- Kara Wright is finishing chemo this week. She is very weak, please pray for her strength to get through this.
- Dawson Peterson, Rita's student, is in the hospital from a dog bite.
- Ashley Clark, Nicki's step-sister, lost her 6 month old baby, Cooper. Pray for peace, comfort, strength and guidance.
- Jim Estes came home from the hospital on Thursday. He will have home health for awhile.
- Cecil Williams has a heart aneurysm on his aorta and a lump in his chest. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Winfred is seeking prayers for relief from numbness, pain and strength.
- Larry Ellis, preacher at Colcord church of Christ, is in Washington Regional Hospital in Fayetteville with a ruptured aneurysm.
- Sandy Keys, sister to Judy and Sue, has a tumor on her brain stem.
- Brea Gammel has heart complications. She is in Mercy.
- Nancy Bentley has a sinus infection along with back issues. Keep her in your prayers.
- Prayers requested for the family of Wanda Broyles. She passed away in Tennessee with a brain tumor.
- Mark Lashley, Kevin's brother had the first of two neck surgeries last Tuesday.
- George Mayner is in Hospice care.
- Sandra Long has back & leg pain.
- Rona, Regina's niece, needing prayers that God will be done.

To Our Church Family

Thank you for the prayers for my sister's passing. God could not have answered better. The Dick Moore family.

Notice

- Some of the free 8 x 10 pictures are in the lobby on the counter, please pick up your copy. These are from the first appointments.
- Shepherd groups will meet this evening. Every member is encouraged to attend their group meeting.
- Game Night is this Thursday night, September 14th, at 6pm in the MPB.
- Travis Turpin needs an assistant van driver to ride along with him on Sundays and Wednesdays. Contact Travis or the office.
- If you canceled your first photo appointment, make sure you sign up again to get your picture in our next church directory. The last scheduled date is Sept. 20th. See Bulletin board.
- Food Pantry is in need of the following: plastic bags, Jiffy cornbread mix, instant potatoes, pinto beans, canned vegetables, cans of chicken, tuna, small cooked canned ham (with pull tabs to open). Next date for give away is Sept. 20th.

Here We Grow Again!

Kendall Lomon was baptized on Sunday, September 3, 2017.

Whittaker Baby Shower

Tyler and Bethany

Are waiting on the arrival of Avery Kate.



The shower will be this evening after Shepherd group meetings in the MPB. This shower will be supplying diapers, wipes and money for their new arrival. The proud grandparents-to-be are Kevin & Linda Lashley.

Youth Group

Contact: Tulsa Weekend Mission Trip:

Dates: Friday September 29—Sunday October 1

- In the past we have taken two groups. One group on Friday night and one on Saturday morning. There is a possibility that if most people need to come up Saturday morning we may just all wait and go up Saturday morning. Stayed tuned for more information regarding this.
- If we leave Saturday morning, we will leave at 9am from the church building. Be here at 8:30am. We are staying at **Jenks** church.

Cost: \$20.00 dollars. This is your spending money for snacks while on the road and one meal in Tulsa.

What to Bring:

- **Clothes** for Saturday at the apartments. We will be serving food and playing games with the children.

- Change of Clothes for Saturday night

- Clothes for Sunday worship and to drive home in.

- **Bedding:** Air Mattress or Sleeping Bag, Pillow and Covers.

- **"Get Ready Stuff:"** Toothpaste & brush, soap, shampoo, deodorant & **TOWEL**.

Don't forget to sign up to have your picture taken for the church directory.

There are openings today at 3:30 and 3:40. Sign up in the lobby of the MPB. Please make your appointment time.

Wednesday, September 20, 4pm to 8:40. There are openings.

Your 8x10 will be free and you will receive a church directory.

You will be able to order extra photos at the same time.