



Prayer Requests:

"Pray for one another"

- James 5:16 -

- Louis Bureau - facing yet another surgery on his left shoulder in order to repair a damaged tendon, obviously missed in previous surgery; also requests prayers for his family
- Josiah Carelse & Family - working with the Lord's church in Cape Town, South Africa
- Diane Cote - left leg amputated up to the knee as a result of diabetes; now using a temporary prosthesis and undergoing prosthetic rehab
- Filomena Derecho (Cathy's mother in the Philippines) - numerous health issues
- Reyderick Derecho - permanently disabled
- Donna Doucette - do to severe arthritis, she will be needing replacement surgery in both knees
- Kate Ivory (niece of Robbie Andrews) - Please pray for her spiritual welfare as she studies God's word with our brother Robbie
- Please pray for our nation (1 Timothy 2:1-3)
- Please pray that we might find a suitable and affordable permanent meeting place
- Please pray for those not with us today — the sick & suffering and those who are spiritually weak & struggling

Prayer

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,
Uttered or unexpressed;
The motion of a hidden fire,
That trembles in the breast.
Prayer is the burden of a sigh,
The falling of a tear,
The upward glancing of an eye,
When none but God is near.
Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,
The Christian's native air,
His watchword at the gates of death;
He enters heaven with prayer.

The Dynamics of Disobedience



We would certainly expect disobedience from "the children of disobedience," who walk "according to the course of this world," who conduct themselves in the lust of the flesh, "fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind," and are by nature children of wrath (Eph 2:2-3). But we would certainly *not* expect that those "who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God" (Heb 6:4-5), to willfully and deliberately disobey the commands of their heavenly Father. But sadly, it does happen. Why does it happen?

The first dynamic in play is the problem of pride. When *self*-will surpasses and supplants *God's* will in the heart of the believer, the heart gradually becomes "hardened through the deceitfulness of sin" (Heb 3:13). Left unchecked (with no repentance or restoration), the inevitable result is "an evil heart of unbelief" that ultimately departs from the living God (Heb 3:12). Thus, we read the Apostle Paul's mournful lament, "Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world" (2 Tim 4:10). The prideful spirit exalts *self* which places *self*-will in opposition to *God's* will. This is not a good place for one to remain for very long. Initially, the proud heart will attempt to amend or modify the commandments of God, but later on in the process will simply and summarily reject them (Mk 7:9).

The second dynamic involved in the process of disobedience is a lack (or loss) of love. Jesus told the church in Ephesus, "You have left your first love" (Rev 2:4). Those in this category are losing sight of the fact that "God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Eph 2:4-6). These gospel truths are to be faithfully embraced and fondly cherished in the

heart of the believer. After all, "We love Him because He first loved us" (1 Jn 4:19). And it is "the love of Christ that constrains [compels and motivates] us" (2 Cor 5:14).

If one sincerely loves the Lord his God with all his heart, soul, mind and strength (Mk 12:30), and earnestly seeks "first the kingdom of God and His righteous" (Mt 6:33), disobedience to God's commands will be the furthest thing from his mind. As Jesus plainly taught, "If you love Me, keep My commandments" ... "If anyone loves Me, He will keep My word" ... "He who does not love Me, does not keep My words" (Jn 14:15, 23-24). "Therefore, we make it our aim ... to be well pleasing to Him" (2 Cor 5:9). "For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble with salvation" (Ps 149:4). —**Terry Schmidt** ✍



"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

- Acts 16:30 -

Hear the Gospel - John 6:44-45; Rom 10:14,17

Believe [trust in] God - John 3:16; 8:24; Ac 16:31
Heb 11:6

Repent of sins - Luke 13:1-5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30

Confess Christ - Mt 10:32-33; Ac 8:36-37;
Rom 10:8-10

Be baptized - Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; 8:36; 22:16;
1 Pet 3:21

Be faithful unto death - Mt 7:21; Rev 2:10

☺ **Welcome Visitors** ☺

We are glad you have come to worship with us today. We want you to know that you are welcome. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have questions or if we can help you in any way. Also, please fill out one of our visitor's cards before you depart.



Have a great week! ☺

Saul's Disappointing Disobedience

God wanted to punish the Amalekites (1 Samuel 15:2) for not allowing the wandering Israelites to pass through their land on Israel's way out of Egypt, recorded in Exodus 17:8-16. For their defiance, God told Moses that one day he would "utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven" (Exodus 17:14). In Numbers 14:20 and Deuteronomy 25:17-19, God reiterates his promise to totally destroy Amalek for attacking Israel from behind when they were faint and weary. As God's anointed, King Saul was the one chosen to carry out God's judgment on a people who had long-ago wronged Israel and the Lord. Saul was to be an instrument of God's delayed and final judgment on the Amalekites. But Saul spared King Agag and the best of the animals. Saul was only *selectively* obedient as it suited *his* needs and desires. When confronted by Samuel, Saul refused to admit wrong stating: "But I *have* obeyed the voice of the Lord." Then he blames the people for bringing back the animals and the best things. God had wanted Saul to fully obey him and to have the right heart in doing it. This is a sorrowful picture of what disobedience to the Lord looks like: not seeing our wrongdoing, denying, blaming, and refusing to repent. Saul is a great example of disobedience in the Bible. 📖

Visits to Our Web Page

Last Week: 7,479
This Month: 16,978



SNACKS!

March 24: Terry K
March 31: Jan

Attendance & Contribution for March 17, 2024

Attendance — 20
Contribution — \$556

Order of Worship

March 24, 2024

*"What is it then? I will pray with the spirit,
and I will pray with the understanding
also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will
sing with the understanding also."*

📖 - 1 Corinthians 14:15 - 📖

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Song Leader: *Terry Schmidt*

Song—11

Opening Prayer: *George Cuvellier*

Song—27

Scripture Reading: *Jim Miller*  
~ 1 Samuel 15:18-23 ~

Song—649

The Lord's Supper  
*Louis Bureau (lead) & Wayne Sampson*

Song—268

Sermon: *Terry Schmidt*  
"Lessons from a Disobedient King"

Song—644

Announcements & Closing Prayer  
*Jason Kennedy*

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Lord's Supper Prep: *Jan Sampson*

Southern Maine Church of Christ

159 Alfred Road, P.O. Box 344
West Kennebunk, ME 04094



*We love Him, because
He first loved us.
- 1 John 4:19 -*

March 24, 2024

Meeting on the Lord's Day:

9:30 am — Bible Class
10:30 am — Worship

*"Let us consider one another in order
to stir up love and good works, not
forsaking the assembling of ourselves
together, as is the manner of some, but
exhorting one another, and so much the
more as you see the Day approaching."
- Hebrews 10:24-25 -*

Phone: 207-229-4174
Email: tls654b@twc.com
Website: www.southernmainecofc.com