



Covenant Baptist Church

Reformed and Refreshing

November 3rd, 2019

Welcome to Covenant Baptist Church. We are a Reformed church committed to three things:

- **The Exaltation of God**

We desire that the people at Covenant truly understand who God is and His rightful place in their lives as their Lord and sovereign Savior.

- **The Edification of the Saints**

We consider it extremely important to correctly teach the Bible, verse by verse, so we can properly have the Holy Spirit apply it to our lives.

- **The Evangelization of the Sinner**

We understand that God has given us the responsibility to be stewards of the Gospel and that means sharing it exactly like God gave it to us with those who need Jesus.

<https://covenantbaptists.org>

Covenant Baptist Church Schedule

Bible Education Hour (Systematic Theology)
~ 9:30 A.M.

Sunday Worship ~ 10:30 A.M.

Wednesday Prayer Service ~ 7:00 P.M.

*(We are not interested in traditional worship
or contemporary worship. We are only
interested in true worship.)*

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Order of Worship

(November 3rd, 2019)

All Creatures of Our God and King—11

Prayer and Scripture Reading: Proverbs 16:1-18

Day by Day—69

He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought—58

Message: Grace Through Knowledge of Christ
—2 Peter 1:2-3

Closing Hymn: We Will Glorify—97

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Upcoming cleaning volunteers:

November 2: Shumpert/Smook

November 9: Egan

November 16: Olds/Shealy

Deacon on-call list:

October 27: Daryl Kyzer

November 3: Chris Waddell

November 10: Kenny Lucas

Church Bookstore:

Purchases (cash only) can be made by seeing Annsley or Cristan Smook,
or following the instructions left near the bookstore entrance.

Announcements—November 3, 2019

In preparation for worship, a prelude is played by the pianist. When this begins, please find your seat and prepare for worship.

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This year we again plan to help with the Kenya orphan ministry by providing the funds needed to purchase clothes and uniforms for Christmas. We will accept donations through December 8. The uniforms are much-needed items for the children. If you would like to start giving toward this project, just earmark your check or envelopes “Kenya Orphans Christmas”.

Boys:	Boys and Girls:	Girls:
-Sweater: \$19.45	-Underwear: \$4.84	- Jacket: Large-\$19.35,
- Uniform (shirt + trousers): \$30.96	- Shoes: Large-\$27.09 Small/medium-\$17.4	Small-\$17.41
- Socks: \$1.74		- Sweater: \$17.41
		- Uniform: \$27.09
		- Socks: \$2.42

Also, the Kenya Orphan Fund has just dropped below \$500 and it is our habit to let the congregation know when this has happened.

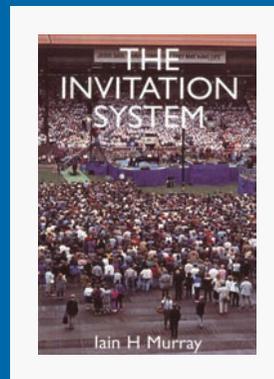
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There is a communication board in the Fellowship Hall. It includes a calendar to sign up for using the facilities at the church. You may borrow tables and chairs to take home for a function. Please put your name and the number of items you borrow on the calendar. You are responsible for cleaning the facilities after you use them, including removing your trash. The board will also be available to advertise your need to remarket items, or to offer your services for hire. Marie Lucas is the coordinator for this board. Her number is 803-397-9082.

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Greek class will resume on November 17 at 6 PM.

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Anyone submitting a receipt or bill for reimbursement can now send a copy via email instead of providing a paper copy: treasurer@covenantbaptistchurchsc.org

Book of the Week: The Invitation System

Iain H. Murray



“Almost all who claim to be Christians are agreed on the need for evangelism. However, evangelicals are still distinguished by their authoritative proclamation of man’s state in sin, necessitating a personal response to Christ in repentance and faith. As distinct from vaguer conceptions, evangelicals believe in the new birth of individuals. In recent years, however, the pattern in which such conversions are most frequently expected to occur has been linked with the practice of calling people to the front during an evangelistic service. This is ‘the invitation system’ characteristic of modern mass evangelism.”

Read more and purchase at: <https://www.amazon.com/Invitation-System-Iain-H-Murray/dp/0851511716>

G3 Conference: Worship

<https://g3conference.com/>

“The worship of God has both a theological foundation that must not be ignored as well as practical implications for every Christian and local church.

“Does God mandate how we worship and how do we discern what is acceptable worship to God? In an age where pastors are entering the pulpit on zip lines and where motorcycle stunts are being attempted as illustrations during corporate worship—we must ask ourselves what does God expect and what does he forbid?

“In the 2020 G3 Conference, we will look at the subject of the worship of God—seeking to understand the theological foundation and real life implications for us in the context of our local churches. Make your plans to join us by securing your seat!”

Worship is our innermost being responding with praise for all that God is, through our attitudes, actions, thoughts, and words, based on the truth of God as He has revealed Himself.

—John MacArthur



Covenant Baptist Church Events

Greek Class:

Our Greek class, “It’s Greek to You and Me”, will continue November 17th the fellowship hall at 6 P.M.



2nd Sunday Fellowship Dinner:

November 10th is our next second Sunday fellowship meal. Please plan to bring a dish and join us after the service! Also remember that we usually have visitors who stay for the meal, and you are encouraged to bring more than a small side dish so that there is plenty to go around.

International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church



This Sunday, November 3rd is the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church.

Christians are the #1 most persecuted people group on earth. Every 6 minutes, a Christian is killed for following Jesus Christ, reports Help the Persecuted. (<https://htp.org/why-the-persecuted/>)

Since 2011, Help the Persecuted has helped more than 30,000 individuals and their families.

16% were directly affected by ISIS

16% suffered physical torture or abuse

8% had a family member killed for their faith

And 56% of those helped were converts from Islam

Galatians 6:2 says, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."



Seven Prayers for Those You Love—by Marshall Segal

What do you pray most often for the people you love most? The question reveals an uncomfortable amount about us (and our prayers).

First, do we pray for those we love? Prayer is one of the most powerful, thoughtful, loving ways we can love anyone we love. Yet we still often struggle to persevere in prayer for others. With countless compelling reasons to pray — to ask the God of infinite power, wisdom, and love to move in the lives of our friends, family, and neighbors — we find a thousand excuses not to. What some of us need to hear most is simply a reminder to stop and pray for the ones we love.

But if we do pray for them, what we pray really matters. And we often ask God for less than we should. At least I know that I myself have sometimes asked for less than I should — for my wife, my son, my parents, my church family. When we think to pray for others we love, our minds can default to practical, earthly concerns — that God would guard or improve their health and safety, or that he would prosper what they do at work, or that he would protect our relationship with them, or for whatever other daily or weekly needs that immediately come to mind.

Prayers like these, while good and even important, fall short of the mountain-moving prayers we might pray — prayers like the apostle Paul prayed. If we prayed more like he did, and God answered, we wouldn't be able to keep ourselves from praying more for the ones we love.

Why We Pray for Less

Tim Keller observes, “It is remarkable that in all of his writings Paul’s prayers for his friends contain no appeals for changes in circumstances” (Prayer, 20). Think about that. From his thirteen letters, we know literally dozens of ways Paul prayed for Christians, and yet he never asks God to change their circumstances. Yet that is what many of us pray for most.

Why do we default to smaller prayers for circumstances, rather than praying for the bigger, deeper, longer-lasting spiritual realities under what we see and experience? For many reasons, of course, but we can try to isolate a couple.

First, smaller prayers come easier. We naturally, even apart from knowing Christ, think (and worry) about health, work, safe travel, and relational conflict. It doesn't take spiritual sensitivity to want a sick person to get well (or a healthy person to stay



Seven Prayers for Those You Love—by Marshall Segal (cont.)

healthy). Even those who hate God may wish a good life for one another. Big, Paul-like prayers, however, do not come naturally. God-hating people do not stumble into prayers like these. To pray these prayers with real focus, desperation, and hope requires the Spirit to work that focus, desperation, and hope in us. He opens our eyes to the awesome and terrifying realities below our everyday circumstances.

Second, God's answers to our biggest prayers are often slow and less visible. If we pray for someone to heal, they may get better in just days or weeks. If we pray for someone to travel safely, we know how God answered in a matter of hours. If we pray for a successful interview, we can find out very soon how it went. But if we pray for God to make a brother more like Jesus, we may not see real, reliable fruit for years. If we pray for God to protect our child from Satan and all his temptations, we likely will not witness thousands of ways he has done it. If we pray for God to keep our pastor faithful through to the end, we will not know for sure if, or how, he has done it until that man finally hears, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:23).

Big prayers require more grace, more faith, and more effort because spiritual realities do not naturally come to mind, and because the answers to bigger prayers are often harder to recognize — at least for now. For hundreds of thousands of years to come, though, we will taste and see and witness the preciousness of the big prayers we prayed — prayers that moved mountains in people's hearts, causing earthquakes at their spiritual cores, and changing the course of their eternities.

Seven Daily Prayers

Because Paul wrote to churches, almost all of the prayers we have in his letters are for believers. We can be sure he prayed persistently and passionately, with many tears, for the lost (Romans 9:2–3; Philippians 3:18–19). But most of what we know about Paul's prayer life centers on what he prayed for his brothers and sisters in the faith, including these seven big prayers — prayers we can regularly pray for the followers of Christ we love most.

1. Open their eyes even wider to you.

Prayer is one of the most powerful, most thoughtful, most loving things we can do for those we love. And the most powerful, thoughtful, and loving prayer we can pray for others is that they would enjoy more of God. Again, Keller writes, "Paul does not see prayer as merely a way to get things from God but as a way to get more of God himself" (Prayer, 21). Paul prays,

Seven Prayers for Those You Love—by Marshall Segal (cont.)

Because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened. (Ephesians 1:15–18)

Because he had heard of their faith, he prayed for them to see God. Do you pray like that for believers you love? Paul knew that we need supernatural inner strength to experience the breadth and length and height and depth of God's love for us in Christ (Ephesians 3:16–19) — not just to receive it, but to experience it, and grow in experiencing it. We need fresh grace to enjoy God again today.

2. Fill their hearts with love for others.

If God has answered our first prayer for those we love, that grace will begin to show in their love for people.

It is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. (Philippians 1:9–11)

Paul appeals to God for this kind of extraordinary, contagious, full-to-overflowing love elsewhere as well (1 Thessalonians 3:11–13; Romans 15:5–6). He did not assume that followers of Christ would love one another well. He asked God to make them more and more loving.

It should be no surprise that these first two prayers echo Jesus's two great commandments to love God and neighbor (Matthew 22:37–39). When we go to pray for our spouse, our children, our church family, our neighbors, these are two great pillar prayers: God, open their eyes wider and wider to you, and fill their hearts to overflowing with love for people.

3. Teach them the wisdom of your will.

Our prayers for one another should begin with a growing love for God, and an overflowing love for people, but Paul does not settle for those two great prayers. He climbs other mountains in prayer for those he loves. He prays for spiritual wisdom and understanding:

We have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. (Colossians 1:9-10)

Seven Prayers for Those You Love—by Marshall Segal (cont.)

We will not walk in a manner worthy of God merely because we want to. We need God to teach us how. That we want to and why we want to matter massively to God, but we still have to learn to walk. No matter how long we've been walking, we all are somewhere along the path to “fully pleasing,” encountering new opportunities and challenges each new day. However far along we are, the next steps require spiritual wisdom and insight, not just human discipline and resolve, so we pray and ask God for what we need to know now.

4. Give them boldness to speak about Jesus.

The commission Jesus left for us could not have been clearer (Matthew 28:19–20). We may forget it or neglect it in seasons of our lives, but it will not be because the charge is ambiguous. God calls every follower of Jesus to win followers for Jesus, and teach them to obey all that Jesus has said. To this end, Paul writes,

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison — that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. (Colossians 4:2–4)

And he asks for prayer elsewhere “that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak” (Ephesians 6:19–20).

God acts in three miraculous ways to answer prayers like these. He first gives us words to say, then boldness to say them when we might be rejected (or worse), and lastly he opens the spiritual eyes of our hearers to see and understand the gospel of his Son. When we pray for fellow believers today, we can pray for the same gifts of grace to witness well.

5. Send them good friends in the faith.

Over and over again in his letters, Paul prays that God would allow him to be with other followers of Christ. For example:

What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? (1 Thessalonians 3:9–10; also Romans 1:9–10; 15:30–33)

Many of us, in the context of healthy churches, have never been so desperate for fellowship, never lingered late into the night praying earnestly to finally

Seven Prayers for Those You Love—by Marshall Segal (cont.)

see believers face to face. We're so used to seeing our church family Sunday after Sunday (and more), we may have forgotten just how vital fellowship is to the Christian life.

Apart from the mercy of God and the prayers of others, however, any of us could “be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin” (Hebrews 3:13) and wander off in love with this world (2 Timothy 4:10). So, one of the most important prayers we can pray for those we love is that God would give them a healthy, faithful church and a few godly, steadfast friends.

6. Protect them from enemies of their soul.

When we pray for God to grow our loved ones' joy in him, and deepen their love for others, and embolden their words about Jesus, we need to know that they will meet resistance and hostility. Paul faced that kind of opposition everywhere he went, so he asked for prayer:

Brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. (2 Thessalonians 3:1–2)

As we pray for one another, we remember that “we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 6:12). Satan and his armies do not attack randomly and sporadically, but specifically and relentlessly. One of the most effective ways to pray for our loved ones is to pray against the enemies of their souls.

We pray with Jesus, “Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil” (Matthew 6:13). Not just me but us. Jesus teaches us to pray not only for our own interests — our own temptations, our own struggles, our own besetting sins — but to pray regularly and passionately for the interests of others, to count others even more significant than ourselves (Philippians 2:3) in our war against evil.

7. Make Jesus look good with their life.

Finally, pray that Jesus would be glorified in all that they do.

To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power,

Seven Prayers for Those You Love—by Marshall Segal (cont.)

so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 1:11–12)

Paul wraps three great prayers in one. First, ask God to focus and purify their ambitions. These are not just any resolves, but resolves for good, and not just any work, but works of faith. Our prayers will help guard them from bad resolves and works of self.

Second, we ask God to give them not just strength for their work, but his strength for their work. If these resolves and works are going to glorify God, they must be “by his power,” not their own. We want divine energy and ability pouring through them while they work and serve.

Lastly, and most clearly, we need God to fulfill his work through them — to complete it and make it fruitful (Philippians 1:6, 11). In short, we need him to glorify himself in all that they (and we) do.

Thank God for Grace You See

If God answers these prayers, we will see the fruit over time — and we should thank him as often as we see it. One of the best ways to stoke the fires of our big prayers for others is to praise God for what we see him doing in and through them.

This is the prayer Paul wrote as often as any other: “I thank my God for you.” Because your faith is growing (2 Thessalonians 1:3). Because you have loved the saints well (Ephesians 1:15–16). Because of your partnership in the gospel (Philippians 1:3–5). Because he has gifted you and given you greater knowledge of himself (1 Corinthians 1:4–7). Because the gospel is spreading through you (Romans 1:8). Because you have not lost your hope in Jesus Christ (1 Thessalonians 1:2–3).

How often do we take evidence of spiritual fruit for granted, thanking God instead for smaller, more-circumstantial blessings? The greater, more valuable, more lasting works of God (like the seven above) do not fit neatly into a day or week. To notice them, we have to be looking more closely and over months and years. But when we see, really see, the hands of God at work in the heart of someone we love, few realities will inspire our faith, intensify our joy, and strengthen our prayer lives like these answers to prayer.

S.C. senators pass bill to bar most abortions

Senators in South Carolina approved a proposal to ban virtually all abortions six weeks following conception after removing exemptions for pregnancies that are the result of rape and incest.

The Republican-led Senate Medical Affairs subcommittee passed the amended bill 4-3 on Tuesday along party lines, moving it on to the full Medical Affairs Committee. If it passes the committee, it will then move on to the state Senate floor.

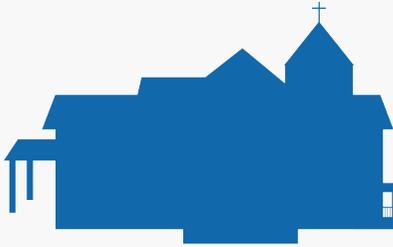
Bill H.3020, more commonly referred to as the fetal heartbeat bill, bans abortions after a fetal heartbeat is detected, which can occur as early as six weeks into a pregnancy. Those found guilty of performing, inducing or attempting to perform or induce an abortion after the fetal heartbeat is detected can face two years imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine.

Read more: https://www.sermonaudio.com/new_details.asp?ID=52772



Strategies for Fighting Depression Well—by Jim Newheiser

<https://biblicalcounseling.com/fighting-depression-well/>



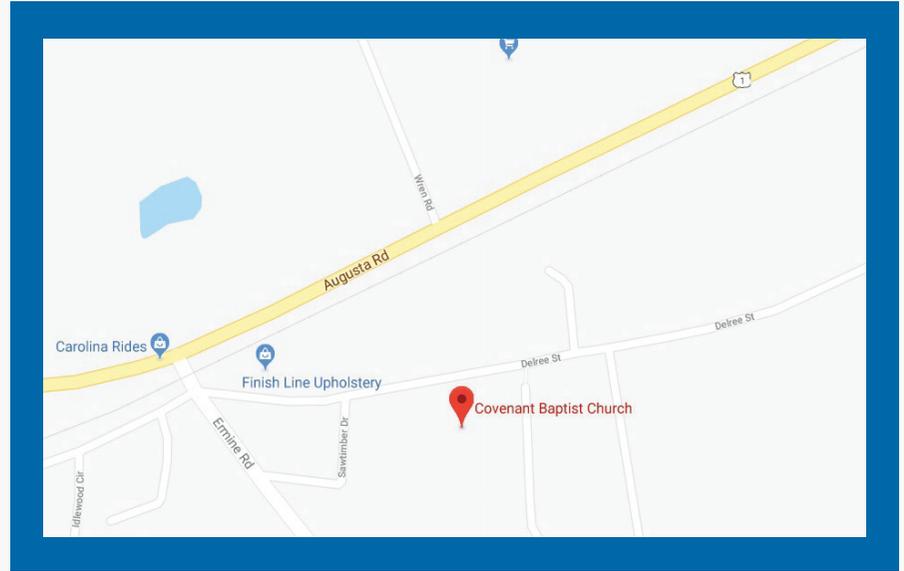
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*If you are interested in joining our church, please speak to one of our elders or deacons.
They will be happy to give you the information you need.*