

Services: Sunday School 9:45am

Sunday Evening Service 6:00pm

Worship Service 11:00am

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00pm

Old Lea Bethel Baptist Church  
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August 04, 2019

# Blessed Beacon

WORD FROM PASTOR ROR-  
RER.....

## Scripture Applied



**2 Peter 1:19-21 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as *they were moved by the Holy Spirit.***

The study of the Word of God is foundational in the Christian walk. Regular time in the Word, accompanied by prayer and meditation, leads us into a depth of fellowship with God that is impossible otherwise. All scripture is God breathed. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 says, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." The Word of God grounds us in the bedrock of God's commandments, giving our feet firm grip, even as the storms of life lash and beat around us.

The world likes to do mental gymnastics around the Word of God. We, as Christians, are warned not to engage in such activities. Peter gives clear instruction that scripture is not for private interpretation. Certain things we're allowed to know and certain things we're not told. To spend any time playing "what if" or reading books where the author, no matter how famous, extends his "best guess" to the inerrant Word of God is a waste of time and sure folly.



*A warm-hearted church with a simple focus: Jesus, family, friends.*



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**Trust in the Lord  
with all your heart  
and lean not on  
your own under-  
standing; in all  
your ways submit  
to him, and he will  
make your paths  
straight. -**

**Proverbs 3:5-6**

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS**

Our Sunday school continues to grow. Come and be a part of the transformation. Our Wednesday night small group has launched!!!! It's been a great success, with more groups being planned. Be a part of the change. Thanks to all the teachers and students for making this happen!

## **DEACON'S CORNER**



The Deacons continue to work to serve the people of the church. Stewardship of the people, facility and money that God has entrusted to our care is always first in our heart. May God continue to richly bless the people of Old Lea Bethel Baptist church as we approach a new church year.

### **80th Homecoming Celebration**

**We need your memories and your help! October 20th will be here before we know it.**

- 1) Invite people to come and celebrate with us.**
- 2) Write your memories and e-mail them to us.**
- 3) Scan and share your old photographs**
- 4) Let us know if you have furniture or fixtures from the old church building that we can use for the celebration.**
- 5) Give us your help. Tell us how you want to participate.**
- 6) Again, invite people who have a history with the church**

## WORD FROM PASTOR RORRER (CONTINUED).....

As we study our Bible, three questions must be perpetually in our minds:

**First, how does the scripture apply to my relationship with God?** Our goal is ALWAYS to draw closer to God and become more like Christ. The Bible is not there to explain God. God is beyond explanation. Fill the universe with books and God will still be beyond our comprehension. Instead, scripture helps us to better understand our relationship with God and, through this relationship, the Holy Spirit transforms us, so we are more like Jesus.

**Next, how does the scripture apply to my life circumstances?** Scripture reveals. Scripture convicts. Through study, scripture reveals Truth in our lives. In obedience and Spiritual openness, we read and, as we receive revelation and conviction, we change. Scripture reveals and convicts personally. Daily application in our personal walk improves our relationship with God. Our goal is to honor our Master Jesus by behaving more like Him every day.

**Finally, how does the scripture apply to my impact on others for Jesus?** Having relationship with God and applying His Word to our life is not intended to be greedily kept within our secret selves. It's to be shared. As our relationship with God grows, love is our fruit. Our love for our Master overflows. We serve Him because we love Him. We love Him because He first loved us. Our mission becomes to share God's love in such a way that others will seek what we have shared. They will desire a relationship with God through Christ.

Satan's great weapon is deception. When he can get us doubting, distracted, daydreaming, or discussing that which the Bible doesn't reveal, he delays our witness. We must ruthlessly focus on relationship, application, and impact. One day, we'll know. Until then, we study and grow.

### **2019 Appalachian Outreach**

This year, we will pack backpacks for 6 boys and 6 girls, ages 15-17. Here's what we need:

- 1) 2-3 items of new clothing—winter hats, gloves, socks, coat, sweatshirt
- 2) 3-4 small pop-top canned foods (Ravioli, tuna, beef stew, etc. No Styrofoam please.
- 3) 1 or more age appropriate unbreakable toy (no toy weapons please)
- 4) Hygiene items: toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc
- 5) Age appropriate youth Bible
- 6) Fresh wrapped candy (No peanut products or chocolate please)

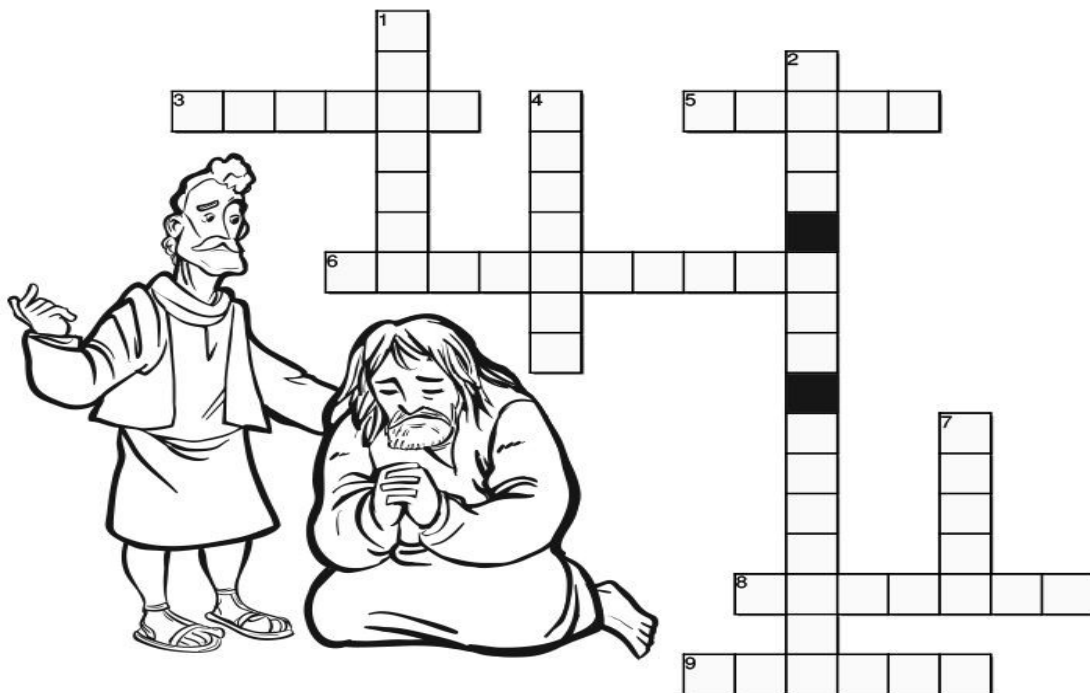
Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. -

Galatians 6:10

# CHILDREN'S CORNER

## JESUS TEACHES HOW TO PRAY

Luke 11:1-8



### Across

3. Prayer is a powerful \_\_\_\_\_ against the enemy.
5. Sometimes Jesus would leave the crowds and his disciples to spend time \_\_\_\_\_ with God.
6. Jesus taught that you must be \_\_\_\_\_ in prayer and to never give up.
8. "Your \_\_\_\_\_ come. Your will be done, here on earth as it is in Heaven."
9. The beginning of the prayer started, "Our \_\_\_\_\_ in Heaven, holy is your name . . ."

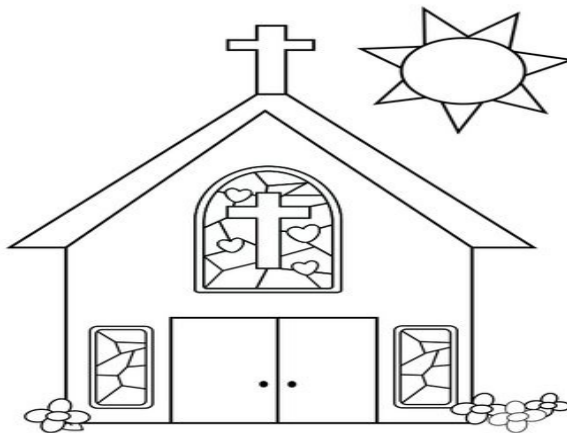
### Down

1. Through prayer, God will \_\_\_\_\_ for your needs, forgive your sins, and protect you from enemies.
2. Who else, besides Jesus, had the disciples heard teaching about prayer?
4. There is no sin that God cannot \_\_\_\_\_.
7. "Give us this day our daily \_\_\_\_\_."



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## I Love Sunday School





*Janet Bottoms*

## TESTIMONY

Health is not something we can take for granted. Many of us go through our lives each day doing only our tasks without thinking that in this moment many people are struggling difficult situations because of terrible sicknesses. It happened to me at the end of November in 2003 when I was diagnosed with Lupus which is a systemic autoimmune disease. I only remember my doctor said, "Thank God, it is not cancer." None of us knows when our time is up.

When I came to this wonderful country, one of my dreams was to obtain my Masters Degree in Information Technology. I arrived very happy and excited to accomplish my personal goals. However, adjusting to this new culture was becoming a challenge for me especially with my nutritional habits and driving skills. After living here for a couple of months, I was feeling homesick because I used to eat homemade food and occasionally fast food. When I was living in Florida, I started eating Mac Donald's, Kentucky Fried Chicken, etc. almost daily. The second problem for me was transportation. In Peru I used public transportation, so I did not know how to drive. One day my father was teaching me how to drive, and we had an accident. We were taken to the hospital and fortunately sent home after a couple of hours. This incident affected me for almost two years, and I was afraid to drive again. During this time, I was not close to God at all even though I was raised in a Catholic family. Besides my studies at Palm Beach Community College, I was also working full time taking care of elderly people. I used to be a selfish person only pursuing my own goals, and I did not have time to go to church on Sundays. Suddenly, I started feeling tired and with terrible headaches. I remember a professor told me, "you look stressed out and you need to take it easy." I did not pay attention to her recommendations. Then, one day I woke up with a lot of pain in my stomach, mouth sores, and my legs were swelling. I was terrified of my symptoms, and I went to visit many doctors. They couldn't find the reason of my troubles. I didn't know what to do, and my boss recommended his physician Dr. Jacobson, Director of the Palm Beach Cancer Institute. He was a well-recognized doctor who finally found out my diagnosis. I was hospitalized at Good Samaritan Hospital for almost two weeks. After many tests, biopsies, electrocardiograms, etc., my doctor decided to give me chemotherapy treatments every other month for 2 years. When I started this treatment, I was shocked not only for the quantity of pills I had to take every day, but also for the side effects such as gaining weight, losing hair, and chest pain. My illness took me through different stages such as the acknowledgement, struggling, and getting a new perspective of life.

Even though I was suffering a lot, I was determined to fight my sickness. I started to change my nutritional habits. I began eating healthy food such as salads, fruits, natural juices, and not too much meat. Because I was staying at home all the time, I decided to do some exercises like walking around the house, lifting small weights, and dancing. I was doing my best, but I couldn't avoid feeling anxiety and depression. Practicing spiritual meditation helped me to feel more relaxed by giving to my mind the message that "I am getting well." I was doing that every day in the afternoon when the house was quiet. Then, I realized that the most important thing in my life was the presence of God. Reading my Bible helped me to not lose my faith and find the spiritual peace that I had never had before.



## TESTIMONY (CONTINUED)

One day while staying at the hospital, one pastor from Colombia named Luis and my family members prayed for me around my bed. This amazing experience helped me to realize that God can change a difficult time into a blessing. My family did not share with me that the doctors gave me only 4 months to live. Luis came to my house for a Bible Study once a week for a couple of months until I started walking again. One day a doctor came to my room and asked me what you want to do in the future, and I said, "I want to get my master's degree", and he replied, "you will do it." Staying at the hospital made me realize that the love of God, family and friends are priceless. I was also blessed with the support of my aunts Nila, Violeta, and my little niece Gabriela who came from Peru for three months to take care of me while my parents were working. I could not believe that they left their jobs and the comfort of their lives to be with me.

Everything that was happening gave me the courage and motivation not to give up and continue to fight with determination, but this time with the love of God. Living this new experience taught me to enjoy the simple things in life. I also learned to be more compassionate with people who suffer terrible sicknesses because we never know when we may go through a similar experience. It took two years of treatments to recover my health.

Another dream I had was to meet my future husband. I thought it would be more difficult to find love after all I went through. However, nothing is impossible to God. Once I had a dream where I saw a heart with the names Janet and Alan inside. At that moment, I did not understand the meaning. After 6 years, I was marrying my beloved husband Alan Bryce II. We met at an online dating site. It was unbelievable how God united us. We both were tired of doing this online dating, and suddenly he sent me a message that I still remembered, "Your picture made me smile." After 6 months of online dating, he proposed to me in New Year's Eve. In 2010, I received God's double blessings marrying Rev. Alan Bryce II and finishing my graduate studies.

Alan and I enjoyed our life together because we put God at the center of our lives. He was a well-known and a loved person in Roxboro. I admired his love for the LORD, church, family and friends. He also brought a lot of happiness to my life. He had a great sense of humor, and we complemented each other very well.

After 2 years of marriage, we found out that Alan was sick. It was a devastating news for us. I remembered crying alone because I did not want to discourage him, and I knew all that was coming ahead for us. He remained strong for me most of the time, but sometimes he used to tell me I want this music for my funeral, and I usually stopped him talking that way. I was very hopeful that Alan was going to overcome his illness, but God's plan was different for us. He went to heaven to have complete healing. One of his last words for me was "Janet, I love you a lot!" I supported my beloved husband with all my heart, and I understood how God prepared me with my sickness first in order to take care of him. In addition, when I married Alan, I did not know the implications of a pastor's wife, with him by my side, I learned to be more compassionate and empathetic to people. I recall once he told me "you have not only married me, but you also married my church and family." From the first moment I visited Old Lea Bethel Baptist Church I felt the love of all its members. My favorite Bible verse that always encourages me with my challenges is Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path."

Certainly, I would say that coming to this extraordinary country was a blessing for me because I accepted Jesus as my Savior. And, I had the opportunity to recover my health, finish my studies, and find love. Finally, I want to express my gratitude to our pastors Rev. Richard Rorrer, Rev. Alan Botoms and all church members for your support, love, and prayers.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Aug 18 –**

Gideon Speaker  
during worship

**Sept 8 –**

3rd Annual Fellow-  
ship Day – details  
soon

**Sept 29 –**

Baptist Children's  
Home guest speaker

**Oct 20 –**

80th Annual Home-  
coming

**Oct 25 & 26 –**

Potato Peeling &  
Fall Stew

## GOD'S CHILD SPOTLIGHT

*MEET OUR CONGREGATION!*

Name: **Jennifer Figs**

Member Since: **2006**

Originally From:

**Richmond, VA**

Favorite Animal: **Horse**

Favorite Old Lea Bethel  
Memory:

**Many Memories.**

**Favorite was Wom-  
en's Day, Enjoying  
lunch while in labor  
with my son but lov-  
ing all the potluck  
too much to leave to  
go to hospital.**



If you'd like to contribute to the Blessed Beacon or have an idea you'd like to see highlighted, please contact Angella Aiken or Jennifer Figgs.

## OLD LEA BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

**Rev. Richard Rorrer** (336)- 260-2606

**Deacons:**

Gene Allen– 336-597-9540

James Ball– 919-563-4489

Robin Smith– 336-597-3669

**Music Director:** Diane Oakley

**Pianist:** Brooke Williamson

**Blessed Beacon:**

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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

