

## God Are You Listening?

Jason R. Roberts

*"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think" (Ephesians 3:20).*

Someone has well said, "Prayer is the pipeline of our faith to God." What a blessed privilege it is for God's children to access the throne of God and to know that He is ever near us in our time of need.

For some, it may seem otherwise. They, at times, feel like God is far away — distant and seemingly uninterested in answering their prayers. Their prayers begin on earth and seem to never leave the ground to heaven above. They often wonder if God is really listening. Is He? God, are you listening to the prayers of your children?

Notice how our verse addresses this question. *First* of all, the verse says that God is **able** to do something. What is He **able** to do? He is able to do what we ask or think. *Second*, He is able to do **all** that we ask or think. *Third*, He is able to do **above** all that we ask or think. *Fourth*, He is able to do **abundantly** above all that we ask or think. *Fifth*, He is able to do **exceeding** abundantly above all that we ask or think!

Paul, in writing by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, could have just penned that God was able to do what we ask or think, but he did not. The intensity behind his words cannot be overlooked — they are there for a purpose. God wants His children to be overwhelmingly convinced that He is available in our time of need — never doubting His promise to answer our prayers.

What a marvelous privilege it is to pray to our heavenly Father, knowing that He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think! This thrilling verse ought to serve as a great motivator for all of us to continue praying frequently, fervently and faithfully believing that God will bring it to pass (Romans 12:12; James 5:16; 1 John 5:14). Yes, God is listening, and yes, He is answering.

- Beacon, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL -

### I WILL PRAY

Father, in the morning unto Thee I pray;  
Let Thy loving kindness keep me through this day.  
At the busy noontide, pressed with work and care,  
Then I'll wait with Jesus till He hear my prayer.  
When the evening shadows chase away the light,  
Father, then I'll pray Thee, bless Thy child tonight.  
Thus in life's glad morning, in it's bright noonday,  
In the shadowy evening, ever will I pray.  
I will pray, I will pray, ever will I pray;  
Morning, noon and evening unto Thee I'll pray.

- A. Cummings -

*True prayer is a way of life, not just in case of an emergency.*

### News & Notes

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Next Tuesday, May 31st at 7:00 p.m. will be the last study for this season. This class will resume in the Fall.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** Next Saturday, June 4th, 8:00 a.m., at EJ's.

**50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:** For Keith & Elaine McClung, next Saturday, June 4th, 1:00 p.m. at the Fellowship Building. Lunch provided. Please, NO GIFTS, cards only. **TODAY** is the last day to sign up on the sheet in the foyer.

**MONTHLY COVERED DISH DINNERS TO RESUME:** Next Sunday, June 5th, about Noon, at the Fellowship Building. An early afternoon worship service (2:00 p.m., instead of 5:30 p.m.) will follow at the church building.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** June 13-17, 10 a.m. to NOON. Classes for all ages. Adult class teacher: Jeremy Main.

**PANTRY:** Chicken Noodle Soup.

**PRAYERS REQUESTED:** Tim & Joyce Martin's son's aneurysm test was negative. Linda LeMasters (wife of Larry of McKinleyville), recent heart surgery.

**SICK & SHUT-IN:** *The following have COVID:* Johnathan & Brooke Akers, Shawn & Nicki Beagle, Gerald & Tracy Clutter, Latish Brown, Joe Collins, Docie Moore, Maysan Reardon, Cortlad Richmond. *Others at Home:* Becky McKitrick (will start Chemo Tuesday May 31st), Stan Williams, Mike West, Barbara DeLong, David McCoy, Russell Martin, Claudette Miller, Mark Vermillion (neighbor, brain mass surgery recovery), Cheryl Renfro Walker, Nicole Stoffer (aunt of Tamara Sprout), Lori Rowand (niece of John Sprout). **Weston, WV:** Rick Beck.

### A Child Of Mine - by Edgar A Guest

I will lend you, for a little time, a child of mine He said.

For you to love the while he lives, and mourn for when he's dead.

It may be six or seven years, or twenty-two or three,

But will you, till I call him back, take care of Him for Me?

He'll bring his charms to gladden you, and should his stay be brief,

You'll have his lovely memories, as solace for your grief.

I cannot promise he will stay, since all from earth return,

But there are lessons taught down there, I want this child to learn.

I've looked the wide world over, in search for teachers true,

And from the throngs that crowd life's lanes, I have selected you.

Now will you give him all your love, nor think the labor vain,

Nor hate Me when I come to take him home again?

I fancied that I heard them say, 'Dear Lord, Thy will be done!'

For all the joys thy child shall bring, the risk of grief we'll run.

We'll shelter him with tenderness, we'll love him while we may,

And for the happiness we've known, forever grateful stay.

But should the angels call for him, much sooner than we've planned,

We'll brave the bitter grief that comes, and try to understand.

*This poem was printed in our bulletin, December 16, 2012 after the massacre of 20 children and 6 adults at Sandy Hook Elementary School, Newtown, Connecticut.*