Notes:

Sermon Text

Subject

Spiritual “To Do List”
(things God has shown me today)

Overcoming the Struggle to Pray

All of us have people in our lives whose spiritual welfare depends at least partly upon our faithful vigilance in prayer. The moment we determine to pray daily, though, Satan seeks to distract us. When we have time to pray, we no longer feel the same inclination and have to fight listlessness. We kneel to pray and wake up fifteen minutes later and think we might as well forget trying. Satan suggests that this is the perfect time to do that cleaning we had postponed.

We're tempted to let the smallest excuses deny us our prayer times. Hudson Taylor said Satan will find something to keep us from praying even if it is adjusting a window shade.

I am inspired by the priority the apostles gave to prayer. They learned that the widows were being neglected, and what could have been more important than caring for them? After all, "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows" (James 1:27). They somehow knew, though, that even caring for the widows was not to come before their praying. They found others to care for the widows and then said, we "will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word" (Acts 6:4).

When we choose to skip prayer, perhaps Jesus would say, "If you, even you, had only known...what would bring you peace" (Luke 19:42). Some day the rewards of faithful praying will be evident, and we will be so glad we continued to pray even when we could see no results.

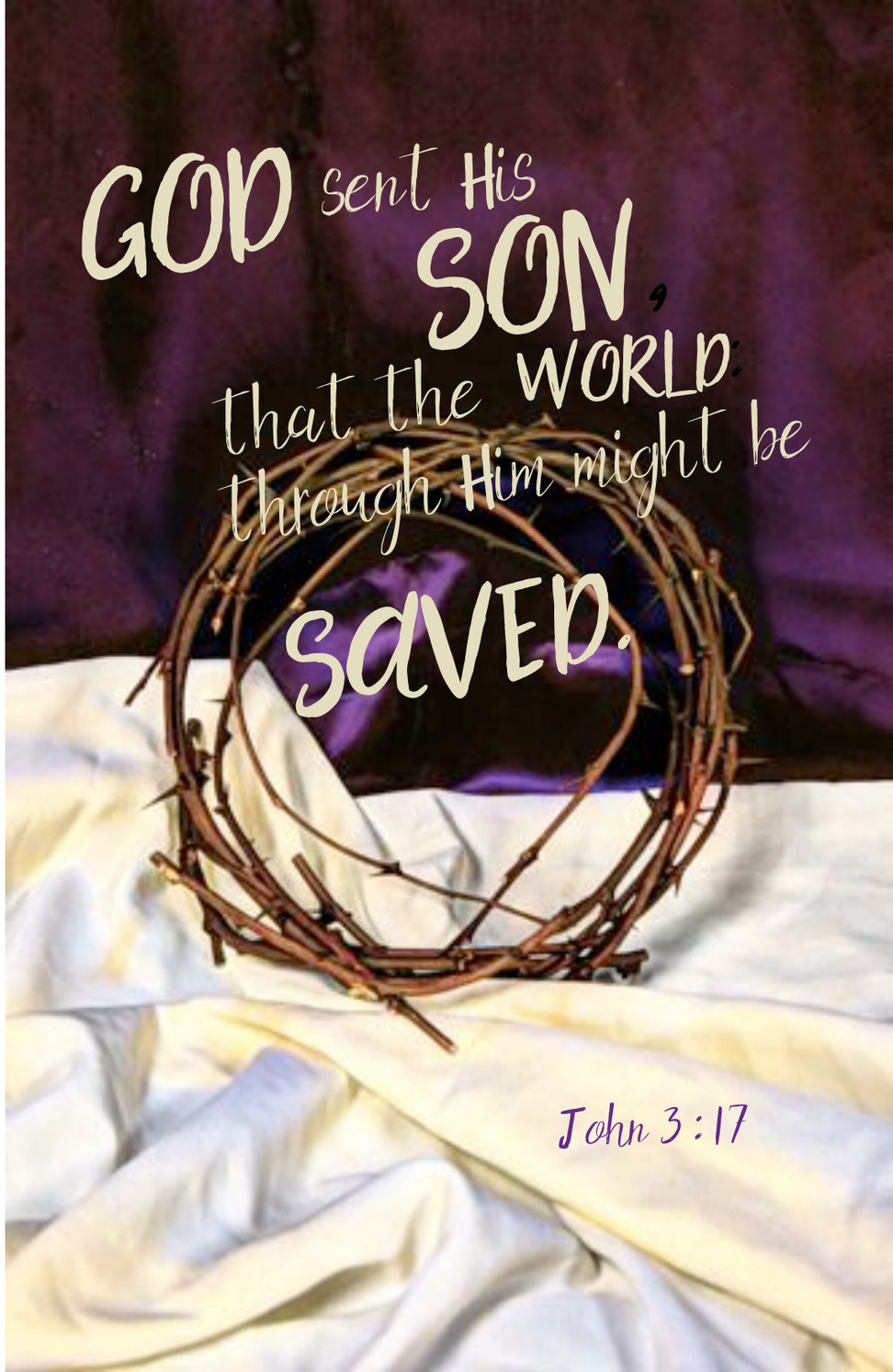
Jesus, who has perfect understanding of the value of prayer and who is our example, lives to make intercession. Could it be He wants us to have prayer as our main role also?

Dear Jesus, help me to place as high a value on prayer as I will someday wish I had.

As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you. —1 Samuel 12:23

—Aletha Hinthorn. Used by permission.

PHOTO: RDO 2-29-2020



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March 8, 2020
Second Sunday in Lent

We warmly welcome all who have come to praise the Almighty. Lift up your hearts unto the Lord and be blessed by God's unfailing grace.

Call to Worship

We lift our eyes up to the mountains;
From where does our help come?

Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

We look not to the mountains or valleys, even heaven or earth,

For God is found among us.

Wherever two or three are gathered in Christ's name,

God is here among us.

Come, let us worship the God of Creation,

Let us follow Jesus, for Jesus is the Way.

Let us worship together in faith.

Announcements.

- **March 10-15** - this week - Schenctady revival services - Clair Sams, speaker
- **March 17** - Legislative Day in Albany. See the brochure in the foyer.
- **March 20** - Night of Prayer - 11 p.m. to Midnight
- **March 22**- 7 p.m. - Erik Samborski will be here with his family to speak about the work in Wilkes-Barre, PA.
- **March 27** - 7:30 p.m. - Zone Rally here

ALMIGHTY God, who dost see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves, keep thou us both outwardly in our bodies & inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ. Amen. — BCP

SERVICES — SUNDAY: Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Cobleskill 4:00 p.m. Evening 7:00 p.m. — WEDNESDAY: Midweek Service 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Requests

- **This** week we are praying especially for the work at **Society of Indian Missions**. The president is Keith Lavery (son-in-law of the late Dale Sherman).
- **We** are encouraged to pray for workers in God's kingdom (Luke 10:2)
- **Pray** for the pulling down of the strongholds of evil. (II Corinthians 10:4)
- **Continue** to pray for:
  - **S**pecial requests for those on our hearts, especially Charles Heckman, Pam, Byron S., Keith A., Rowan S., and Steven H.
  - **Christians** in danger all over the world.
  - **T**he village of **Middleburgh,** that we will reach people with hungry hearts and have fruitful results in our ministry.
  - **Missionaries**: Nichole Barr, the Blackcalfs, the Billses, B. Fay, the Davises, the Himelicks, the Millses, R. Moulton, the Samborskis, Jack Sherman, Judy Sherman, and the T. Shermans.
  - **O**ur **young people** – schoolwork, jobs, and life decisions
  - **B**ible Colleges - GBSC, PVBI, AWC, UBC, HSBC
  - **S**afety and protection for our Armed Forces.
  - **O**ur President, Congress, and Supreme Court, that they may make righteous choices.
- **Pray** for these physical need requests:
  - Mark Vosburgh, Bonnie Cramer, Kim Rison, Randy Staggs, Terry M., Anita P., Joanna Howell, Paulette Fay, Pat and Marie Rooney, Elaine Bates, Greg Davis, Duane and Dorothea Maxey.
- **From** Early Woodland:
  - Dorothy, Lindsay, Joyce, Jim, Todd, Renee.
- *Please let us know of anyone who is ill, facing a time of hospitalization, or would like a home visit.*

Suggested Daily Scripture Reading

	Sunday	*Monday*	*Tuesday*	*Wednesday*
OT	Numbers 10:1-11:23	Numbers 11:24-13:33	Numbers 14:1-15:16	Numbers 15:17-16:40
NT	Mark 14:1-21	Mark 14:22-52	Mark 14:53-72	Mark 15:1-47
PSA	Psalm 51:1-19	Psalm 52:1-9	Psalm 53:1-6	Psalm 54:1-7
PROV	Proverbs 10:31-32	Proverbs 11:1-3	Proverbs 11:4	Proverbs 11:5-6

Thursday	*Friday*	*Saturday*	*Sunday*
Numbers 16:41-18:32	Numbers 19:1-20:29	Numbers 21:1-22:20	Numbers 22:21-23:30
Mark 16:1-20	Luke 1:1-25	Luke 1:26-56	Luke 1:57-80
Psalm 55:1-23	Psalm 56:1-13	Psalm 57:1-11	Psalm 58:1-11
Proverbs 11:7	Proverbs 11:8	Proverbs 11:9-11	Proverbs 11:12-13

Notes:

Other announcements
& prayer requests