

Devotional for Each Day of the Week

Sunday: “No, in heart you work wickedness; you weigh out the violence of your hands in the earth.”—Psalm 58:2. **Praise God** for His omniscience, which allows Him to see every evildoer and every evil deed, and that no injustice escapes His eye. **Pray** for Belle Center (O.) Reformed Presbyterian Church, pastored by Phil Pockras; pray for its growth, and that it would soon be able to occupy the building it owns.

Monday: “For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.”—I Thessalonians 1:5. **Pray** for the elders who have been called by God to bring you the gospel and shepherd you for the glory of God and also for your sake.

Tuesday: “And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit.”—I Thessalonians 1:6. **Pray** that God would help you humbly to imitate the faithful around you, and despite hard times and even persecution, to live in the joy of the Holy Spirit. **Pray** for Bloomington (Ind.) Reformed Presbyterian Church, pastored by Dr. Rich Holdeman.

Wednesday: “. . . so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe.”—I Thessalonians 1:7. **Pray** that God will open your eyes to see how you are an example to others, and would help you accept that responsibility with grace and faithfulness.

Thursday: “For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.”—I Thessalonians 1:8. **Pray** for your effective evangelism and faithful witness to all, including toward those who’ll hear about you without you ever realizing it.

Friday: “For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.”—I Thessalonians 1:9. **Pray** that your faithfulness will inspire others to faith in Jesus Christ. **Pray** for Birmingham (Ala.) Reformed Presbyterian Fellowship, meeting tomorrow for Bible study.

Saturday: “. . . and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.”—I Thessalonians 1:10. **Pray** that many folks would come to church tomorrow and be saved.

Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship

The Lord’s Day
February 18, 2018

Meeting every week at
472-B Paines Avenue NW
Atlanta, Georgia

Worship at 10:45 AM and 5:30 PM
Sunday School at 4:45 PM

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Proclaiming the Kingship of Jesus Christ

Order of Worship—10:45 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions

The Call to Worship Habakkuk 2:20

*The Invocation

*Psalm 100A “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

Scripture Reading (p. 572) Matthew 28:11-20

Pastoral Prayer

*Psalm 48B “In Our God’s City We Have Seen”

Scripture Text (p. 704) I Peter 3:8-22

The Sermon “The Grace of Baptism”

*Prayer

The Administration of Vows and of the Sacrament of Christian Baptism
William Fielding McCoy

*Psalm 133A “Behold How Good a Thing It Is”

*Benediction

*Psalm 134B “Bless the Lord, All Servants of the Lord”
* *Congregation will please stand.*

We are so glad that you could join us today! This service is being conducted under the auspices of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America. Please be sure to return next week and bring a friend.

Q. 91. How do the sacraments become effectual means of salvation?

A. The sacraments become effectual means of salvation, not from any virtue in them, or in him that doth administer them; but only by the blessing of Christ, and the working of his Spirit in them that by faith receive them.

Q. 92. What is a sacrament?

A. A sacrament is a holy ordinance instituted by Christ; wherein, by sensible signs, Christ, and the benefits of the new covenant, are represented, sealed, and applied to believers.

Q. 94. What is baptism?

A. Baptism is a sacrament, wherein the washing with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, doth signify and seal our ingrafting into Christ, and partaking of the benefits of the covenant of grace, and our engagement to be the Lord’s.

I Peter 3:18-22 “The Grace of Baptism”

Theme: Peter instructs the church regarding the grace of baptism.

I. Explanation of I Peter 3:18-22

A. context

B. v. 18—Christ’s suffering; believer’s changed condition

C. v. 19—preaching to the spirits in prison

D. v. 20—reference to the antediluvians

1. which sometime were disobedient

2. God’s long-suffering in the days of Noah

3. few, that is, eight souls were saved by water

E. vv. 21-22

1. antitype—a figure; type is like a model, a symbol

2. baptism does also now save us

a. salvation

b. the destruction of the world and separation from the world

c. how can it said that baptism saves us?

3. not the putting away of the filth of the flesh

4. but the answering of a good conscience towards God

5. through the resurrection of Jesus Christ

6. ascension and power (v. 22)

II. Application

A. do not neglect or despise God’s ordinances/sacraments

B. do not have a superstitious view of the sacraments

1. don’t think that salvation can come only through them

2. don’t think that grace is automatically bestowed

3. don’t think too little of them

C. do use the sacraments as they were intended