



Morning Star Church of Christ

4249 River Street
Willoughby, OH 44095

(440) 254-6207
January 28, 2007

Welcome to The Morning Star Church of Christ. Our church meets at The Willoughby Christian Church. Sunday Bible classes are at 11:00 a.m. and services are at 12:15 p.m. Thursday Bible classes are at 7:00 p.m. for adults and children.

Food for the Journey

Last week, I brought the sermon series *Growing & Knowing: Discerning God's Will for My Life* to a close. In the last sermon, I outlined several steps a Christian can take to come to a deeper understanding of God's will for his or her life. I reminded us that this process will take time – sometimes months or years, but that we should not get discouraged and give up. In past sermons, I reminded you that there are no shortcuts to learning what God wants us to do in a specific situation or circumstance; there are no three easy steps in ten minutes or less that will yield what we are seeking.

During my sermon, I offered to include a list of the eight steps involved in learning God's will for our lives in this week's bulletin. I had some requests to do that, so here it is. I also had a request to put these on a single sheet so people can tape them onto the refrigerator door. So here they are. Look in today's bulletin for an extra sheet, remove that sheet, put it where you will see it on a regular basis, and begin asking and knocking this week. Remember, God promised that he will answer and that the door will be opened.

THOSE SERVING FOR TODAY'S SERVICES:

Today's preaching will be done by Micheal West. The usher will be Larry Wilhelm. Song leader will be Bob Bonnell. Mike Tankersley has opening prayer, Micheal West has prayer of intercession and Dan Spence has closing prayer. Ken Allen has communion and Aaron West, Josh Meeks and Larry Wilhelm will assist him. Alternate assistant will be Mahlon Tennant.

IMMEDIATE PRAYER REQUESTS

- ?? Gene Price will be going for a biopsy on Monday to determine some health problems.
- ?? Norm Meeks' father fell a few weeks ago.
- ?? Myndi Allen's mother is experiencing some health issues.
- ?? Valerie Evans' stepsister (Mary) is in poor health.
- ?? Valerie Evans' father is not progressing well.
- ?? Flo Wilhelm is experiencing some health problems with her diabetes and blood sugar.
- ?? Jason (a friend of Myndi's cousin's wife) was in a bad car accident and passed away last Tuesday.
- ?? Larry Wilhelm's Aunt Sue is in the hospital but is doing better.
- ?? George McLean (neighbor of Flo and Larry) has been diagnosed with cancer.
- ?? Nancy (sister of Flo's sister in law) has been diagnosed with breast cancer.
- ?? Rachel Wiant (Dan's niece in law) has been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.
- ?? Rhondi Simpson has requested prayers for personal problems.
- ?? Norm Meeks is having some health problems.
- ?? Glenn Dunlop (friend of Norm Meeks) had a stroke and is in a nursing home.

ON-GOING PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following people who are suffering from cancer:

Marge Tennant's brother-in-law, Dave Wojcik (friend of Ken Allen), Myndi Allen's Uncle Sherm and Aunt Peg, David Ward (friend of Norm Meeks), Eddy (friend of the Wilhelms), John Russell's wife (friend of John Addison), Harold Tidd's daughter, Bob Glover

Please pray for the following people who are having health problems:

Jim Zukoski, Mike Lackner's sister, Lisa Labonte, Jim Combs, Jerad Allen, Marge Tennant's niece, Jean Addison, Bryn Wolanski, Ruth Bell, Pam Zukoski, June Young, Ron Simpson, Florence Nichols, Rachel and Brian Petti, Marge Tennant, Myndi Allen, Gladys Skidmore, Sue Heaton (neighbor of Bob Bonnell), Arturo Rea, David Garrison (friend of Ruth Glover), Ruth Glover, Mike Lackner



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- January 28: Regular potluck after services
- February 1: Myndi Allen's birthday
- February 1: Patti Takac's birthday
- February 2: Jim and Pam Zukoski's anniversary
- February 2: Family Enrichment at the Allen's at 7:00 p.m.
- February 4: Sing at Manor Care after soup and sandwich potluck
- February 5: Sherry Yates' birthday
- February 7: Corey Woerner's birthday
- February 11: Regular potluck after services
- February 16: Family Enrichment at the Allen's at 7:00 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- ?? The food pantry needs restocked. Please bring in any non-perishable items.
- ?? The amount collected on January 21, 2007 was \$680.00 and there were 47 people in attendance.
- ?? There was a special collection for Courtney Schultz the past two Sundays. She has a mission trip planned and has requested financial assistance. We have collected \$275.00 and the money has been sent to her.

Please give the following prayer request or concern to the person with prayer of intercession:

Discerning God's Will for My Life

Step 1: Practice the Disciplines – take time to regularly read, pray, meditate, fast, and seek God.

Step 2: Die to Yourself – get to the point where it really doesn't matter what answer God gives me or where he takes me or what he does with me; surrender myself to God and his care. Give up my agendas and desires and completely surrender to him.

Step 3: Ask – Don't forget to ask. James 4:2 reminds us that we often don't have because we often don't ask. Take the first step and ask God to show me his will for my life.

Step 4: Read the Bible – Read transformationally – read slowly, read small segments of Scripture and look for what catches my attention or stops me in my reading. What does that say and how does it fit in with my search?

Step 5: Listen to Others – What are others saying to me, especially those who don't know about my search? Am I hearing the same thing from different people at different times? If so, listen carefully.

Step 6: Listen to Your Circumstances – What is happening in my life, what doors are being opened, and which ones are being closed? What direction does my life seem to be taking?

Step 7: Listen to Your Inner Promptings – What does my heart long for, what ignites a fire and a passion within me, what do I sense that God is calling me to or prodding me toward? What won't let me alone and keeps calling to me?

Step 8: What Does It Add Up To? – What does everything point to? What are the common themes and the common threads? Put the picture together and see what you have.

Remember, you will have confirmation of your answer and your answer will be challenged. How is it confirmed, what has happened to show you that this is it? Trust God until he shows you something else. When challenges come, stay the course until you know you are to do something different.