



WILMINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

Volume III Chapter 3

March 2023

Question: Have I taken my eyes off the Lord?

Please read: [Romans 5:1-6](#) and [8:28](#) and [8:39](#)

Discouragement is defined in Webster's Dictionary as "to deprive of courage or confidence; dishearten". Personally, how often have I felt discouraged? There were, are, and will be times that I am convinced that if I tried just a little harder, I would achieve whatever I was attempting. However, with age, I am realizing that some things are out of my reach, no matter how hard I try. (I did learn that if I worked "smarter" instead of harder, I could achieve some things I attempt). The common element in this is that I am trying to meet my own or someone else's expectations of me and I have taken my eyes off the LORD!

Are we trying our own way first in our life? Are we resorting to prayer as a last resort? Is our prayer life becoming one emergency plea after another: "Lord, please help me find a job, find a buyer for our car or house; find additional income, etc."? After having some of our urgent pleas answered and others met with stony silence, the Lord revealed to me that I was asking for His help, not His guidance! If we ask the Lord to help **match our desires to His Will** for our life, He does. If we ask that He **match His will to our desires**, the answering silence echoes in our lives, and we feel deserted.

The Lord has commanded us to aim for His goals; to grow in His grace; to grow and exercise our faith, to witness to the lost and to live the life of Christ in this world. Can any of us truly reach the goal of total Christian living? No. But the Lord continues to love us, encourage us, even chastise us. And then He brings us home to Him – His Spirit in us!

Whatever worldly achievements are made in this life, the Lord has ALREADY accepted and loved His children. When we work toward His goals, we can have His Peace and rest. And if we truly keep our eyes on the Lord, strive to meet His goals, and seek His will for each life, we never feel discouraged and know, too, that the Lord is taking care of each of us and provides for our needs. *'If God be for us, who can be against us?'* What a promise! With God on my side, how could I ever lack courage? . Praise God, from whom all blessings flow! When we see the many times the Lord has provided for our needs, our faith will be strengthened and shine among all men!

May we lovingly intreat the lost to come to Christ; the saved to come back to the true and living God and to live lives that bare witness to the power of God's grace. In all this, we shall have a revival. "Walk by faith and not by sight" with our eyes turned toward our Lord Jesus Christ and our heavenly Father, His will and goals for life...All for the Glory of God!

Coming Events

Saturdays 9:00 Am Men's Prayer; 11:00 AM organized visitation assignments

Sunday March 5 9:30 AM Pancakes with the Pastor

Thursday, March 9 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study at Patterson's

Friday, March 10-11, Ladies retreat at Mansfield Baptist Temple, meet at church 2:00 PM Friday

Saturday, March 25 Church Workers Banquet 5:30 PM