

Shadrach Youth Ministry

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A Word from Pastor Schultze...

Don't Forget Praise!

"By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name" —Hebrews 13:15

What is a sacrifice? A sacrifice is something that costs you something. A sacrifice is giving something valuable to someone else.

The Jews of old had to offer their best trophy sheep, goat or oxen to God. It was an expression of their love to God and a means by which they received forgiveness of sins and peace with Him. Jesus became the blood sacrifice for us. We need no longer to offer the sacrifice of an animal to get peace with God. We accept Jesus' blood sacrifice. But there is a sacrifice that Jesus wants from us to be satisfied, to be blessed, and that is the sacrifice of praise. There are over 75 admonitions in the Bible to praise God, and these calls to praise are not requests for mumbled expressions of gratitude. No, the call is to hardy, verbal expressions of thanksgiving toward Him who made us, who saved us and keeps us, and who has prepared a place for us in His throne.

Notice these all-important ingredients in the verse:

"sacrifice..." – You sacrifice time to do it, you sacrifice your feelings of not feeling like doing it, and you sacrifice any rational objection you may have toward it.

"continually..." – God cannot get enough of it. From time before time...before time, He has never called for as much as a five-minute break from praise. All of heaven has been, is, and will be in glorious praise forever. The Bible says: Get in tune with the spirit of heaven—rejoice evermore (1 Thess. 5:16)! Praise God no matter how you feel. Do it when it rains and when the sun shines. Do it when you get the grade of an F as much as you do when you get an A. Do it when you have a good day with your parents and friends, and do it when have a bad day with all of them. And know that if you do it continually, regardless of all that you experience in all your days, you will hear these words when you get to heaven, *"Well done, good and faithful servant... enter thou into the joy of thy lord"* (Matt. 25:23).

"the fruit of our lips..." – That means to do it much audibly! As God does not want silent or whispered praise from the angels and saints who worship already at His throne, neither does He want it from you. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord. When you do so, you put the devil on the run, for the devil who once was the archangel in heaven cannot stand to hear praise anymore. As you praise God, God will set up His tabernacle within you, for David says in Psalms 22:3 that God inhabits the praises of his people.

So let your praise be loud, clear and plentiful. Start it, or restart it today. Remember, if you don't like hardy, audible praise on earth, dear Shadracher, you will not like heaven. In fact, it is doubtful that you will get there without it.

Great News! The Litchfields have found a resting place. We have moved!!! Our new "nest" is in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. We are thankful the Lord has been guiding us each step of the way. Thank you to each one who has prayed for us in our move! Our home has lots of room, so come visit us when you have a chance. Although we lost the acreage of our home in Kokomo, we have more acreage across the street in two directions. It is like we are living in a park.

Because of our move, some important data has changed. Our new address and phone number is:
2536 E. Fairfax Ave., Ft. Wayne, IN 46806, 260-447-8732

Correspondence and reports can now be sent to this address, as well as to our e-mail address which is the same as before: dlitchfield@truevine.net

More Great News! The Shadrach Website is almost complete. The Lord has been helping in its design. Within the next month or two we will inform you of where you can go to access it. Praise the Lord for His blessings!!!

Servant Hood Report: For my servant hood report, I helped my pastor run DSL wire through the attic of our school. —Josh Davis

Book Report

For my book report, I read *Praying Hyde*. This book is about a man named John Hyde who gave his short but effective life to prayer. Thus the name *Praying Hyde*. While in college, he totally surrendered to God. His prayer life started to change drastically, and he felt called to the mission field—more specifically—to India. Once there, Hyde started praying for one soul a day, then two, then four. Throughout the years he was in India, the number of souls he would pray for each day went up. He would pray, “Lord, give me souls or I die!” During the revival services in India, Mr. Hyde would often be off in the prayer room praying that the people would hear and that souls would be saved. He was not the only one in the prayer room, of course. Often he would pray many hours. Then sometimes when he was simply exhausted, he would lie down in the corner of the prayer room to sleep. When the prayer seemed to be slacking a little bit, he would wake up and pick up the gauntlet, so to speak. When he would preach, the power would fall because of all the prayer and not so much the preparing that went into his sermons. Finally, after years of the stress and agony that he endured while praying, it took a toll on his body. But even to his dying day, he prayed and prayed and prayed! This book challenged me to pray more. – Peter Hubbard

Book report on *Weighed and Wanting* by D.L. Moody

I found this book in a box of books that a pastor was trying to get rid of. I was in a hard place, so I opened it up and it was exactly what I needed. Because of that, I read that book and am on my third one by Dwight L. Moody. It is probably the most convicting book I have ever read. He goes through the Ten Commandments and gets very practical. I would have much trouble if I tried to tell a highlight, so you must read the book, and it’s small book and easy to read. – Jacob Litchfield

Shadrach Weekend: November 25–27 at Rainbow Christian Camp, Converse, Indiana. All are welcome!— including any youth not a part of Shadrach but who desire to walk in faithfulness with Jesus. If interested, let us know **immediately** so we can send the necessary forms to you. The cost for the retreat is \$25 (includes your stay at Rainbow Camp and insurance). You will also have your personal travel expenses (food and help with gas). Bring forms and money to the Weekend.

All participants will be asked to bring certain food items. We will call and let you know what to bring.

Thanks for all the wonderful reports you’ve sent our way! To read how God is helping each of you brings great joy to our hearts! *“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth”* (3 John 1:4).

Intercessory Connectors

“pray and God will give him life.” –1 John 5:16 NIV

I am understanding prayer in a new dimension. As the Spirit anoints us to pray, we actually **connect** the power of God by faith to those for whom we intercede. God often “goes through” another person to give a message to someone: Nathan to King David; the young servant girl to the Commander of the Syrian Army (Naaman); Samuel to Eli; Ananias to Saul; Jethro to Moses. I have often wondered why. He could do it directly. But He has chosen to use His servants as **connectors**.

Intercession works this way, also. *“If anyone sees his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, let him pray and God will give him LIFE for him”* (1 John 5:16 NIV). Samuel Chadwick wrote, “Every man’s salvation begins in the faith of another.” By vicarious, believing prayer, we actually connect people to Christ’s life-support, life-giving system (the Holy Spirit). Or possibly we should say that we connect Christ – who is LIFE, LIGHT, and SALVATION – to them.

Through our faith, Christ imparts His life to others by way of conviction, enlightenment, spiritual hunger, revelation – turning them from darkness to light, to justification and sanctification.

Intercessory connectors! I have been a recipient. So have you. Glorious honor! High privilege! May we be faithful!

Excerpt from “Overflowing with Thankfulness” by Mrs. Alice Fisher, page 57 (Nov. 1993)

Book Report by Lydia Kilmer

Kneeling We Triumph is a devotional book that has a whole new way of looking at prayer, or rather, a very old way of looking at it.

I really liked the snippets of quotations from scores of Christian authors. Just that alone showed me that what I was reading was not one person’s opinion, but a tried-and-true method of prayer that has worked for centuries. Also, the simple fact that the selections were short made it easy for me to fit one a day into my prayer time.

I think the message that stood out to me the most was that of prayer as a Christian’s most powerful, and most neglected, weapon. I’d never really realized how entirely essential prayer is to the life of a Christian, despite having heard so much about prayer in my life.

Kneeling We Triumph is a book that will revolutionize your prayer life. I know it did mine.