

***The HBC Weekly Forecast***  
***Hilton Baptist Church. [www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org](http://www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org)***  
***101 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601***



We've all had times when our lives felt completely out of our control. We felt like bad things just kept happening and there was nothing we could do to stop them. Powerlessness is a tough feeling to navigate.

I have myself experienced waves of this feeling recently sweeping over me. I felt like life was swirling all around me and I was at a loss to completely get my bearings. It felt like a hurricane had swept into my life, tossing around my peace and stability like a flimsy metal roof; sweeping up the calm and predictability that I love.

Then I remembered: When life feels like a hurricane, We need to center ourselves in the eye of the storm! The eye of a hurricane is that eerily calm, center in the storm. The eye remains grounded and calm, despite the thrashing winds and soaking waves.

When life feels out of control, the key to getting through it is to focus on what you can control. This will be our focus of our message this Sunday at HBC – You don't want to miss it!

***Join us live at HBC 10:00 am this Sunday for a sanitized and safe worship experience – Or tune into Facebook Live and join in with our virtual worship experience – Invite a friend!***

# The Hilton Baptist Church Record

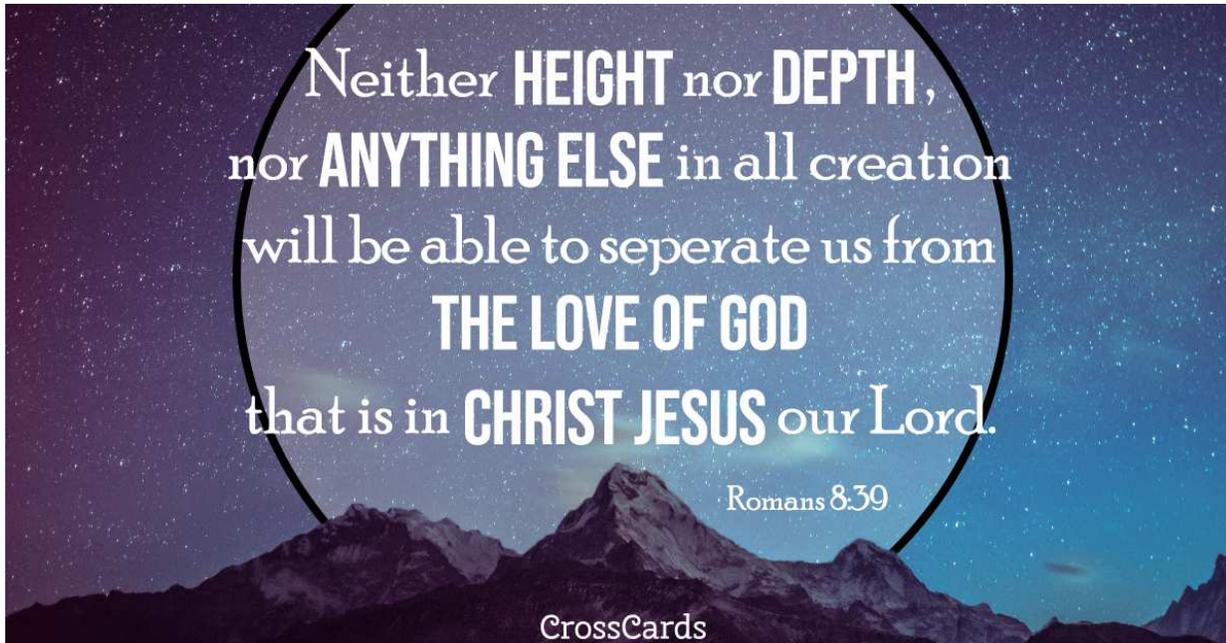
Lynwood Wells, Pastor

February 2, 2021

Budget \$5415.00

Cashin Cash out– Pet Paws \$150.00

Total Deposit \$5565.00



## **Pray for our Missionaries**

IY (East Asian People) , Mi– Sook Nam, Patricia Toblert (European People) Karen Pearce (Global Strategic Advance) DH (Sub-Saharan African People) Shane Mitchell (AL) Oded Brefo (CA) Josh Lewis (CO) Bob Foy (NC) Joseph Beshai (Ontario) Seunghun Baek (WA)





## ***Let Go, and Know God Is in Control***

*“Let go of your concerns! Then you will know that I am God. I rule the nations. I rule the earth” Psalm 46:10*

Every day, you have to decide who’s going to be in control of your life – you or God. Daily you are confronted with a choice between the two.

That choice is a battle. There are things in your life that you want to control. You want to make your own rules. But stress relief always starts with letting God be God. It always starts with saying, “God, I’m giving up control, because you can control the things that are out of control in my life.”

I don’t know what you’re going to face this week. You don’t, either. But I can already tell you what God wants you to do: Let go, and know. Let go of control, and know that God is in control. Let go, and know! - This is the first step to serenity in your life!

Whenever we face out-of-control situations, we tend to go to one of two extremes. For some of you, the more out-of-control your life gets, the harder you try to control it. Some of you do the exact opposite: You just give up! You have a pity party and invite yourself to it.

Both of those reactions to stress are foolish. They don’t work. Instead of being a victim or becoming hyper controlling, you need to pray the prayer of surrender.

The number one reason you’re under stress is because you’re in conflict with God. You’re trying to control things that only God can control. You can’t control your husband or your kids or your wife or your job or your future or your past or any of that stuff.

The more you do it, the more you’re trying to play God, and that puts you in opposition to God. Not only are you going to lose that conflict, but you’re also going to be tired.

Millions of people pray the Serenity Prayer, which is based on the Lord’s Prayer, but most have never read the last eight lines to the prayer:

*“Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time, accepting hardship as a pathway to peace, taking as Jesus did this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; trusting that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with you forever in the next. Amen.”*

That’s where the power is! There is power when you surrender to God the very things you’ve been trying to take control of from him.

*On the grace journey together with you. Lynwood*

## **WMU – February Mission Emphasis**

Collecting money for Youth Challenge



### **Hope Boxes for Appalachia**

We are doing boxes for the kids that are eastern Kentucky deep in the Appalachian Mountains. Please pick up all the information in the Mission Outreach Corner. Boxes are due February 7th (PLEASE NOTICE THE DATE CHANGE OF WHEN IT IS DUE)

### **Serve the City Big Serve Day**

Saturday, February 13th Register at

<https://www.stcpeninsula.com/events/february-big-volunteer-day/>

For additional information or if you have questions, contact Pam at 660-4226

***Serving our Community with the Love of Jesus!***

## **Upcoming Kids Events**

### **February 7th– Super Bowl Sunday 10am**

Every kid wear your favorite sports shirt or jersey and come have some fun in kids church where we will learn about Jesus and lots of other activities



### **Easter Egg Hunt/Party Saturday. March 27th**

Two time slots are available. You have to sign up.

12:00-1:30pm OR 2:00pm–3:30

With COVID, only a certain number of kids can come at a time. We will be having the function at the Church. This is open to church kids and the grandkids of our church family. Call now to register.

Lots of fun, crafts, prizes , egg hunt and the Easter Bunny.

Helpers are needed for both times. (Limited helpers are needed) If you want to help, let me know. You will only need to work one time slot!

## Calendar

### Tuesday, February 2nd

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

6:00pm Vision Team Meeting

### Wednesday, February 3rd

4:00pm— 6:00pm

Drive Thru Food Drive

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

### Thursday, February 4th

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

### Sunday, February 7th

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Sonshine Kids

### Tuesday, February 9th

1:00pm-2:00pm Food Distribution

### Wednesday, February 10th

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

### Thursday, February 11th

1:00pm-2:00pm Food Distribution

### Sunday, February 14th

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Sonshine Kids



### Happy Birthday for the next two weeks

2/1 Cheryl Moore

2/1 Betty Powell

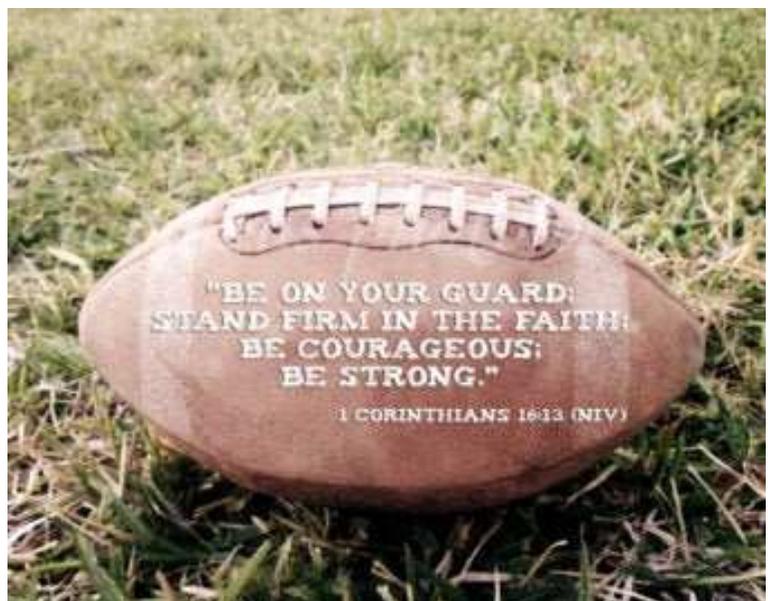
2/2 Tammy Ortery

2/4 Robert Spiers

2/6 Ann Nickols

2/10 Margaret Upole

2/11 James Harvey





## ***Check Your Water Source***

Imagine you're backpacking in the mountains, and at the end of a long day you're tired. It's time to setup camp for the night, so you survey a meadow below to find the perfect spot.

You see two options: one is closer, the other is further. The closer spot is by a crystal-clear spring flowing from the earth.

The further spot is by a muddy pool of water that you can tell has been receding. Which spot do you choose?

While this may seem like an easy question, it's a helpful illustration to set the context for today's verse:

*“For my people have committed two evils:  
they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters,  
and hewed out cisterns for themselves,  
broken cisterns that can hold no water.” **Jeremiah 2:13***

*In essence, the Israelites had two options before them:*

They could stay faithful to God—the camp site next to the crystal-clear spring were fresh water constantly burst forth, or...

They could worship idols—the camp site next to the muddy, receding pool, polluted water contained in a broken cistern.

Sadly, they chose the latter!

Their leaders had lead them into [idol worship](#) of [false gods like Baal](#). Jeremiah uses the analogy of water to describe the true nature of their choice. To pursue idols was both absurd and dangerous.

Here's how [one commentator describes this passage](#): The most reliable and refreshing sources of water in Israel were her natural springs. This water was dependable; and its clear, cool consistency was satisfying.

In contrast, the most unreliable source of water was cisterns. Cisterns were large pits dug into the rock and covered with plaster. These pits were used to gather rainwater. This water was brackish; and if the rains were below normal, it could run out. Worse yet, if a cistern developed a crack it would not hold the water. To turn from a dependable, pure stream of running water to a broken, brackish cistern was idiotic. Yet that is what Judah did when she turned from God to idols.

Today, it's easy to see how foolish it was for them to turn from the Living God to worthless idols. They worshiped silly trinkets that represented false gods who couldn't save them. However, we shouldn't be fooled... Our idols today may not look like those of the Old Testament—but they're no less prevalent, and no less evil.

**Check Your Water Source!**

## *Growing Deeper*

At age six, Henry John Heinz began helping his mother tend the small garden behind their family home. At twelve, he was working three and a half acres of garden, using a horse and cart for his three-times-a-week deliveries to grocery stores throughout the city of Pittsburgh. He went on to found his own company and named it Heinz 57 Varieties, a name brand now known around the world.



Heinz was well-known for his Biblically-based business principles and his Christian treatment of employees. However, there was an incident in his life that changed this godly man to grow even deeper in his faith. One day after an evangelistic service, the speaker turned to him and said, "You are a believer, but with all your energy why aren't you up & at it for the Lord?"

Heinz went home in anger. That night, however, he couldn't sleep, thinking about the question he'd been asked. At four o'clock in the morning, he prayed that God would use him to lead others to the Savior. A day or so later at a meeting of bank presidents, he turned to the man next to him and told him of his joy in knowing Jesus. His friend looked at him in surprise and said, "Because I knew you were a Christian, I've wondered many times why you never spoke to me about salvation." That gentleman became the first of 267 converts – people of different varieties, from all walks of life – that Mr. Heinz eventually won to Christ!

In his will, Henry John Heinz said: "I desire to set forth at the very beginning of this will, as the most important item in it, a confession of my faith in Jesus Christ as my Savior. I also desire to bear witness to the fact that throughout my life, in which there were unusual joys and sorrows, I have been wonderfully sustained by my faith in God through Jesus Christ."

## *Helpful Prayer*

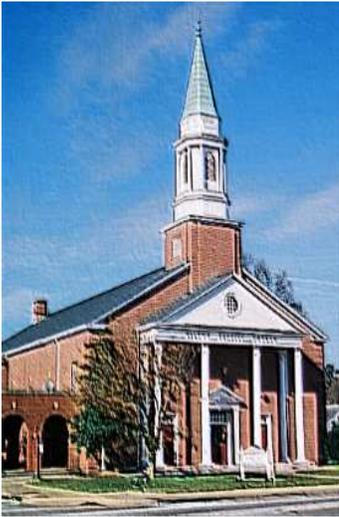


Billy had been misbehaving and was sent to his room. After a while he emerged and informed his mother that he had thought it over and then said a prayer.

"Fine", said the pleased mother.

"If you ask God to help you not misbehave, He will help you."

"Oh, I didn't ask Him to help me not misbehave," said Johnny. "I asked Him to help you put up with me!"



## ***“God’s House vs. Our House”***

*“Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?” – [Haggai 1:3-4](#)*

In the world today, we must not be discouraged by the struggle it takes to build Christ’s church. The forces of the devil will try to overcome it, but Jesus will prevail ([Matthew 16:18](#)).

Remember what Jesus said: *“Seek first [God’s] kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well”* ([Matthew 6:33](#)).

It’s not that God necessarily wants us to live in a bleak apartment without beautiful paneling. But if that’s what it takes to build God’s kingdom, we must be willing to sacrifice. Our treasures are in heaven!

Giving to and receiving back from God is not a gimmick or magic formula – It is a lifestyle wherein you open your life fully to God’s blessing. The Bible promises:

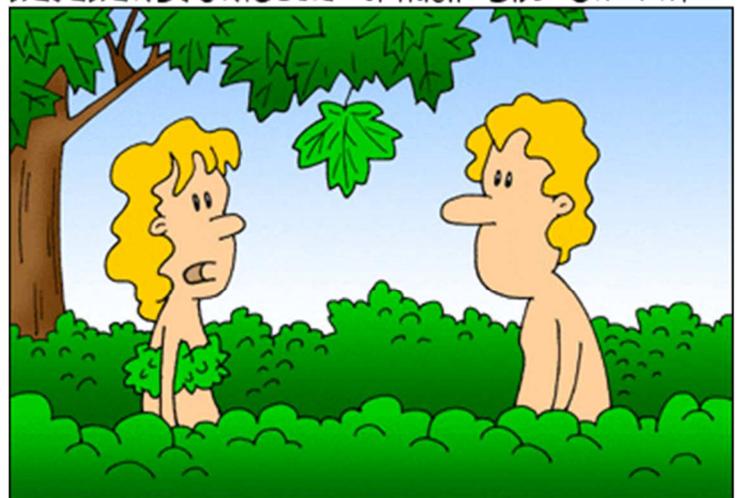
*“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.” Malachi 3:10*

Through your giving and receiving you position yourself to be in the focus of God’s outpoured blessing in your life!

***God is doing some exciting new and powerful things through the faithful people of God at HBC...***

***Please remember your commitments and giving and be part of the miracle!***

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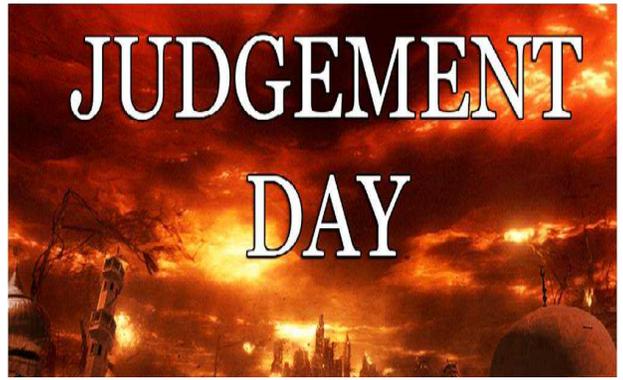
Thanks to Alvin Hammond

12-27-2002

I REMEMBER WHEN I USED TO BE THAT SIZE

## ***“Confidence On Judgement Day”***

*“In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him.” - 1 John 4:17*



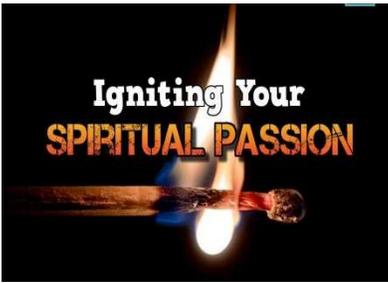
I doubt if there is a single person who does not realize, deep in his or her heart, that at the end of life there is an accounting. We must stand before the Lord our Maker. It does not make any difference whether we are Christians or non-Christians. Regardless of the type of relationship we have with Him, we must all come face to face with the Lord Himself. He stands at the end of every path we may be taking today, and we must come at last to a day of accounting.

We cannot help but ask ourselves how we will do in that day. Can I pass that unconscious test that Jesus speaks of in Matthew 25, when He stands to judge the nations and divides the sheep on His right hand, the goats on His left? He will say to the people on his right, Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world (Matthew 25:34). Why? For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me (Matthew 25:36). Do you remember their reaction? Lord, when did this happen? We weren't aware of it. We don't remember seeing You; we don't remember doing these things.

Then He says to those on his left, Depart into everlasting judgment. Why? Because when you saw Me weak and sick and in prison, you did nothing about it. You passed on your way, you showed no concern, you displayed no compassion, you did nothing. Again, remember that they say with surprise, Why, Lord, when did this happen? We don't have any memory of it. If we had seen you, we'd have done something, but we don't even remember seeing you (cf. Matthew 25:41-44).

The searching revelation of that passage is that this is now happening all about us. Christ is in all these situations of need, and when we are confronted with someone who has a need, it is Jesus who is asking our help. Our reaction to that person is our reaction to Him.

Therefore, is there not a question in each heart now: When I stand before Him like that, will I pass the test? Do I recognize these situations now? John says it is love perfected that gives us confidence in the day of judgment. Love that is perfected is love made visible in deeds. Therefore, note what John is saying: If you want to have confidence in the day of judgment, then let love express itself, let it be perfected, because it is when love is perfected with us that we have confidence for the day of judgment.



## ***Passionate About God's Will***

*"So we continued the work... from the first light of dawn till the stars came out." - Nehemiah 4:21*

In the face of overwhelming odds, Nehemiah rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem in just 52 days. How? Because of a single-minded passion to do so. Some of us are afraid to pray 'Lord, I'll do what you want me to do,' in case He sends us somewhere we don't want to go or asks us to do something we don't feel ready or qualified to do. You've got it wrong! The Bible says God's will is "good, and acceptable, and perfect" (Romans 12:2). What is there to be afraid of in that formula?

Now, while God's will for us is 'good', it's not necessarily easy. But He gives us a passion for it. Jeremiah said that when he tried to stop speaking about the Lord, God's Word became "*like a burning fire shut up in my bones*" (Jeremiah 20:9 NAS). You can't contain a fire that God lights. When He sets your heart ablaze, you begin to see things you never saw before and get excited about them. He can even take your chapters of regret and write a story of grace.

But it's not likely you'll experience much of a passion for anything if you're just sitting on the sidelines waiting for something to happen. James says "*Don't just be a hearer of God's word, be a doer*" (James 1:22). You'll get a passion for God's will once you begin doing it! You'll think 'this is what I was made for'. And when you have a compelling reason for doing something and know that God is watching and smiling on you, it makes all the difference.

## ***The Last Impression...***

There was a woman who spent some months serving at a religious mission in Kenya. On her final visit to a remote township she attended a medical clinic. As the Maasai women there began to sing together, she found herself deeply moved by their hauntingly beautiful harmonies.

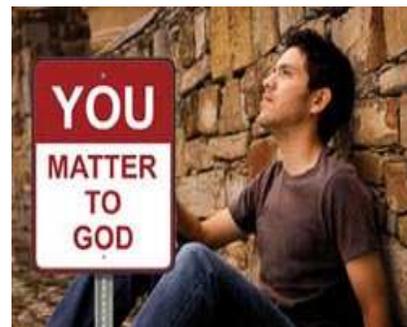
She wanted to always remember so she recorded this moment and would share it with friends when she arrived home. With tears flowing down her cheeks, she turned to her friend and asked, "Can you please tell me the translation of the words to this song?"



Her friend looked at her and solemnly replied, "If you boil the water, you won't get dysentery."

## *God Brags About You*

Do you know how special you are to God? Do you realize that He loves you more than anything else? I think people have a hard time really understanding God's love for them. So many times in the Bible He goes to great lengths to explain His love, but all too often we fail to see or live in its transformative power.



Our Father God says *we are the apple of His eye* (Deuteronomy 32: 9-10); He explains *that if we obey His Word, then we--including our children--are promised long life* (Deuteronomy 12:28); He is our *Good Shepherd who knows us* (John 10:14); He says *He will never leave us nor forsake us* (Hebrews 13:5); He shares that it is *His good pleasure to give us the kingdom because He calls us friends* (Luke 12:32); He promises *that He will give us everlasting life if we believe in Him* (John 3:16); and *He will answer our prayers*. The list is endless concerning the things that God has done for us and will continue to do for us!

I remember an older friend who had a photo album that said Grandma's Brag Book. In it were pictures of her granddaughter when she was little. Whenever she would show it to family or friends, she'd say, "Look how adorable she posed!" or "Isn't that a cute face?" That is how God's Word is -- full of Him bragging on us.

God is love Himself. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth, yet He was not satisfied because He desired fellowship. He gave us this opportunity to receive Him into our hearts or to choose the world instead. And we love Him because He first loved us and gave His Only Son to die for our sins (1 John 4:10). Think about it. Jesus was blameless and sinless, yet He allowed man to crucify Him so that He might take our place. He laid down His life for us so that we would inherit eternal life. It doesn't get any better than that! Truly, that is ultimate love.

So how do we as His adopted children live out the divine love affair God initiated with mankind? When you truly you love someone, you talk to that person and want to spend time with that person. Your desire will be to develop a relationship, give yourself to it, cultivate it. God is the Lover of our souls. Let us draw always nearer to Him!

*For even if the mountains walk away and the hills fall to pieces, My love won't walk away from you, my covenant commitment of peace won't fall apart. The GOD who has compassion on you says so.*

—Isaiah 54:10, *The Message*



## ***Prayer Changes Everything***

I want to tell you a story about a sleepless church that was involved in desperate and deep prayer. They were coming under intense persecution, and they were facing what appeared to be a hopeless situation.

It had been some time since the last attack, which resulted in the martyrdom of Stephen. But God used that for His glory. The problem was that the church tended to hang back a little in Jerusalem and stay in their little holy huddle of sorts. Jesus had told them to go into all the world and preach the gospel, but they weren't really doing that. But when persecution came, the church spread out. It ultimately resulted in good. They remembered their objective was not to isolate from the culture but to infiltrate the culture.

As Acts chapter 12 opens, Herod is leading a new wave of persecution, and he murders James, the brother of John. Being the consummate politician, Herod saw this pleased his constituents. So he arrested the undisputed leader of the church, Simon Peter. Pretty much everyone looked up to Peter. He was the spiritual leader. And it looked as though Peter would be executed next.

So what did the church do? They unleashed their secret weapon: "While Peter was in prison, the church prayed very earnestly for him" (Acts 12:5). All other doors may have been closed, but one door remained open: the door of prayer – the door into the presence of God. The church prayed, and everything changed. Prayer is our secret weapon too, and we don't use it enough!

## ***Praying for the City***

*"And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there. Now a certain woman named Lydia...– Acts 16:13-14*

There were people praying in this city long before Paul arrived on the scene. Perhaps there are people in your city who are praying as well. They may not even have a personal relationship with Christ, but they are praying.

I believe every city has people who are hungry for God but do not know where to turn. As you pray for your city, ask God to show you or lead you to people who are hungry for Him and hungry for truth. It may be a businessman, it may be a discouraged father, it may be a man who just lost his job, it might be a man whose wife just walked out on him, but they all need someone to join with them in prayer and point them to the answer who is Jesus.

