

Grain for the Heavenly Garner

What are [we] doing, brethren, in the great work of preparation? Those who are uniting with the world are receiving the worldly mold and preparing for the mark of the beast. Those who are distrustful of self, who are humbling themselves before God and purifying their souls by obeying the truth, these are receiving the heavenly mold and preparing for the seal of God in their foreheads. When the decree goes forth and the stamp is impressed, their character will remain pure and spotless for eternity.

Now is the time to prepare. The seal of God will never be placed upon the forehead of an impure man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of the ambitious, world-loving man or woman. It will never be placed upon the forehead of men or women of false tongues or deceitful hearts. All who receive the seal must be without spot before God - candidates for heaven. Go forward, my brethren and sisters. I can only write briefly upon these points at this time, merely calling your attention to the necessity of preparation. Search the Scriptures for yourselves, that you may understand the fearful solemnity of the present hour. E.G. White Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 216

The day is just upon us when the righteous shall be bound like precious grain in bundles for the heavenly garner, while the wicked are, like the tares, gathered for the fires of the last great day. But the wheat and tares "grow together until the harvest." E.G. White, Counsels for the Church, p. Ch 343.1

Prayer focus:

Prayer for preparation for the final events that are soon to be upon us.

Sabbath Prayer Focus:

Humble Yourself Before God

Luke 18:11

The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.



Moderator Dr. H.C. Brewer

Whoever trusts in himself that he is righteous, will despise others. As the Pharisee judges himself by other men, so he judges other men by himself. His righteousness is estimated by theirs, and the worse they are the more righteous by contrast he appears. His self-righteousness leads to accusing. "Other men" he condemns as transgressors of God's law. Thus he is making manifest the very spirit of Satan, the accuser of the brethren. With this spirit it is impossible for him to enter into communion with God. He goes down to his house destitute of the divine blessing.

In Revelation 3:17,18, the gold tried in the fire is faith that works by love. Only this can bring us into harmony with God. We may be active, we may do much work; but without love, such love as dwelt in the heart of Christ, we can never be numbered with the family of heaven. . . . The prayer of the publican was heard because it showed dependence reaching forth to lay hold upon Omnipotence. Self to the publican appeared nothing but shame. Thus it must be seen by all who seek God. By faith - faith that renounces all self-trust - the needy suppliant is to lay hold upon infinite power. E.G. White, Christ Object Lessons, p. 150 -159

Controlled by Divine Principles

A young girl was leaving for school, and her mother reminded her to come straight home when her last class ended. Thirty minutes late, she finally walked through the front door. Her mother scolded her. "Where have you been?" she asked. "I've been worried sick." With a concerned face, the daughter sweetly replied, "I walked home with my friend, Sally, and she dropped her doll and it broke all to pieces. It was just awful!"

"So you were late because you stayed to help her pick up the doll and put it back together again?" her mother asked. "Oh no, Mommy," she explained. "I didn't know how to fix the doll. I just stayed to help her cry!"

This little story illustrates an important love principle. Empathy, or to be empathetic is to enter into another's feelings. A family with empathy is concerned about each other's needs and feelings as well as being concerned about behavior. While behavior is important, an empathic family gives more consideration to understanding the "why" of the behavior. Each is moved by the human needs and feelings of the others and is willing to make changes as necessary to enable one another to enjoy respect and dignity as persons. The principle for this is that of Phil. 2:4, "Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."

If the parents would enter more fully into the feelings of their children and draw out what is in their hearts, it would have a beneficial influence upon them." Ellen G. White, *The Adventist Home*, p. 190.

Prayer focus: Love in the home, couples.

Adapted from: Dan Clark, *Puppies for Sale, and other Inspirational Tales*, p.6
Karen & Ron Flowers: *Your Family: How It Shapes the Next Generation*, Adventist Family Ministries

Sabbath Prayer Focus:

Understanding Children

Psalm 144:12

That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace.

There rests upon parents the most solemn obligation to train their children in the fear and love of God. In the home the purest morals are to be preserved. Strict obedience to Bible requirements is to be taught. The teachings of the Word of God are to control mind and heart of the homelife may demonstrate the power of the grace of God.

Parents should not forget their childhood years, how much they yearned for sympathy and love and how unhappy they felt when censured and fretfully chided. They should be young again in their feelings and bring their minds down to understand the wants of their children. Yet with firmness, mixed with love, they should require obedience from their children. The parents' word should be implicitly obeyed. Angels of God are watching the children with the deepest interest to see what characters they develop. If Christ dealt with us as we often deal with one another and with our children, we would stumble and fall through utter discouragement. Ellen G White, *1Mind, Character, Personality*, 163.2



Train Up A Child

D.L. Moody, was an American evangelist and publisher who lived in the late 1800s. Moody's father died at the early age of forty-one, and left his widow in poverty with a mortgage on the home and seven children to support. The creditors seized everything they could, even to the firewood, and the children had to stay in bed until schooltime to keep warm.

A brother of the widowed mother then came to their rescue and helped to relieve their immediate needs. In their extremity Rev. Mr. Everett, a Unitarian minister, was very kind to them, and all the Moody children became members of his Sunday School, and were enlisted as workers to bring in other children. It was here that young Moody began his successful career as a Sunday School worker who continued on to become one of the great preaching evangelists of our time.

Once, while addressing a crowded meeting of children in Edinburgh, Scotland he asked "what is prayer?" He did not expect to get an answer, he just wanted to get the children's attention but to his amazement, scores of little hands shot up all over the hall. He asked one lad to reply and the answer came at once, clear and correct.

"Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God for things agreeable to His will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins and thankful acknowledgement of His mercies."

Prayer focus:

Our homes, our families, our children.

Sabbath Prayer Focus:

Love at Home

Psalm 141:2

Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

From every Christian home a holy light should shine forth. Love should be revealed in action. It should flow out in all home intercourse, showing itself in thoughtful kindness, in gentle, unselfish courtesy. There are homes where this principle is carried out - homes where God is worshiped and truest love reigns. From these homes morning and evening prayer ascends to God as sweet incense, and His mercies and blessings descend upon the suppliants like the morning dew.

The first work of Christians is to be united in the family. Then the work is to extend to their neighbors nigh and afar off. Those who have received light are to let the light shine forth in clear rays. Their words, fragrant with the love of Christ, are to be a savor of life unto life.

The more closely the members of a family are united in their work in the home, the more uplifting and helpful will be the influence that father and mother and sons and daughters will exert outside the home.

Ellen G. White,

The Adventist Home, p. 37



Moderator Eld. Joseph Johnson and some members of the family.

June 27, 2014

26th Sabbath

Prayer Leader's Section:

*Toil on, nor deem, tho' sore it be,
One sigh unheard, one prayer forgot;
The day of rest will dawn for thee;
Wait, meekly wait, and murmur not.*

"You have always found the Lord faithful to His promise, Mr. Mueller?"
Pastor Charles R. Parsons asked the venerable old saint, in an hour's interview toward the close of his life.

"Always! He has never failed me! For nearly seventy years every need, in connection with this work has been supplied. . . . Hundreds of times we have commenced the day without a penny, but our Heavenly Father has sent supplies the moment they were actually required. . . . No man can ever say I asked him for a penny. We have no committees, no collectors, no voting, and no endowment. *All has come in answer to believing prayer.* God has many ways of moving the hearts of men all over the world to help us. While I am praying He speaks to one and another on this continent and on that to send us help.

"I suppose you have never contemplated a reserve fund?"

"To do so would be an act of the greatest folly. How could I pray if I had reserves? God would say, 'Bring out those reserves, George Mueller.' Oh no, I never thought of such a thing. Our reserve fund is in Heaven. The living God is our sufficiency. I have trusted Him for one dollar, I have trusted Him for thousands, and never trusted in vain. 'Blessed is the man that trusteth in Him'" (Ps. 34:8).

Prayer focus:

Pray for unwavering faith and trust in God to supply all our needs.

A. Sims, *George Mueller: Man of Faith*, pp. 5-6

Sabbath Prayer Focus:

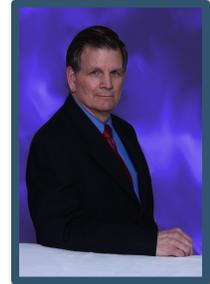
An Answer to Prayer

Luke 1:13

But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.

Throughout his married life, Zacharias had prayed for a son. He and his wife were now old, and as yet their prayer had remained unanswered; but he murmured not. God had not forgotten. He had his appointed time for answering this prayer, and when the case seemed hopeless, Zacharias received his answer....As Zacharias entered the holy place, and performed the required service with solemn reverence, another form appeared, standing between the altar and the table of shewbread. It was Gabriel, the mighty messenger of God.

The answer had come. God had not forgotten the prayer of His servants. He had written it in His record book, to be answered in His own good time. Looking at outward appearances, Zacharias and Elisabeth had buried their hopes; but the Lord had not forgotten. He knew of the long years of disappointment, and when His own name could best be glorified, their son was born. How tender, how kind, how full of love and compassion, is the great heart of infinite love. God gave Zacharias as a son no ordinary person, but one who should hold a high place in His work, and from whom the light from heaven should shine in clear, distinct rays



Moderator Eld. Glen Walker,
author of "Prophecy Made Easy"