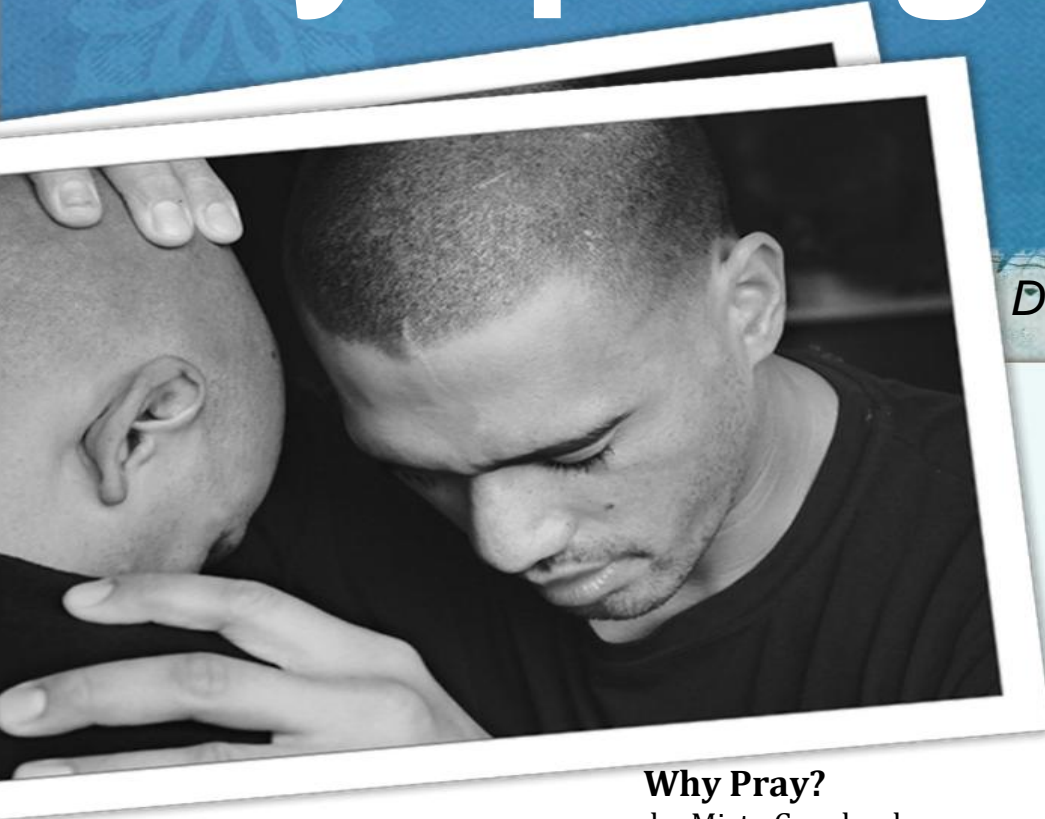


DaySpring Voice



*DaySpring Christian Center
September 2013*

Calendar of Events

Fitness Sunday
9.29.13

International
Thanksgiving Potluck
11.19.13

Marriage Retreat
11.29 – 12.1.13

Why Pray?

by Misty Copeland

This could easily be answered by saying that God commands us to! Another answer would be that outside of his Holy Word, Prayer is the gateway to God's heart. There are key reasons that developing and practicing your prayer life are vital to growing in your walk with God. When you are unsure or just plain off track, remind yourself of the following reasons that prayer is necessary in your life!!!!

#1- Prayer is an invitation to praise God for who he is, his power in your life, his greatness and majesty; as well as expressing your gratitude to him for the savior he has been to you.

#2- Prayer is an opportunity for you to put others first without seeking anything for yourself.

#3- Prayer is your way to build your personal relationship with God. Have you ever developed a relationship with someone without talking to them on a regular basis? NO...you haven't. Prayer is you talking to God! Checking in with him and letting him know your questions and concerns about your life.

#4- Prayer is your way to experience God in ways that you may have never experienced him before. Through prayer, you are healed of infirmities; you may feel an immediate unexplainable peace about an issue or even an immediate call to action that is Gods way of speaking to your heart...not in a loud audible voice, but through his Holy Word.

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Article Continued . . .

#5- Prayer builds up a defense against the enemy and his strategies to distract you from God's Will, disconnect you from his presence, and destroy your spiritual foundation.

#6- Simply put, Prayer keeps us connected to God and the plans he has for our lives!

Through our prayer lives we grow in our Godly characteristics and not only impact our own lives, but the lives of others. If you weren't quite sure why you needed to pray before, you definitely have a few reasons now! God is not concerned with how you say a prayer or when, he is only concerned that you just do it! He knows who you are, where you've been and where you are headed. Make it your intention to set aside time to pray and create a routine that will keep you plugged in to the Power of God!

Church Superfood

by Ki Hughes



What makes the human body healthy? Our best guess is a combination of a bunch of things. Some are things we eat, some are due to how we treat our bodies, and some even deal with how we feel internally. This is the same with our church. As Paul explains in 1 Cor. 12:12-27, we are all a part of the church which is the body of Christ. We all have various functions within the church body, but it all equals out to one body in the end. So how do we make and keep it healthy?

One of the best and most effective ways to get the most out of our church body is to ingest the super food known as fellowship! Fellowship among the believers is such a crucial

aspect to consider because it is like the blood of the church body. What body do you know that can survive without blood? As a Christian believer we're privy to how important "the blood" is and the same can be said about our fellowship with one another. Our fellowship in the house of God is essential. It sets the stage for love, joy, peace within the church family and helps to break down the barriers of loneliness, falsities, separatism. If our fellowship isn't genuine, consistent or free of bias we could be shunning a person who is hurting, to be off in the wilderness of life by themselves. That isn't how our bodies work, so we can't allow that to be in God's house either.

Another interesting point to touch on is the fact that our fellowship should extend beyond the walls of our church. The church building is a common ground that empowers, encourages and inspires us to activate the principles of God's word but once we leave, we can't stop there! Not only should we fellowship at our church events and outings, but we should also fellowship with one another during non-church related events such as birthday parties, anniversaries, etc. Fellowship can lead to godly friendships.

Our church stays healthy as we learn to inject the super food of fellowship into our normal daily lives. It stands to be so important because it continues to replenish us when we're suffering or hurt, it encourages us when we're down, it helps us open up when we don't feel like it and it allows us to embrace the experiences of life together, hand in hand – with confidence in seeing each other in heaven. Are you taking part in using the super food that God gave us to keep us strong, healthy and ready for the action of the day? If not, open up and let the fellowship of God take over and see the benefits of his fellowship and its impact on not only yourself, but everyone you encounter. To God be the glory, AMEN!



Members Corner

Hello DSCC Members,

I want to recognize our newest members Tanya Bryant and Marcelette Fowler. We are glad that you made the decision to join DaySpring and we welcome you with open arms. Please remember that when difficult times come you are not alone. Your church family is here to help and support you. We praise GOD for you all, and again, WELCOME!!!!!!



Our HIGHLIGHTED member of the month is Rafael Fajardo. He is the definition of a true SOLDIER for CHRIST....Here is his testimony:

Our pastor always emphasizes that spiritual growth can only take place between you and God. I once had a conversation over the phone with Pastor Charles and I remember him saying "Everyone will see you now. Like Jesus, you are now on the cross. This is your cross". On July 4th 2012, I was diagnosed with a stage three cancer. I underwent surgery and was hospitalized for weeks at a time for months. Death was at my doorstep, but the power, hope, and assurance of Jesus Christ greatly triumphed in me from such worry. Like Apostle Paul once wrote "I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body and to be present with Lord." (2 Corinthians 5:8). I didn't fear death, but as I looked around at all those who were suffering the agony that is cancer, my understanding of the faith I possessed in Christ was transformed. I realized that though we are saved by faith, the ability to have faith truly is a gift that can only be given by God. When Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Philippi "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13), he himself was imprisoned. In spite of his circumstances, Paul's deeply rooted relationship with Jesus Christ enabled him to encourage fellow believers. Having cancer is like being imprisoned but in your own body, and like Paul's circumstance, cancer can seem like an unfair sentence. It was this realization that propelled me to not only proclaim my faith, but to demonstrate it in action. And so, like Paul, I found myself encouraging

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everyone I came in contact with at the hospital. I prayed with fellow patients, uplifted family members, livened up nurses, and did my best to exhibit joy in the presence of concerned doctors. Like Paul, I know that no matter what afflictions come my way, Christ will strengthen me to do all the things I can to illustrate His power and love. And to top it all off, a year later I was CANCER FREE! With God, all things are possible!

A Denny's Restaurant Story:

I recently ran into a guy at Denny's who doesn't go to church but was very knowledgeable about the Bible and love Scripture. Problem was he was misguided because he learns by himself with no guide of a church. He made a statement that Jesus is not God, but that He resembles God. I shared with him Scriptures where Jesus always says, "I am God" and where the apostles believed that also and were persecuted for that belief. I also shared the fact that Jesus died because of his claims to be God. If Jesus' claim was that he resembles God the Romans would have never killed him. Because the authenticity of Scripture tears down every false thought he threw at me, the guy soon retreated and changed the subject almost as a graceful bow out.

Let's be clear JESUS CHRIST IS GOD. But here is why we need a church that sticks with the absolute authority of Scripture and not our opinion, emotion or feeling of knowledge, and especially our perspective. He felt God revealed to him that "Jesus is only a resemblance of God". He was very knowledgeable and very wrong in his perspective. Let us fall in love with the Bible, the absolute sole authority of Scripture to govern our lives. Any other thinking or perspective WILL lead you or your children astray.

Lesson for all of us ...1-Be very prepared to be able to defend what you know of the Gospels, 2- Take notes, 3- Go over the Scriptures throughout the week and 4- Stay connected to a doctrinally sound church...learning by yourself can be very deadly and lead to your perspective not God's perspective.

God WILL send people your way...it may be your own family.
BE VERY PREPARED.

Pastor Charles

Fellowship Improves Physical Health

by Ashley Smith



We all know that having positive relationships with friends or family makes us feel good emotionally, but did you know that maintaining healthy social ties may also influence your physical wellness?

- Social support is one of the most reliably documented psycho-social factors linked to positive health outcomes.
- Research has shown that regular church attendance is associated with health behaviors such as: avoidance of tobacco, moderate use of alcohol, utilization of preventative health care services and sleeping well.
- Both physiological responses and behavioral changes are linked to social relationships.
- POSITIVE social connections help to reduce harmful stress levels that can damage the heart's arteries, disrupt insulin regulation and compromise the immune system.
- Research has shown higher death rates among people with LOW QUANTITY and LOW QUALITY social relationships.

The above facts demonstrate that fellowship within the Body of Christ is not only essential for spiritual vitality, but also a vital part of thriving physically.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

"FITNESS SUNDAY"

September 29th @ 2:15pm

Rush Memorial Gym (*across the street, in back of the church*)

1650 W. 162nd Street, Gardena 90247

Come and join us for a day of health, fitness & fun. Our very own DeAndre Ford & Ashley Smith will lead a fitness session and there will be open volleyball, basketball and healthy snacks served. Don't miss out!

ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES!

Join Pastor Charles and 1st Lady Kesha for a romantic weekend getaway to the **Revive Replenish Renew Marriage Retreat 2013**. Come get refreshed and restore the love in your marriage.

Date & Location: Friday, Nov. 29th - Sunday, Dec. 1st at the Ayres Hotel & Suites Costa Mesa

Cost: \$310 per couple. *Payment Plan available.*

Register:

- **By Sept. 20th**- Only a \$65 deposit is required and is applied to the total cost. (*Deposit increases to \$100 after 9/20/13*)
- On-line at www.dayspringcc.org or contact Misty Copeland at 310.853.8477 ext 0, or email info@dayspringcc.org

****TOTAL balance must be paid by 11.8.13****

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Finance Team
H.U.G. (*hospitality, usher & greeters*) Team
Community Outreach Team

If interested in serving, please see or contact Ministry Director, Ki Hughes at 323.608.9586 or md@dayspringcc.org.