



---

## The Foothills Flyer: *Keeping the Church on Mission*

---

### Our Aspect of Prayer

By Joe Eastman **Values: Holistic Discipleship, Christ the Head**

September marks the second month of our quarterly focus on prayer. Last month I wrote that there are three aspects of prayer covered in the Lord’s Prayer. The first is *God’s aspect* which is a reminder that we must see things from God’s point of view and be reminded that God is in charge. The second aspect covered in Matthew 6:11-13 is *ours* – where we see the importance of trusting God for everything, every day and we understand the importance that relationships play in our prayer life.



In Matthew 6:11 Jesus mentions that we should pray, “give us this day our daily bread.” This is a very profound statement wrapped in a small package! Here Jesus reminds us of two things that we often forget, especially when we are in the midst of challenging life circumstances. The first is that Jesus cares for us and expects us to pray about our needs. It is not wrong to need, and it is not wrong to go to the Lord in prayer and ask for Him to fulfill those needs. As a matter of fact, a few verses earlier in Matthew 6:8 Jesus makes the startling claim that God

knows what we need before we even ask Him! Moreover, in Matthew 7:7-12 we are reminded by Jesus that God is devoted to giving us good things when we ask Him for them! Jesus knows we have need for daily bread, and so He encourages us to seek that from God.

The second thing that we can often forget is the *daily* part. Here we are reminded that a large part of the discipline of following Christ is to take it day by day. We are to focus on one day at a time, trusting God to provide all we need for that day. Jesus reminds us in Matthew 6:34 not to worry about tomorrow but to focus on the day at hand in prayer. Imagine the freedom we’d have if we only concern ourselves with today!

*God is devoted to giving us good things when we ask Him for them!*

Going on to verse 12 we see the connection between our prayer lives and the relationships around us. The fact is, our prayer lives are either helped or hurt by the relationships we have with those in our lives. For instance, in 1 Peter 3:7, Peter tells husbands that their prayers will be hindered if they treat their wives in an inconsiderate manner. Peter makes the case that because wives are also children of God, they deserve to be treated like ones. God cares about all who are His and for us to treat anyone in an unkind manner could cause a rift in the relationship between us and God. →

Think about it. If someone treated those you love poorly, it would negatively affect the relationship between you and that person. So, our treatment of others can definitely impact our prayer life. Our aspect of prayer comes down to three simple things, faith, hope and love. Faith in God and His provision, hope in the benevolence of God, and love for God and others.

This month spend more time than you did last month praying for yourself and for your family. Don't be afraid to let God know about your needs; go to Him and watch Him answer in amazing ways! Also, take sometime this month to nurture your relationships. Spend some extra time with those in your life and seek to make a new friend among your brothers and sisters in the church.

## Why Apologetics Is Essential

By Dan Rodgers **Value: Holistic Discipleship**



The average Christian in America cannot answer some very basic questions regarding their faith and what they believe. Many children grow up leaving their parents' faith because they are not sure why they even believe what their parents do. It's critical today that we have a firm foundation in our beliefs as a bible-believing church and teach them to our children and to one another so that we are "always being prepared to make a defense (apologetics) to anyone who asks for a reason for the hope that is in you." 1 Peter 3:15.

What does giving an account for our hope actually mean? How do we prove or justify what we believe in? If we are not prepared, we will miss the opportunity to bring someone to the foot of the cross or worse yet, we could be swept away by confusing belief systems or end up following the false gods of other religions (Eph. 4:7-16). Many religious organizations believe in a very different god and Jesus than we do. The average college student (or Christian for that matter) is bombarded with many different religions and can be swayed easily if they are not grounded in their faith.

My passion is to equip the saints to be able to give an account of what they believe to anyone at any time. My philosophy is less about studying the counterfeit religions such as JW, Mormonism, Catholicism, Islam, and Evolution, but more about studying the Scripture (which is the inerrant word of God) to know what is the "real" truth and in turn be able to know what is false. When the government trains their employees to spot counterfeit money, they study the real thing not the counterfeit in order to become experts to be able to recognize the fake. All false religions basically attack the same thing, Jesus, the very founder of our faith who is the standard for spiritual maturity.

The class I'll be teaching this Fall is called *Faith Defenders*, and in it, we'll study the key essentials of the faith like: *What is absolute truth? Is God a Trine God? Was Jesus God? What is biblical salvation? Did Jesus really rise from the dead? Is hell a real place? What is the biblical approach to prophecy today? Are YOU thoroughly equipped to give an account of your God today?* Come join us to learn how. The *Faith Defenders* Bible Study starts Sunday, September 11th at 9AM. Please call me if you have any questions at 239-1689.

# The Need for Intimacy Among Men

By Mike Potter **Values: Unity in Community, Discipleship, Biblical Leadership**

On August 27th, I led a men's breakfast at Foothills Fellowship. My goal was to help men see the need for intimate male relationships, encourage them to be willing to explore this concept more, and eventually pursue such relationships. Here are a few verses I shared with the men that point to the need for intimate relationships between Christians (men in this case).

**Ecclesiastes 4:9-12: Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!** I read this passage at most marriage ceremonies I perform, but gender is not specified here. Two men, together in a deep, God-centered relationship are strong!

**Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.** As one commentator says, "A friend is sent into the world of another for this among other ends, that he might comfort and relieve his brother in his adversity."

**John 15:12-13 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."** This is what Christ did for us. This is what we should be willing to do for others – including men for their brothers in Christ.



And finally, in **I Samuel 18-20**, we see the ultimate example of an intimate male relationship in David and Jonathan. We see that "the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul." Once Jonathan realized that he would never assume the throne of his father because of his father's sin and that David was God's choice to be the next king, he made a covenant with David (rather than try to kill him) because "he loved him as his own soul." In an act of great humility and love, Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his girdle. The last time they ever saw each other, Scripture says that "David fell on his face to the ground, and bowed three times; and they kissed one another, and wept with one another." Jonathan was eventually killed, and David eventually became king, but their friendship and loyalty lasted long after Jonathan's death. In 2 Samuel 9, we see David caring for Jonathan's son as his own. "I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always."

Christian men need friendships like this, and it can happen. Pray that God would show you a man of two with whom you can work toward developing a deep and intimate relationship. It will take work and great intention, but it's worth it. As a matter of fact, your sanctification depends on it!

You can listen to the breakfast discussion at my blog: [www.mikepottersblog.com](http://www.mikepottersblog.com).

# Upcoming Events in September

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2

**Women's Bible Study begins.** At the church from 10AM-Noon. Nursery will be provided. Contact Kerry Smith @ (505) 702-2228.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10:

**Prayer Walk in the International District.** Meet @ the Platt's house at 9:30AM (407 Mesilla SE).

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11:

**Mission Minded Prayer Gathering.** 9AM in the Library. Prayer for our missionaries. Led by Victoria Cain.



**Faith Defenders class begins.** Sunday mornings @ 9AM in Room 102. This is a 6-week apologetics course taught by Dan Rodgers.

**Church Plant 101 begins.** Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:30PM at the Platt's house (407 Mesilla SE). If you are curious, considering or already committed to the church plant, then join Pastor Jesse for this 10-week course. This course is required if you plan to be a part of the plant. Childcare will be provided.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15:

**Walking in the Way (Part 1) begins.** 6:30-8:30PM in Room 102. Explore the way of God, the storyline of the Bible, and representational thinking. Taught by the Briggs and Bannings. Contact Rosemarie at 353-2064.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17:

**Men's Bicycle Ride.** Meet at 7AM @ the Sandia Pueblo Rail Runner Train Station. Contact Blake Harden at 238-0792.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18:

**Communion Meal.** Lunch and communion around the tables immediately following the service in the worship center.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21:

**Men's Theological Discussion @** the church from 6:30-8:30PM. Pastor Joe will send out reading material before the discussion.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24:

**Men's Motorcycle Ride.** Meet @ the church at 10AM. We'll ride and grab lunch together. Led by Pastor Mike.

*The Foothills Flyer* is a monthly newsletter under the oversight of Pastor Joe Eastman that is aimed at keeping Foothills on mission and keeping us committed to our 9 Core Values.

**OUR MISSION:** Foothills Fellowship exists to be a worshipping community of God's people whose lives are shaped by the life, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus and who participate in the mission of God's kingdom by proclaiming the good news locally, nationally and globally.

**OUR CORE VALUES:** 1) Jesus Christ, the Head 2) Biblical Leadership 3) Everyone A Minister 4) Ancient/Future Worship 5) Hospitality Without Exception 6) Unity in Community 7) Intentional Families 8) Global Missions 9) Holistic Discipleship