

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP . GROW . SERVE .

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 787

June 12, 2024

“There Is Power In Prayer!”

The Greek writer, Homer, tells us that when Ulysses came to the Aegean isle where the daughter of the sun, Circe, lived he climbed a hill and saw in the center of the island a palace surrounded with trees. He sent one half of his crew, under the command of Eurylochus, as a vanguard, to see if he could find hospitality. When the men approached the palace, which was surrounded by wild animals that had once been men now changed into beasts by Circe's witchcraft, they heard the sounds of soft music from within. When they entered - all but their leader Eurylochus, who suspected danger - Circe served them with wine and other delicacies. When they had eaten and drunk heartily she touched them one by one with her wand, and they were immediately changed into swine.

When Eurylochus brought the news of this disaster to Ulysses, he went to rescue his men. As he was going to the palace, he was met on the way by Mercury, who warned him of the dangerous arts of Circe. But as Ulysses would not be swayed from his desire to save his men, Mercury put in his hand a flower, the fragrance of which he was to inhale, which possessed the power to resist all sorceries of Circe. Armed with this flower, Ulysses entered the palace of Circe, who entertained him as she had his companions; and when he had eaten and drunk, she touched him with her wand, saying, “Here, seek the sty and wallow with thy friends!” But protected from her spell by the flower which he carried, Ulysses drew his sword and demanded her to release his companions and restore them to their human form.

As believers in Jesus Christ, we should have a desire to live morally and have a desire to raise the standards of justice, truth, and righteousness to the level of God's expectation of His children and of His Word so that we can stave off the sorcery of our modern world. We may not be faced with Circe's witchcraft, but Satan and his demons, his followers, are at every corner tempting and pulling at us to fail in our relationship with Jesus.

Our strength as Believers is not found in a flower, but in the strength of the Almighty God and who has given us the medium of prayer to communicate directly with Him. Are you communicating with Him in prayer?

One of the finest examples of the effectiveness of prayer was given by Jesus Christ, when just before His betrayal, He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemene. We read: **“And He withdrew from them (the disciples) about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed... And there appeared to Him an angel from heaven, strengthening Him.” Luke 22:41, 43** Jesus was so encouraged He continued to the cross and overcame all human threats and obstacles and Satan's ploy's. He was faithful to His Father in carrying out His plan of redemption for us. Thank you Jesus!

Folks, we have the same opportunity to have power to overcome our human weaknesses and the temptations of this world. It is not the flower of Mercury that will give us power to overcome, but the powerful presence of His Spirit, the powerful word of prayer, and the powerful words in His Word. All of this is available to us as Believers, as Jesus Christ has provided them for us.

We have a new Prayer Ministry at HOPE. Our Sunday Morning Prayer Ministry that Diane Mack is heading up. Someone will be praying during the worship service in the church office. If you are being prompted by the Holy Spirit to be a part of this ministry, please contact Diane and let her know. She can give you the specifics and plug you into the rotation. This is a great way to serve.

There is power in Prayer! Jesus prayed all the time to His Father in heaven. We are called to do likewise. If you have not experienced the Power in Prayer, you might want to try it.

Blessings all,
Pastor Marty - HOPE Church Raleigh
Worship . Grow . Serve

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, June 12

Wednesday Night Study
& Prayer @ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 13

EPC Pastors Breakfast @ 7:30 a.m.
Worship Team Rehearsal @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 16

Worship Team Run Through
@ 8:15 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Time @ 11:00 a.m.
Sunday school for all ages
@ 11:15 a.m.

Tuesday, June 18

44th General Assembly of the EPC
begins in Memphis, Tenn.

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - June 16
Church is Providing

ProPresenter - June 16
Elizabeth Floyd

Soundboard - June 16
Jane Davis

Live Streaming - June 16
Al Floyd

Communion - June
Donna Williams

Greeter - June 16
Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - June 16
Volunteer Needed

Scripture Text and Sermon This Sunday

Matthew 14: 22 - 33
"Storms"

Elder Bill Joyner Preaching

Outreach Ministries

"Food of the Month"
for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry

Canned Vegetables
We have a collection bin in the foyer

HOPE Meal Ministry
Take a meal from the freezer if
needed for you or someone else.

TLC Devotion
4th Wednesday each Month
@ 11:00 a.m.
5124 Departure Dr # 101, Raleigh

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Women of HOPE
Saturday, June 22
@ 1:00 p.m.
Meeting at: NoRa Cafe 12333
Strickland Rd, Suite 100-102,
Raleigh - Topic: Are you in a new
season of life?

Wednesday Night Ministries

**Summer schedule on
Wednesday nights**

Study & Prayer

Bible Study @ 7:00 p.m.
Prayer Time @ 8:45 p.m.

Is prayer a passion for you?
HOPE Church Raleigh
has a new ministry.

The ***Sunday Prayer Ministry***
If you would like to participate,
please contact Diane Mack
beautybycaris@gmail.com

Prayer Requests:

Revill & Mary Lane Mallory, Janice
Worthington, Jamie Baldwin, Ron Clifton,
Donna Williams, Carol & Colin (Kathy
Herriman's Sister & Brother-in-law),
Loretta (Sandi Underwood's daughter),
Joan Summers, Shelley, Diane Mack's
Sister-in-law, Jordan & Cinnamon (son
and daughter of Lynn Joyner's family
members), Tommy and Billy Lanphere
(Lynn Joyner's brothers), Gene & Becky
Hale, Ellie Tappan, Dave & Dot Geil,
Carlyle and Cynthia Franklin (Sandra
Pierce's dad and stepmom), our Military,
our Missionaries, our Nation, and the
world.

If you have those you would like added to
our prayer concerns, please email me

HOPE - REBOOT NOW

**Everyday Prayer
For
The Vision Team
The Session
The Congregation**

**Retirement Celebration for
Pastor Marty & Family
Sunday, June 30th Following
Worship
Lunch Provided
Please RSVP to
Elizabeth Floyd at:
elizabeth@hopechurchraleigh.org
no later than Tuesday,
June 25th if you plan to attend.**

Quote of the Week

**"God's wounds cure—
sin's kisses kill!"**

William Gurnall

HOPE Church Raleigh
An Evangelical Presbyterian Church
4911 Green Rd
Raleigh, NC 27616
919-508-6827

Worship Time: 9:30 AM

www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org

www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh

Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh

YouTube.com (type "HOPE Church Raleigh"
in the search box)

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

Jun	16	Acts	19
Jun	17	Acts	20
Jun	18	Acts	21
Jun	19	Acts	22
Jun	20	Acts	23
Jun	21	Acts	24
Jun	22	Acts	25