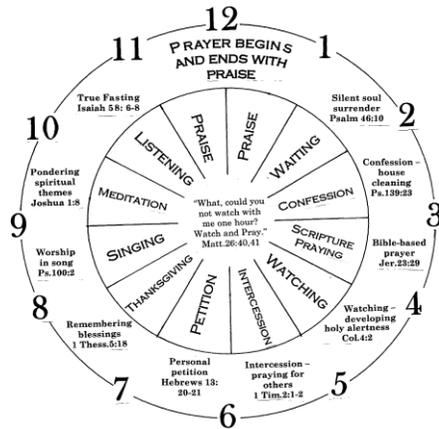
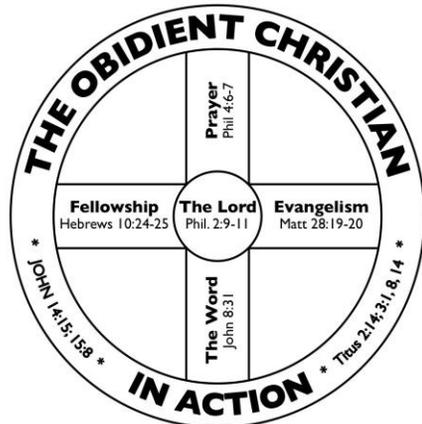


Sunday Praise and Worship Service

† Order of Service 



Question: "What does it mean to pray without ceasing?" (gotquestions.org)

For Christians, prayer should be like breathing. You do not have to think to breathe because the atmosphere exerts pressure on your lungs and essentially forces you to breathe. That is why it is more difficult to hold your breath than it is to breathe. Similarly, when we are born into the family of God, we enter into a spiritual atmosphere where God's presence and grace exert pressure, or influence, on our lives. Prayer is the normal response to that pressure. As believers, we have all entered the divine atmosphere to breathe the air of prayer.

Unfortunately, many believers hold their "spiritual breath" for long periods, thinking brief moments with God are sufficient to allow them to survive. But such restricting of their spiritual intake is caused by sinful desires. The fact is that every believer must be continually in the presence of God, constantly breathing in His truths, to be fully functional.

It is easier for Christians to feel secure by presuming on—instead of depending on—God's grace. Too many believers become satisfied with physical blessings and have little desire for spiritual ones. When programs, methods, and money produce impressive results, there is an inclination to confuse human success with divine blessing. When that happens, passionate longing for God and yearning for His help will be missing. Continual, persistent, incessant prayer is an essential part of Christian living and flows out of humility and dependence on God.

<http://www.gotquestions.org/pray-without-ceasing.html>

Bloor Lansdowne Christian Fellowship

11 AM Sunday † January 31, 2016

Bloor Lansdowne Christian Fellowship
An Evangelical Church of Christ - located in the heart of Toronto: Come and worship with us

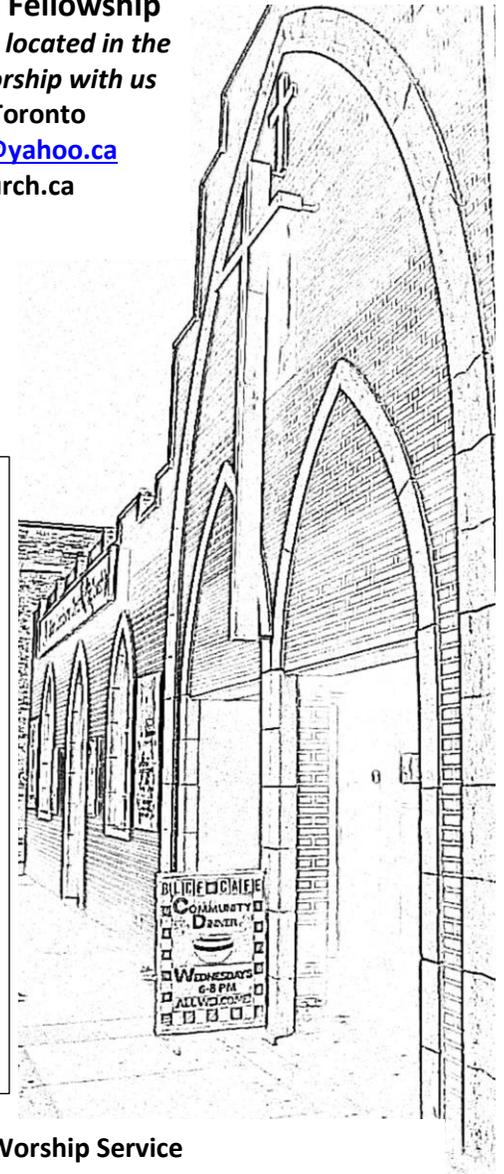
1307 Bloor Street West, Toronto

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Web Page: www.blcfchurch.ca

Twitter: @blcfca

The Word of Life
That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that your joy may be complete. - 1 John 1:1-4



- ❖ Sunday ~ 11:00 AM Praise and Worship Service
- ❖ Wednesday ~ 11:30 AM Morning Prayer and Bible Study
- ❖ Wednesday ~ 6:00-8:00 PM: BLCF Café Community Dinner
- ❖ Online Sermons: bloorlansdownechristianfellowship.wordpress.com

Sunday Praise and Worship Service

† Order of Service 

Call to Worship: Responsive Reading #630 (*Christ Teaches Prayer* – from Luke 11 and John 16); Prayer

Opening Hymn #392: *Take Time to Be Holy; Choruses*

Tithing and Prayer Requests: Hymn #572: *Praise God; Prayers*

Today's Scriptures: Luke 11:1-13 and Luke 18:1-8

Message by Steve Mickelson:

'The Power of Patient, Persistent, and Purposeful Prayer'

Closing Hymn #434: *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

Benediction - (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18):

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Luke 18:1-8 (ESV) The Parable of the Persistent Widow

18 And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³ And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" ⁶ And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷ And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? ⁸ I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"



Prayer is the
key to Heaven, but
Faith
unlocks the door

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Luke 11:1-13 (ESV) The Lord's Prayer

11 Now Jesus^[a] was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."² And he said to them, "When you pray, say:

"Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread,^[b]

⁴ and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation."

⁵ And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves, ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; ⁷ and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything?' ⁸ I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence^[c] he will rise and give him whatever he needs. ⁹ And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ¹¹ What father among you, if his son asks for^[d] a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; ¹² or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Footnotes: a. [Luke 11:1](#) Greek he b. [Luke 11:3](#) Or our bread for tomorrow c. [Luke 11:8](#) Or persistence e. [Luke 11:11](#) Some manuscripts insert bread, will give him a stone; or if he asks for

THE PRINCIPLES OF PRAYER

1. Prayer should be initiated by God, not by man.
2. Prayer is God passing thru man and His prayer.
3. Prayer is man and His prayer passing thru God.
4. Prayer must be God and man, praying together.
5. Prayer is not for man but for God.
6. Prayer is the expression of God's intention.
7. Prayer is God's intention entering into man's intention.
8. Prayer is God's heart desire passing thru man and returning to God.
9. Prayer is the discharging of our burden before God.
10. The purpose of prayer is to glorify God.

Lessons on Prayer 2