

MEDITATIONS FROM SEPTEMBER 2019 SUNDAY BULLETINS

Labor Not

September 1, 2019
Rev. Janet Friedline

Man accomplishes and achieves in individual ways. Some strive through education, some by personal experience, and others by trial and error. No matter what the method, a great deal of thought is given to the endeavor. Once the idea is found, there is the challenge to bring it forth in a way that fulfills its purpose and intent. Whether it is physic labor, or mental effort, the desire is to put something in place. Sometimes our desires are so strong, that we find us stressing and straining, trying to make something happen.

Whatever means we put into place, we expect results. But the Bible warns us of those who labor in vain. When we attempt to work on our own, we labor in the field of temporary conditions, and uncertain conclusions. Acting in this way, we neglect God, and we build our dreams on rocky ground, with nothing to support them. With God, all things are possible. When we allow God to do the work, the foundation is sure and certain. And yes, what is built on this ground endures into eternity.

Thy Will Is Done On Earth

September 8, 2019
Rev. Donna Gatewood

How many times have you been witness to a tragedy or some other disturbing event or experience and have heard someone say “It’s God’s will?” How many times have you heard the similar phrase that is tossed about following a devastating earthquake, a destructive tornado or a massive fire, “It’s an act of God?”

We misunderstand so much about the nature of Life and the experiences of the human condition. So it is, when we experience these negative events and situations we are so quick to turn our attention to the problem or situation and turn away from the Truth.

The Truth is that God did not cause and is not responsible for the ups and downs of the human experience. God is forever Good. And He is eternally pouring His Love and His Goodness into the world and into each and every one of us. His will for us is Good and only Good. Our God is a loving and kind God who has given us all that He is and all that He has. This means that we have embodied in us the Spirit of Love, Peace, Joy, Wisdom, Abundance and Wholeness. The will of God is that we learn who and what we truly are—His beloved children in whom He is well pleased. His will is that we recognize the Truth of our Being and return to Him that we may dwell in His kingdom and experience the blessed communion with Him that brings the Peace, Joy, and Love that passes all human understanding.

Omnipotence

September 15, 2019
Rev. Wayne Gatewood

Aware of your True identity as a child of God, the Spiritual Source of all that ever was and shall be, the ONE that is OMNIPRESENT, in all places at all times; the ONE that is OMNISCIENT, all knowledge and all wisdom; and the ONE that is OMNIPOTENT, the ONE and only True Power, what is it that can overcome you? When dwelling in the Consciousness of your Father, you are not subject to the seeming emotional and physical upheavals of the outer world. Made in HIS image and likeness, you are perfect in all ways; you are an eternal Spiritual Being, and all Power in and of God, is in and of you. So why is it that individuals fear this or that; experience lack and limitation, speak of so-called sickness and illness, and give power to those things not of

God...to those temporal things of the world of effect. There is no weapon that might be formed against you that shall prosper, for God is all power, and he is your shield and buckler...but you must realize it.

“The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power.... Ephesians 1:18-19

SELF SURRENDER

September 22, 2019

Rev. Janet Friedline

Man has been told to “know thyself,” to “control thyself,” and to “deny thyself.” All of this can be very confusing. Exactly what is this “self,” that they are referring to? We think we know ourselves, our likes and our dislikes; our views and opinions. We feel we have some control over us, watching our thoughts and our reactions. And certainly, throughout time, we have denied ourselves of certain things, considering them beyond our means to acquire and enjoy.

The “Self” we are encouraged to know, is not the one of human form, but rather the spiritual Self, the one of God. And yes, we really do need to control the ego that belongs to the human self. God wants us to live the abundant life. When we are told to deny thyself, it means we are to release a sense of life that calls the human form its reality. Through wisdom, knowledge and understanding, we surrender the erroneous ideas we held about us. There is only one “Self,” and it is Christ. Let us know that this is so.

Faith

September 29, 2019

Rev. Wayne Gatewood

Faith in your Being...God, is the substance of existence. To have faith in God is to have the faith of God. We must have faith in God as our Eternal Father and the source of all good. Faith is the foundation of all that Man does. Jesus spoke of a new condition for the uplifting of the race. He called it the “Kingdom of Heaven.” Jesus said it must be built upon the foundation typified by Peter (Rock), who represents faith. This is proof that faith is closely related to the enduring, firm, unyielding forms of substance. The development and incorporation of faith within our consciousness is a key to spiritual realization.

“Your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. I Colossians 2:5”