

The month of September is always a special one and one of my favorites. We begin to contemplate cooler weather as fall begins to show its signs. There is usually some excitement in the air as college football has begun and Major League Baseball playoffs are just around the corner. There will be tailgating, grilling, cheering, and jeering. In all this activity, there is one event I do not want you to miss. That is See You at The Pole.

See You at The Pole is a youth event in which students gather around the flagpole at their schools and pray for the United States of America. This year the theme is JUST PRAY and comes from James 4:10. [“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.”](#)

If you are like me, you may be wondering, how to pray for our nation. I mean, it seems like our nation and its leaders do not want prayer. While many of us still consider this nation to be a Christian nation, the fact is, that sentiment is slipping away at a rapid pace. Moreover, those of us who have been praying for the U.S.A. feel as if our prayers are not being answered in a positive manner. The decline in morality, social turmoil, and political unrest just seems to be too much. It causes us to question what the future of this great nation holds. So, recently, I began to search the scripture for an example of how to pray. How should the righteous children of God ([2 Corinthians 5:21](#)) pray for an unrighteous nation? We have a wonderful example in God’s servant, Daniel.

STOP! Open your Bible and read Daniel 9 before you go any further. Let us examine Daniel’s prayer for Judah. Daniel 9:3 says, [“Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes.”](#) (v.3) In Daniel’s day, sackcloth and ashes was a sign of mourning. He was deeply concerned for his people. Daniel focused on God and sought Him in prayer. Before he sought answers, he sought the face of the One who COULD answer. Daniel goes on, [“I prayed to the Lord my God and made confession...”](#) (v.4) At this point, Daniel still has not made his request. He went straight from seeking God to confession. Prayer is worthless in the life of a believer who has unconfessed sin in their life. When we turn toward God and seek His face, the first thing He deals with is OUR sin ([2 Chronicles 7:14](#)). We can not ask God to heal a nation with unconfessed, unrepentant sin in our own lives. Daniel was a righteous man standing in the gap ([Ezekiel 22:30](#)). We may be set apart (by the Holy Spirit) from the iniquity of our nation. However, we must stand in the gap and pray! What does Daniel do next? Exultation. Look at verse 4 again. [““O Lord, the great and awesome God...”](#) He recognized and proclaimed the greatness and awesomeness of God. Recognize who you are praying to! Daniel spends the next few verses ([v.5-10](#)) confessing specific sins of his people and admitting what they deserve. After seeking God, confessing sin, and exalting God Daniel finally makes his request known, [“Now therefore, O our God, listen to the prayer of your servant and to his pleas for mercy, and for your own sake, O Lord, make your face to shine upon your sanctuary, which is desolate. 18 O my God, incline your ear and hear. Open your eyes and see our desolations, and the city that is called by your name. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy. 19 O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive. O Lord, pay attention and act. \(Daniel 9:17-19\)](#) Wow! What a great prayer for a nation in rebellion. I suggest we use it as a model and pray like this for the United States of America! Lastly, I want you to see that Daniel recognized WHY God may answer his prayer. Do not miss these words, [“Delay not, for your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people are called by your name.”](#) Daniel uses the words [“for your own sake”](#) twice in this chapter. Listen, If God is going to answer our prayers, He will do so *for His own sake* - that is to say, for His own glory! If we expect God to do anything in bringing our nation back to Him, we must be prepared to seek His face, confess our sins and the sins of THIS nation, worship Him at every turn of events, and be sure...BE VERY SURE He receives all the glory and honor for the mighty acts He will perform!

Bro. Byron Benson

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East End Baptist Church
P. O. Box 8480
Columbus, Mississippi 39705
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East End
BAPTIST CHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

- PastorByron Benson
- Minister of MusicJosh Tilley
- Minister of Education & Senior AdultsMatt Moehring
- Children’s Minister Heather Dees
- Preschool Director Daphne Bordelon
- Ministry Assistant Christie Tyndall
- PianistRenee Veazey
- Custodian.....Carla Hudson

CONTACT information



662-328-5915
P.O. Box 8480
Columbus, MS 39705
Website: www.eastendbc.org
Email: office@eastendbc.org

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

3 Ways to Give

- During the service in the offering boxes
- Give online by going to our website: www.eastendbc.org
- Or give by text: Text GiveEEBC to 73256

Margaret Lackey Offering for State Missions Goal: \$1,000

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE OFFERING PAGE AT WWW.EEBC.ORG/MARGARET

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, September 1
7 p.m.

T & N

TOGETHER WITH THEIR FAMILIES
Chelsea Tatum Veazey & Nathan Curtis Strickland

REQUEST THE HONOR OF YOUR COMPANY ON THEIR WEDDING DAY

Saturday, September 11, 2021
 AT 2 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

EAST END BAPTIST CHURCH
 380 HIGHWAY 50 W COLUMBUS, MS 39705

Reception to follow
 STEPHEN D. LEE HOME
 316 7TH STREET N. COLUMBUS, MS 39701

Melody Drew Women on Mission Meeting for September has been cancelled

Senior Adult Luncheon
Tuesday, September 14
11:30 a.m.

Special Guests:
 Rudy Johnson, Executive Director of The Golden Triangle Planning & Development District
 Sharon Duke, Director of the Ship Program

Discussing various benefits seniors are eligible for

Sign up in the Welcome Center

Men's Breakfast

Sunday, September 5 at 7 a.m.
 Sign up sheet in the Welcome Center

HAPPY LABOR DAY WEEKEND

The Church Office will be closed
Monday, September 6

MONTHLY MEETINGS

- Wednesday, September 15**
- Church Council - 5:30 p.m.
 - Finance Committee Meeting - 7 p.m.
- Sunday, September 19**
- Deacons' Meeting - 4 p.m.
 - Staff Meeting - 6 p.m.

JAMES 4:10

JUST PRAY

SEE YOU AT THE POLE
 SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

Sing for Joy

Praise Team Worship and Sanctuary Choir Fellowship
Saturday, September 25

Sign up at the Welcome Center by Sunday, September 5

Schedule

- 12-1 p.m. Lunch for praise team
- 11-5 p.m. Workshop with Jessica Horton
- 5-6 p.m. Prepare for Choir Fellowship
- 6-7 p.m. Choir Fellowship meal at the Youth Building
- 7-8 p.m. Concert with Jessica Horton



Senior Adult Trip to Amish Country
Ethridge, TN
Friday, October 1
 Leave the church 6 a.m.
 \$5 for Hop On Tour
 Money for food and shopping
 Sign up at the Welcome Center

CHONDA PIERCE LIVE IN CONCERT

THURSDAY OCTOBER 7
FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH
COLUMBUS, MS

Women's Ministry Outing
 Thursday, October 7 at 7 p.m.
 at Fairview Baptist Church
 Van leaves from EEBC at 5:45 p.m.
 Sign up at the Welcome Center

An evening with STEVEN CURTIS CHAPMAN

SPECIAL GUEST
MAC POWELL

Sunday, November 14
 Fairview Baptist Church
 Tickets: \$25
 Sign up at the Welcome Center by Sunday, September 5