



CHURCH SCHEDULE:

Sunday School

10:00 AM

Saturday Evening

Worship

7:00 PM

Pre-service Prayer

6:30 PM

Wednesday Night

Bible Study

Youth Class

Kids for Christ

7:00 P.M.

“I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.”

Psalm 34:1

February

Building Fund—

\$4636

Missions— \$2450

Welcome to the Pentecostals of Greenville!

The Sacrifice of Praise

“By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to his name.” (Hebrews 13:15)

Here are two things recorded in God’s word that He wants us to do continually. One is praying. “Pray without ceasing.” (Thessalonians 5:17) “And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;” (Luke 18:1) The other is offering Him a sacrifice of praise. We know in Revelation 4:8 that there are angels that fly around the throne of God 24/7 saying “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!” And those “arrayed in white robes” before the throne of God shall “serve him day and night in his temple”, no doubt worshipping and praising Him!

Unfortunately, we are still here on earth, but God still employs us to worship and praise Him. Yes, we have no problem praising God when our lives are full of good times! “I got a pay raise at work! Praise God!” “God has healed me! Praise be to the Lord!” “My children have received the Holy Ghost! Hallelujah!” But now let’s change this scenario. “I lost my job today.” “I found out I have cancer.” “My children have abandoned Jesus and church.” So do we stop praising Him in our bad times?

No! We continue to praise Him. And our praise becomes a “sacrifice of praise” because we acknowledge God is STILL God in the good times AND the bad! Instead of focusing on the problems we praise our mighty God who can fix our problems and help us through the storms of life. He can give us “beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;” (Isaiah 61:3) We sacrifice our pain, our grief, our despair, our troubles for that garment of praise, that blessed hope we have in God to help get us through the tough times.

Job’s response to losing his children, his wealth, his health? Job “...fell down upon the ground, and worshiped....the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.” (Job 1:20-21) That’s a sacrifice of praise. David’s response while hiding in a cave fleeing from King Saul who wanted to kill him? “My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise. Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early. I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto thee among the nations.” (Psalm 57:7-9) That’s a sacrifice of praise. Paul and Silas’ response to being arrested, beaten, and cast into prison? “And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.” (Acts 16:25) That’s a sacrifice of praise.

My prayer for you today is, although this world will throw a lot of problems your way, that you will continue to seek and praise God to help you overcome and get through them!

“Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies.” (Psalm 103:1-4)/wm

