

"On your walls,  
O Jerusalem I have  
set watchmen  
all the day and  
all the night."

Isaiah 62:6

# WATCHMEN ON THE WALL

## Power in Prayer

Watchmen Prayer Warriors,

I love a story that I read years ago in a little magazine called "Bits & Pieces." One day a small boy was trying to lift a heavy stone, but he couldn't budge it. His father, passing by, stopped to watch his efforts. Finally, he said to his son: "Are you using all your strength?" "Yes, I am," the boy cried, exasperated. "No," the father said calmly, "you're not. You haven't asked me to help you."

This brought to mind James 5:16b [CSB]: "*The prayer of a righteous person is very powerful in its effect.*" The word translated here as "powerful," or "availeth much" in KJV, is *ischyō* (e-skhu-o). It means to have a power displayed in extraordinary deeds, to be a force, to avail, to have strength, to overcome." Sounds powerful and impactful, doesn't it?

That's the power of prayer as we seek God's strength in accomplishing His purpose and glory. Psalm 105:4 says, "*Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His face always.*" Once we are settled on accomplishing God's will (not ours) for God's glory (not ours), we can approach our Heavenly Father boldly and seek His strength to accomplish "*above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us*" (Eph. 3:20, CSB). We can ask for more than we've imagined.

Brothers and sisters, there are lots of rocks that need picking up these days! Your prayers are more important to Mobberly Baptist Church than ever before. We serve a God for whom no rock is too big. Pray with power resulting in extraordinary impact, asking God to:

- Use Mobberly members to share the good news of Jesus with power and effect.
- Give wisdom to Mobberly leadership in navigating the issues of the day: COVID, healing of racial tension, anger and harshness in the public forum and more.
- Guide our Interim Pastor, Bryant Wright, in facilitating healing and mission-centered unity.
- Lead the Pastor Search Committee to patiently hear and follow God's leading in the search.
- To prepare the hearts of Mobberly's next Senior Pastor and his family.



Greg Martin  
Pastor of Congregational Care

## **Special Prayers for All in These Times**

2 Timothy 1:7 says, *“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”* As believers, we have the authority which Christ has given us to pray about the spread of any disease and to pray for healing for those who have the Coronavirus.

- Praise God for His sovereignty. He is and always will be in control of all things. Pray that we will trust Him to help us navigate this season of uncertainty.
- Ask God in His mercy to stop this pandemic and save lives, not only in our communities but around the world, particularly in places that are unequipped medically to deal with the virus. (Isaiah 59:1-2)
- Pray that the Lord will give us wisdom in this moment of fear as the foundations of what we know are shaken, that others would realize how fragile life is and how real eternity is and they would see their need to turn to God. Scripture says: *“Teach us to number our days carefully so that we may develop wisdom in our hearts.”* (Psalm 90:12)
- Ask God to protect our missionaries and their families around the world, using this global crisis to advance His Good News to all nations. (Mark 16:15)
- Pray for wisdom for governmental leaders, the CDC, researchers, other medical personnel, leaders in churches and other strategic places to have the wisdom to direct us in the best courses of action for prevention and care. (Romans 13:1–4).
- Pray for the protection of doctors, nurses, crisis response teams, emergency first responders, researchers and other medical professionals who risk their lives to protect ours.
- Pray for comfort and healing for those stricken with this virus. Pray they will receive the quality health care they need to regain health and strength. Pray for their healing and for a treatment to cure and eradicate this virus.
- Pray for peace, calmness, freedom from fear, anxiety and panic among individuals and communities.
- Pray for racial understanding, peace and harmony. Pray that every person, each an image-bearer of God, would experience justice and protection. Pray for an end to violent confrontations.

**Mobberly Worship Gatherings returned beginning May 24. With restrictions and guidelines in place to keep everyone as safe as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic, our campus schedule looks a little different. See websites below for the most current information.**

Here are some places on our website (all accessible from our home page at [mobberly.org](http://mobberly.org)) where you can get encouragement and information:

- View Worship Gatherings online ([mobberly.org/online](http://mobberly.org/online))
- Sign up for upcoming preschool and children’s classes – see above ([mobberly.org/rsvp](http://mobberly.org/rsvp))
- Prayer concerns ([mobberly.org/pray](http://mobberly.org/pray))
- Video devotions from Mobberly Staff ([mobberly.org/devotion](http://mobberly.org/devotion))
- Give to the Lord through Mobberly ([mobberly.org/give](http://mobberly.org/give))
- Information about Mobberly and COVID-19 ([mobberly.org/corona](http://mobberly.org/corona))
- Stay connected with our social media accounts at [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).
- Subscribe to our [email news](#) list.

**Praise:** Praising God for who He is and for what He is doing.

- God is Elohim...strong, supreme and sovereign.
  - **Psalm 62:11-12a (NIV):** *“<sup>11</sup>One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard: that You, O God, are strong, <sup>12a</sup>and that You, O Lord, are loving...”*
  - **2 Chronicles 16:9a (CSB):** *“<sup>9a</sup>For the eyes of the Lord roam throughout the earth to show Himself strong for those who are wholeheartedly devoted to Him.”*
  - **Psalm 24:8 (CSB):** *“<sup>8</sup>Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.”*

**Praise the Lord:**

- For the 18 children signed up in our next New Christian’s Class!
- That we are enjoying having kids and families on Sunday’s and Wednesday’s hearing and learning God’s truths.
- As we are so thankful for good health among our kids and leaders.
- For life change that we continue to see as boys and girls give their lives to follow Jesus.
- For the eight students that accepted Christ as Savior in the last two weeks!
- For our amazing youth volunteer team. We had a great training day recently.
- For the launch of a newlywed Connect Group with incredible leaders Jeff and Mindy Hamilton. The second week of meeting had 18 in attendance.
- That the Block Party on the south side of Longview had over 125 people come. One young man accepted Christ and several prospects were identified.
- Several new college students have started attending Mobberly this semester and are also serving in various ministries.
- New adult Connect Groups being launched.
- He is bringing new adult Connect Group leadership.
- For those in the Body of Christ that are faithful to encourage and serve.
- For His hand on helping disciple-making come back to the forefront of the Church’s universal mission.
- For a great fall kick-off in women’s Bible study. We have so many returning, as well the joy of many new faces entering the classrooms. Pray that they would remain healthy and seek Him more richly each day through the study of His Word.
- For the opportunities to plan for and love on our church plant wives and our staff wives. These families give much of their time and treasures so that others might know Him. As we appreciate our pastors this month (Pastor Appreciation Day is 10/11), may we stand firm and love well by praying for their spouses and their marriages.
- Men’s Ministry representatives from several Connect Groups had a great weekend learning about discipleship.
- Five groups of men have begun an eleven-week ‘BetterMan’ curriculum learning how to become the men God wants them to be.
- Our GO Share class is finding people at home and being able to share the gospel.
- That our on-campus attendance at Worship Gatherings are growing each week.
- For His provision of a new Marshall Children’s Minister, Chelsea Booher.
- That new guests are attending at the Marshall campus each Sunday.
- For Marshall Connect Groups who have begun meeting in person again.

- For an opportunity to feed breakfast and share the gospel with the Marshall High School football team.
- The Staff of Hope Road continues to be strengthened as individuals and as a team in bringing and bearing hope for their clients as they continue to share their stories with one another and speak hope into each other's lives.
- The ability of Hope Road Counseling to continue to be a Christ-centered resource restoring hope to those who are hurting.
- For His faithfulness in guiding and providing for the leadership of Hope Road day-by-day.
- In the midst of the storm, God is still with his people and opening doors to share his love with others.
- Our Tuesday morning Family Services benevolence ministry continues its vital ministry. Seven people have put their trust in Jesus through the ministry of this team since our last Watchman report! Pray for these new believers as they grow in Christ: Austin, Cashara, Aumessyra, Ana Marai, Claude, Jakeria and Natalie.

**Repent:** Of sins committed and commands neglected.

Our ongoing sins disrupt our fellowship with our heavenly Father. This is why we need to repent of our sins and confess them to God. *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* (I John 1:9, CSB)

As you pray, take time to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal your sins. Think through various areas of your life: sins of thought, sins of attitude, sins of omission, sins of commission, sins of self-rule, sins of self-reliance or sins of relationships. Ask God for the grace to repent and to restore your fellowship. Then thank God your sins have already been paid for by Christ. Rest in His unfailing love.

**Ask:** When our hearts are God-oriented in praise and purified through repentance, then we are ready to "Ask." God encourages us to come boldly to Him and ask. *"Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need."* (Hebrews 4:16, CSB)

**Ask God:**

- To provide leaders for Sundays at 11:00 a.m. in first and second grades.
- To provide leaders so we can open more classrooms for preschoolers and children. We are currently limited on the number of children that can attend due to health and safety guidelines. Pray that God will lead more adults to volunteer so we can offer more classes.
- To provide for the health and safety of our Children's Ministry leaders. Ask God to keep them strong and free from illness.
- To bless Mobberly's Family Fall Fest on October 28. We will have an evangelistic opportunity for kids and parents. Pray that as the gospel is shared and that lives will be changed.
- To bless our Youth Ministry Apprentices, Ashley Upchurch and Caleb Dorsey. Pray God would continue to equip and use them for his glory.
- To strengthen our students as they navigate all the disappointments COVID has presented throughout this season. Pray our students would not be anxious, but that they would have the peace of God (Philippians 4:6-7).
- To provide continued healing of Bob White (wife Janet, daughters Jeni Hagle and Laney Wootten).
- To raise up additional leaders to fill holes in adult Connect Groups.

- To bless as our deacons reach out to Mobberly's homebound sharing the Lord's Supper in their homes on October 18.
- To encourage our Special Ministries adults that remain isolated in group homes and for creative ways we can continue to reach out to them.
- To help our women's leadership and teachers to persevere in an ever-changing season of ministry this fall. Pray that they would continue to seek Him for strength and seek His face always as the source of nourishment and wisdom over their lives.
- To lead the Women's Ministry as they begin to provide resources, tools and encouragement to women who are ready to step out in faith and engage with others one-on-one or in discipleship groups.
- To lead people to register for the "Who's Your One?" Tour on October 25-26, and ask that God will use the speakers to motivate each of us to share Christ with our family and friends.
- To provide a spirit of peace and confidence for our new learners in the GO Share class as they begin to go out on visits.
- To guide and strengthen the Mobberly staff. Pray for Mobberly as we strive to do our part in fulfilling the great commission in Longview, the East Texas region and around the world.
- To provide continued protection from the COVID virus for our church as we return to campus with more scheduled activities.
- To lead our worship team as we plan for the Christmas season amidst the challenges of COVID restrictions.
- To move powerfully in the beginning stages of a discipleship movement among men in Marshall, with a group of leaders forming and preparing to start several discipleship groups next spring.
- To provide additional volunteers for Marshall Media, Children's Ministry and Youth Ministry.
- To raise up a young couple to co-lead a Sunday morning Connect Group in Marshall.
- To help those impacted by COVID who are unable to return to in-person worship to be steadfast and faithful.
- To bless David and Sharon Brooks as they leave the Mobberly staff and transition to San Antonio, asking that they find a great church and fulfill their calling.
- To lead in bringing new churches to partner with Hope Road Counseling and the nurturing of current church partnerships helping to meet the counseling needs of their congregation and their staff.
- For His continued provision of the personnel and financial needs for Hope Road Counseling and their clients.
- To raise up faithful prayer warriors for Hope Road Counseling to provide the essential prayer support needed in this ministry hour-by-hour and day-by-day.
- To guide families that are balancing health, safety and school choices.
- To provide safety for children in vulnerable situations.
- To provide for the health and safety of our area social workers.
- To help Celebrate Recovery participants and leaders to stay focused on their recovery and not let fear and anxiety overcome them during this time of social unrest.
- To provide for the health and safety of the leaders and participants of our fall Thrive! University support groups.
- For wisdom and flexibility to accommodate the ebb-and-flow of the COVID crisis as support ministries take place.

**Yield:** To what God says to me. Yield my will to the will of God. Yield my agenda to the plan God has for my life. We must be willing to yield our desires and our thoughts to God's sovereign wisdom. As Jesus faced the cross, He prayed in Matthew 26:39 (CSB), *"My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me. Yet not as I will, but as You will."* We must pray with that same spirit, humbly yielding our will to God's will. To close our prayer by "yielding" to God is a way where we submit our desires to Him. In the end, it is our way of acknowledging His will, which is what will truly satisfy us anyway. God's will and plan is better than ours. He knows the end from the beginning, and He loves us more than we can ever imagine.

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*"<sup>16b</sup>The prayer of a righteous person is very powerful in its effect."*

*James 5:16b [CSB]*

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