

# Make Church a Part of Your Life

## WEEKLY SERMONETTE

### "What To Do When You Can't Do Anything"

By Darel Boston, Retired Minister, Christian Church

That is the title of a sermon W.F. Lown preached many years ago. I'll use it, as he did, to show that PRAYER is what we can do.

Dear Father,  
We are full to overflowing with frustration with our national leaders. We wring our hands, and they apparently can do no more than that, as they experience stalemate in their discussions of critical financial issues. We think they are foolish, stubborn, blame-others juveniles... the name-calling seems endless.

Then we go to church and feel our own uncertainty, receive communion with instructions to "examine ourselves", admit our own frailties and failures, seek thy forgiveness. "Shame on them!" becomes "I am so ashamed!" Father, who shall deliver us from this body of sin and death? Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (Rom. 7:24-25)

Oh God, we pray that our elected leaders will seek your insight and make

decisions that honor your truth and benefit the people of this great land. Hold them responsible! Kindle in them a yearning to do the right and shun the wrong. And when there is wrong, help them to see it and have courage to reject it. Oh God, as we keep in mind our own flaws, help

us to humbly pray for them, but without the self-righteous indignation that we too often nurture.

What can we do, amidst this seemingly endless quagmire of government "partial shut down", threat of "default", "affordable care act" controversy, international

conflict between our nation and those who hate us? What can we do when we can't do anything?

Oh God, help us to PRAY, like the fellow at the temple Jesus told about: "God be merciful to me a sinner". He went down to his house justified, while the self righteous guy who listed everything he was doing right, and noticing everything the other was doing wrong, was not heard. We NEED to be praying, we NEED to be heard, and we NEED to humble ourselves so those we've elected to lead us can depend on us for encouragement to do what is right.

We remember again your promise:

"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land." (II Chron. 7:14)

Thank you Father;  
In Jesus' name we PRAY.  
Amen



**Second Wind**

The first mile was a breeze; the second, profuse perspiration, followed by another filled with red-faced breathlessness. Two more to go - seems impossible! Then an unbelievable change occurs. A floating sensation replaces breathless exhaustion and a seemingly limitless level of energy returns. With that second wind, the finish line is achievable. Our lives are similar. Initially, we take our struggles in stride, for we are naturally hopeful. Then as the challenges continually stretch out before us, we may wonder if the finish line is but an impossible dream. Isaiah 40:31 assures us "... but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary...." Visit your house of worship this week; learn how God can be your second wind. The finish line is in sight!

Weekly Scripture Reading						
Micah 1.1-16	Micah 2.1-13	Micah 3.1-12	Micah 4.1-13	Micah 5.1-15	Micah 6.1-16	Micah 7.1-20

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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