

**Lines from Larry**

There is a saying, "April showers brings May flowers." We have received some rain during the last several weeks. Our pond was over two feet low and now it has been refilled. Some might say we still need some more soaking rains to help the crops have enough moisture to grow this summer.

There is a song we sing called, "There shall be showers of blessings." I think of that song when I realize how many blessings God has bestowed upon us. Ramsey Christian Church has truly been blessed with some wonderful people. When one part of the body is hurting because they have lost a loved one or maybe because of illness...the rest of the body picks up the void and gets the job done.

None of us want to go through difficult times in our life, but sometimes we need to understand that through those tuff circumstances we draw closer to God and grow in our spiritual journey with him. James says it this way in 1:2-4, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."

When a guitarist first begins playing there is pain from pressing the fingers against the strings. Sometimes the finger tips become very tender, but through perseverance, the finger tips begin to develop a callous and soon it becomes easier to play without pain. An accomplished guitarist becomes great because of enduring the pain.

In life we may have to endure some pain, but know God is always there to give us comfort and strength to continue through the pain and experience His plan(s) for our life. When you experience pain, keep on trusting God to lead you into His purpose for your life. And one day, you will begin to forget about the pain and experience the greatness of God in your life.

There shall be showers  
of *Blessing*:  
This is the promise  
of *Love*;  
There shall be seasons refreshing,  
Sent from the *Savior* above.

-Ezekial 34:26

**April Sermons**

April 1: Job - Jesus is our Ever-Living Redeemer

April 8: Psalms - Jesus is our Shepherd

April 15: Proverbs \*& Ecclesiastes—Jesus is our Wisdom

April 22: Song of Solomon - Jesus is our Loving Bridegroom

April 29: Pulpit Switch "Grateful Living" by Sam Stow from Webber Street Christian Church

## Those serving in April

	1	8	15	22	29
Children's Church	Brenda & Judy	Brenda & Judy	Joni	None	None
Communion Med & Prayer	Randy	Andy	Roger K.	Jancye	Rodney
Com. To Shut-ins	None	Andy	Roger K.	Nate	Rodney
Communion Prep	Barb K.	Barb K.	Barb K.	Barb K.	Barb K.
Front Door Greeter	Angie	Nate	Randy	Barb K.	Jancye
Greeters	Randy & Barb	Angie & Dennis	Sue & Jimmy	Alice & Jace	Joan H. Joyce T.
Musician	Cheryl	Cheryl	Cheryl	Marcia	Cheryl
Nursery	Angie	Heather	Hillary	Heaven	Cynthia
Offering Prayer	Andy	Randy	Rodney	Nate	Mark
Opening Prayer	Marc	Blaine	Andy	Roger K.	Nate
Screen	Marcus	Ruby	Marcus	Rodney	Heaven
Scripture Reading	Jancye	Blaine	Tina	Andy	Randy
Sound	Nate	Terry	Nate	Mark	Andy
Sunday school	None	Judy	Nate	Joni	Tina
Vocals	Jancye, Joni & Tina	Tanya, Hannah & Joni	Jancye, Tina & Tanya	Joni, Hannah & Shawna	Jancye, Tina & Joni

### Announcements

**April 1:** Sunrise Service at 7AM followed by the men cooking breakfast and our regular service.

Birthday Sunday.

We will be collecting for St. Joseph's Food Pantry.

**April 4:** Grub, Gab and Games at 11 AM.

**April 7:** Men's Breakfast at 8 AM.

**April 8:** Small study group at Larry's at 6:30 PM on "God Has an App for That!" It is a study of the book of James.

**April 9, 16, 23 & 30:** Grief Seminar in fellowship hall at 6:30 PM lead by Tina Otto.

**April 12:** Board meeting at 7 PM.

**April 16:** Penny Sunday.

**April 29:** Pulpit Switch, Sam Stow from Webber Street Christian Church will be preaching on "Grateful Living".

### Birthday's

4/2 Betty Burrus	4/12 Barbara Carter
4/3 Blayne Pope	Mary McFarland
Valerie Hanko	4/14 Gena Carter
Thomas Hortenstine	4/15 Brooke Thull
4/5 Layton Yokley	Paige Thull
Natosha Brown	Reece Warnhoff
4/8 Angie Young	4/19 Whitney Moreland
Alice Claycomb	4/20 Carolyn Hortenstine
4/9 Josh Sargent	Joni Daniel
4/10 Andy Hortenstine	4/23 Barbara Feldpouch
4/11 J.W. England	Betty Donaldson
Brian Meachum	Wayne Jambard



# April 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> Judges 11-12; Psalms 5	<b>2</b> Judges 13-16	<b>3</b> Judges 17-18; Psalms 89	<b>4</b> Judges 19-21	<b>5</b> Ruth 1-2; Psalms 53, 61	<b>6</b> Ruth 3-4; Psalms 64-65	<b>7</b> 1 Samuel 1-2; Psalms 66
<b>8</b> 1 Samuel 3-5; Psalms 77	<b>9</b> 1 Samuel 6-7; Psalms 72	<b>10</b> 1 Samuel 8-10	<b>11</b> 1 Samuel 11-12; 1 Chronicles 1	<b>12</b> 1 Samuel 13; 1 Chronicles 2-3	<b>13</b> 1 Samuel 14; 1 Chronicles 4	<b>14</b> 1 Samuel 15-16; 1 Chronicles 5
<b>15</b> 1 Samuel 17; Psalms 9	<b>16</b> 1 Samuel 18; 1 Chronicles 6; Psalms 11	<b>17</b> 1 Samuel 19; 1 Chronicles 7; Psalms 59	<b>18</b> 1 Samuel 20-21; Psalms 34	<b>19</b> 1 Samuel 22; Psalms 17, 35	<b>20</b> 1 Samuel 23; Psalms 31, 54	<b>21</b> 1 Samuel 24; Psalms 57-58; 1 Chronicles
<b>22</b> 1 Samuel 25-26; Psalms 63	<b>23</b> 1 Samuel 27; Psalms 141; 1 Chronicles 9	<b>24</b> 1 Samuel 28-29; Psalms 109	<b>25</b> 1 Samuel 30-31; 1 Chronicles 10	<b>26</b> 2 Samuel 1; Psalms 140	<b>27</b> 2 Samuel 2; 1 Chronicles 11; Psalms 142	<b>28</b> 2 Samuel 3; 1 Chronicles 12
<b>29</b> 2 Samuel 4-5; Psalms 139	<b>30</b> 2 Samuel 6; 1 Chronicles 13; Psalms 68					

## Whatever You Ask

by Randy Robison

A radio host interviewing me about my latest book, *The Age of Promise*, recently asked for my “life verse,” which I guess is sort of a favorite verse that summarizes one’s purpose or theology or something. I’ve never been able to nail that idea down, though it is quite entertaining to read the various definitions of it. Regardless, I had an idea of what she was asking, so I gave her one related to the book. But imagine if you could have one magic verse that unlocked everything in life for you. Here’s the one I would pick: “If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it” (John 14:13).

Wouldn’t that be great? Just name it, tag Jesus’ name onto it, and *poof!*, there it is. For years, I thought that it was generally supposed to work that way. When it didn’t, I figured that I was either not “in Jesus’ name,” whatever that meant, or that I had just asked “amiss,” as James alluded to in his epistle (James 4:3). Of course, both were probably true in many cases, but I also know that there were times when I asked for something not for myself when I was fully abiding in Christ, like when my younger sister was battling cancer. Still, she died.

Creeping in the back of my mind was the sinister idea: *It’s because you didn’t have enough faith.* What a horrible thought! I never doubted God could heal her, nor did my parents, the rest of our family, and certainly not my sister herself. Believe me, if it was a matter of faith, she had enough for all of us. If God wanted to heal her, nothing on earth could have stopped Him.

So what is going on with that promise? We asked and God didn’t do it, or so it seemed.

When we look at the context of that statement, we find Jesus proclaiming to His disciples that He and the Father are one. He then tells them, “Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it” (John 14:13–14).

In order to understand it, I had to go back to the eight Greek words that make up verse 13: *hos aiteo onoma poieo hina pater doxazo huios*. It could be rendered, “Whatever is needed for those under my authority, I will provide in order that the Father can magnify the Son.”

Those who ask are not the focal point of the statement. In fact, the Greek word for “you” (*su*) is not there, nor is it in similar statements in Matthew 7:7 and 21:22. It’s not “whatever you ask for, you get.” The key is the conjunction “in order that.” Whatever is asked under Christ’s authority, He will provide *in order that* He is glorified. We ask, and He provides in such a way that He receives the glory.

That changes everything. And that’s precisely what our family saw through the sorrow of losing my sister. God was glorified – even in her pain and in her passing.

The purpose of fulfillment is not to please the asker, but to allow Christ to be magnified. The key is in the relationship. Being “in Jesus’ name” means operating under his command and authority, which ties in with His next sentence: “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments” (John 14:15).

So learn His voice, hear it, and ask away. Don’t be afraid to ask. Our loving Father isn’t anxious for the opportunity to condemn us or prove our lack of faith – remember, He only asked for faith the size of a mustard seed. Just know that His promised answer will always come in a way that glorifies Him. In that, we can all rejoice.

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### Offering

2/25 \$2010.00  
3/4 \$4952.00  
St. Joseph's \$ 215.40  
Birthday Sunday \$11.75  
3/11 \$1760.00  
8/18 \$1361.00  
Penny Sunday \$76.67  
3/25 \$2061.00

### Attendance

2/25 66  
3/4 95  
3/11 67  
3/18 85  
3/25 82

### Ramsey Christian Church

Fellowship Time: 8:30 AM  
Worship Service: 9:00 AM

Sunday School & Adult Electives: 10:30-11:00 AM  
Sunday Night: Youth @ 6 PM. (Jr High and High school)  
Tuesday: Ladies Bible Study: 8:30 AM  
Wednesday: J.A.M. 5:45 to 7 PM

**Missions**

Bond Christian Service Camp  
Inner City Mission of Springfield, IL  
Lighthouse Pregnancy Center  
Lincoln Christian University  
Northwest Haiti Christian Mission  
Pinehaven Children's Ranch-Montana  
St. Louis Christian College  
Tim Doggett-Africa  
Jeff Stone—Assembly of God World Missions