Seeing the progress of spiritual growth in individuals is always a thrilling thing! We grow as we study and apply the Truth to our lives (II Pet. 3:18). To study or not to study is an individual obligation and decision. There is no better way to enrich our lives than in the study of God’s Word (Jn. 8:32). Let us all be present at every opportunity for the services of the Lord’s church where the study of God’s Word is given in purity.

The book of James is an interesting and enlightening inspired book. There is given a nine-fold test of the successful life! Please notice the different subjects discussed:

- Trial (Jas. 1:2-12)
- Temptation (Jas. 1:13-21)
- The Word (Jas. 1:22-27)
- Persons (Jas. 2:1-9)
- Obedience (Jas. 2:10-13)
- Works (Jas. 2:14-26)
- Our Speech (Jas. 3:1-18)
- The World (Jas. 4:1-5:12)
- Prayer (Jas. 5:13-20).
Our Nation Should Pray?

For some time now the higher powers of this world, the Devil's servants (Jn. 8:44), have discouraged, yea even forbidden, the act of prayer in schools and in other public buildings. All of this has been slyly urged in the name of "separation of church and state." It does not seem, in this time of "war," that the voices of these protesters are being heard at all! Objections in the past have been forced by some, to the extent that even the Ten Commandments "must not be seen" in any public schools or government buildings. Now while we are not under the Ten Commandments today as a law (Col. 2:14), it is true that there are nine principles therein contained that continue to be needful to our world. In the New Testament, these nine are quoted by Christ, though each is made stronger as a part of the blood purchased Law of Christ. The one not included is "Remember the Sabbath Day." It seemed that the "tide" had turned in our nation after September 11, 2001. Everyone seemed to be calling on God in prayer! Our President encouraged prayer, even authorizing a day of prayer. It is sad that it took the great tragedy of September 11, to bring America to its knees! Our God has been in Heaven all along, but, "because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools . . . Wherefore God also gave them up" (Rom. 1:21-24). Christians are taught in the Bible to pray to God (Col. 1:3), in awe and reverence (Heb. 12:28), through the name of Jesus (Rom. 1:8; Col. 3:16-17), without ceasing (I Thess. 5:17), having a mind ready to forgive as we desire to be forgiven (Mk. 11:25-26), believing (Jas. 1:6-7), according to His revealed Will (I Jn. 5:14-15), and being righteous (I Pet. 3:12). We are not to ask of God anything simply "that ye may consume it upon your lusts" (Jas. 4:3). Since sinners’ prayers are not heard (Jn. 9:31), all need to hear the Gospel, believe it with all their heart, repent of sins, confess their faith in Christ, and be baptized in water for the remission of sins, that we may be able to pray (Rom. 8:15). We want America to continue to be, as our pledge of allegiance says, "One nation under God," and further, our nation needs to turn to the Lord in obedience (Lk. 6:46), knowing of a certainty "In God we trust."
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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| *BIRTHDAY  
**ANNIVERSARY  
Please be sure that we have your birth date and anniversary date on file in the church office. | | | 1  
Lev. 4-6  
*Mary Hardwick | 2  
Lev. 7-9  
*Mary White | 3  
Lev. 10-12 | 4  
Lev. 13-15  
Comm. Prep. Stanley Wallace |
| 5  
Lev. 16-18 | 6  
Lev. 19-21 | 7  
Lev. 22-24  
*Susan Oakley | 8  
Lev. 25-27  
*Prema Kundeti  
**Larry & Brenda Pike | 9  
Num. 1-3  
*Maggie Colley  
**Norma & Raymond McCoy (52) | 10  
Num. 4-7  
*McArthur Frison  
*Ivory Wilkerson  
Comm. Prep. Jacob & Becky Wallace |
| 11  
Num. 8-10 | 12  
Num. 14-16  
SWEETHEART LUNCHEON | 13  
Num. 14-16 | 14  
Num. 17-19 | 15  
Num. 20-22  
*Rob Simpson | 16  
Num. 23-25 | 17  
Num. 26-28 | 18  
Num. 29-31  
Comm. Prep. Jacob & Becky Wallace |
| 19  
Num. 32-34  
Freed-Hardeman Chorale after PM Services | 20  
Num. 35-Deut. 1  
President's Day | 21  
Deut. 2-4  
*Jack Thomas | 22  
Deut. 5-7 | 23  
Deut. 8-10 | 24  
Deut. 11-13 | 25  
Deut. 14-16  
Comm. Prep. Thaxter & Martha Hodum |
| 26  
Deut. 17-19 | 27  
Deut. 20-22  
*Patricia Phillips  
*Becky Wallace | 28  
Deut. 23-25 | | | | |