#### Give Me Favor

**Arthur Barry** 

Never know how much I love you Never know how much I care when you put your faith in me, child I give you favor that's not hard to bear.

Sun lights up the daytime moon lights up the night I light up when you call my name and I know you're gonna treat me right.

> Everybody can get favor That is somethin' you all know Favor is'nt such a new thing Favor started long ago.

> > Please give me favor...

You may recognize, or almost recognize, these lyrics. They come from a song by Peggy Lee, many years ago, called "Fever". I have changed them slightly. As I was reading the prayer of Nehemiah in the last chapter of that book (13) I noticed how Nehemiah repeatedly asked God to remember his good deeds (Nehemiah 13:14, 22, 31). With each petition he goes a little further in what he is expecting from God. In 13:14 he simply asks that his good deeds are not blotted out, but in 13:22 he asks for mercy and, finally, in 13:31, he asks for favor. Was Nehemiah scared to ask for favor or did he not think he deserved it? It's a little like Abraham when he persuaded God to spare Sodom if he could find 10 righteous people there (Genesis 18:22-33). The first deal he struck with God was that he would not destroy the city if there were fifty righteous souls there. Every time the Lord agreed, Abraham asked for more. Abraham was testing God.

Malachi 3:10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

Abraham and Nehemiah gave their service wholeheartedly to God. Yet they hardly dared to ask God for anything. We should seek God's favor and we should do it by serving Him. If we do serve Him, then we can expect more than just having our service remembered. We can expect to be forgiven, but more than that, we can expect to have His favor.



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840 (570) 886-1838 Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732 Paul Cowles, Evangelist- (607) 592-8091 May 16, 2021

### WELCOME!

Sunday Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

# All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today's Sermon: The Far Side

Arthur will be preaching today.

**Scripture Reading: Romans 8:1-11** 

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

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Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- Sunday Morning Bible Class: Teachings from the Psalms by Paul, with complementary songs.
- Wednesday Evening Bible Class: May 19<sup>th</sup> at the building,
  6:30pm- We are studying the Gospel according to Matthew.
  Come at 6 and eat with us before the lesson if you like.
- ➤ Sojourners: Mike and Nadine Huddleston, Larry and Kay Little, and Doug and Sandy Zimmerman hope to be here by June 18<sup>th</sup> or just after to start work on the 21<sup>st</sup> and will remain here until July 8<sup>th</sup>.
- ➤ **Regional Singing:** Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 5pm, hosted by the Horseheads church on Miller Street.
- > Potluck: Sunday, June 20<sup>th</sup>.



- Arthur and Sandy are back! They met son Robin and his wife Katie and most of their family from AK to attend their eldest son Daniel's graduation from Paramedic School in Houston. After a few days at the beach in Galveston the whole family group moved on to Marshall, TX and stayed at Camp Bee, Sojourner headquarters, where they were joined by two Christian families from AR and MI, formerly from AK. Dave and Lynne Laton were managing the camp at the time. Arthur returned home on Monday, while Sandy flew out to Gig Harbor, WA for a few days Mother's Day treat with son Kevan and wife Sara and kids. Happy to be home!
- Larry Barton, husband of Chris Barton who several of us know from the Endwell church, passed away on Wednesday. He was in the hospital for an operation and contracted Covid19 while there. Our prayers are with Chris and family at this time.
- Paul's son Zachary Cowles has been spending time with his family here before he ships out overseas with the Army later this month. He will be deployed for two years.

## **PRAYERS**

- **Pat Gutherie** has lung cancer again in his left lung and is on chemo. Pray for another remission.
- Gail Westerhold has cancer on her left kidney. She will be having surgery to remove a part of that kidney on May 27. Please pray for her.
- Pray for Linnett Short, a former coworker of Paul's. She has stage 3 lung cancer.
- Arthur's younger sister, Sue, has metatastic breast cancer and is treating it with chemo and other medicine. Her red and white blood cell count is way down. Please pray for her.
- Please pray for Arthur's brother Chris from England, who has Alzheimer's Disease.
- Rhoda Sutryk, Paul's former mother-in-law, is in the hospital with Covid19. She has recently improved enough to leave ICU.
- Winni Carlisle, one of our sojourners in 2019, has breast cancer. Please pray for her.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at <a href="mailto:barncat7237@gmail.com">barncat7237@gmail.com</a> or text or call (607) 261-0911.