

New Lifer News



Pray Half a Day!

by Bob See

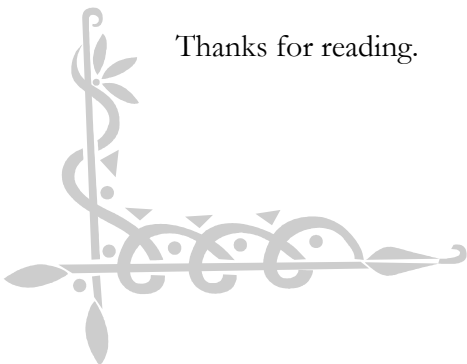
As we continue to journey on Sunday mornings through the Sermon on the Mount, we have just completed several verses concerning spiritual disciplines - practices that Jesus assumes His followers will incorporate in their personal lives. Last week we read from Matthew 6:16-18 on the practice of fasting, and concluded with a challenge to each of us. We're challenging every New Lifer to set aside a half day (ie. 5-6 hours) to pray and seek the Lord. For most of us, our lives have more flexibility in the summer - what better time to set apart a chunk of time to get alone with God and pray, reflect, and listen to what He has to say?

Maybe you've never spent that much time alone, praying and looking to God. I've written some practical ideas on how to spend 5-6 hours alone with God in my blog (on the New Life website). While it's important to read the scriptures and pray for issues and people during the week, there's something very powerful and unique about setting aside so many hours to be alone with God. It's practicing Matthew 6:6 - get alone, close the door and pray and your Father will reward you. Several hours will give you the time needed to pray, think and listen in a relaxed, focused manner. You will find it a time to refocus on what's important in your life, to recommit to goals and purposes that were once important to you, and to revive your faith and dependence on God. He said if you draw close to Me then I'll draw close to you (James 4:8) - setting aside 5-6 hours for Him alone is an excellent way to draw near. Can't find a quiet place for such a long time? Call the church office and book one of the classrooms.

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Just imagine how spiritually powerful our church would be if 50-60% of all New Lifers set apart 5-6 hours over the next two months to seek God - THAT would make a great spiritual foundation for New Life and may become a turning point in your life as God meets you in that quiet place.

Thanks for reading.



Serving With Student Life

by Katie Taylor



Hi...my name is Katie Taylor, and I am serving as the Student Life Office Assistant. I like Student Life Ministries because everyone has a chance to get involved with something—it is really a great feeling when you are a part of something so much bigger than yourself, such as ministry. Through Student Life, my mom and I have been able to start up a worship arts team that meets regularly on the weekends.

When I moved here some years ago, I didn't have many friends. I talked with the Student Life Director, Ben Harrington, and he encouraged me to go on Route 77's annual snow trip—winterXtreme. When I came back, I had made so many friends!

With God's help, Student Life has connected me with an awesome mentor who I am so blessed to have met.

In serving in Student Life Ministries as the Office Assistant I do a lot of different things; like taking out some trash to organizing someone's daily schedule—you name it (I do everything Student Life asks me to do)! When I volunteer it feels like I can give back to God, a little of what He has given me.

I am so excited to see what God will do in my life this year! I hope some of you will consider volunteering—donating your time is a great way of showing God appreciation of all He has blessed you with!