

May 2010

Living Life Together In Prayer

This month we share one of the special occasions that marks our life together as a church family. I am speaking of our annual dinner to honor our graduates. We celebrate with them as they reach a milestone of achievement. Two are finishing High School and another is receiving an Associate of Applied Sciences college degree. These three have worked hard and long. We are proud of where they have come. I hope you will join us in giving them a bit of praise for this accomplishment. For more information on the supper, see the column to the right.

Such moments in the life of our church are milestones of achievement for all of us. You have been part of them accomplishing these degrees. While they did the class work and homework, you gave them encouragement. You prayed for them. You guarded their spirits as they struggled through it all.

We do this for all our church family. All of us have been through hard times as individuals and families. All of us have been aided by the church family in these times as we have relied on each other to lift us up in prayer to the power of God. Every member, every family at Emmanuel has been helped by the support of other Christians.

An unbeliever might scoff at the idea that our prayers have helped these to graduate. But we know that God works His power in our lives when we pray for each other. We have seen the results of prayer too many times to doubt that. God is always listening for our prayers, and stands ready to act upon them as we pray with compassion, in faith through Jesus.

In response to your prayers, someone now has a job. In response to your prayers, someone was healed. In response to your prayers someone is dealing with a chronic illness. In response to your prayers a marriage was saved. In response to your prayers someone received the wisdom to make a faith-based life decision.

Your prayers have made, are making, differences everyday in the life of your brothers and sisters in Christ. God is doing more as you pray more. So stay faithful to your prayers for each other. Pray through that prayer request list you make or receive each week. Pray for those in your Bible Study or discipleship group. Attend one of the prayer services of your church.

We must pray more, for God to do more of what He wants to do through us. Let us thank God for our graduates. And let us ask God to graduate us to a higher commitment of prayer for each other.