



# How to Follow God

Tyler King

1 Samuel 7:3 – “If you are to return to Yahweh with all your heart, then remove the foreign gods and the Ashtaroath from among you and set your hearts toward Yahweh and serve Him alone; and He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines.”

## Step One: Get Rid of the Distractions

Samuel told the people one of the main problems in their allegiance to God was their inclusion of foreign deities. They had not only been influenced by the surrounding nations in their culture; their faithfulness to God had become distorted. Jesus reminded us how so many distractions can pull us away from God. Satan, internal/external conflicts, riches, pleasures, and worries of life are chief among the distractions that magnetically capture our attention (Luke 8:12-14). Paul would later point out how greed eventually becomes a means of idolatry, in that, we place our desires above the prestige of God (Col. 3:5)

## Step Two: Retune Your Heart

The heart is among the greatest deceivers we face in this life (cf Jer. 17:9). It can take us places we never anticipated on going, it can cause us disappear increasingly into darkness, and it can do it all through a means of self-justification. The heart is a powerful influencer in life but that force and potentiality can be used for good. As Samuel revealed, the heart is able to be directed, and it is most beneficial when set on God. This can be simplified by placing our priorities on the things of God. Jesus taught how the heart is a revelation of where we place our treasure (Matt. 6:21).

## Step Three: Serve Him

Paul gave two options of masters in Romans 6. Serve God and live or serve sin and die. Contrary to the world, there is no third alternative – just those two options. For Samuel, he recognized that the people had a prime opportunity to fill their day with service to God. Leadership in Israel was decent for once in a long time, the people were in a profitable land, and there were enemies to be slain with the advantage of God’s might. All the people needed to do was to serve God. We are expedient to forfeit battles due to a lack of faithfulness to God. Though when we walk with God as friends do, He is there to overcome even the greatest of obstacles.

# WEEKLY PRAYER REQUESTS

- **BARBIE AND LUKE SMITH** are in Florida helping her dad
- **JACK ADKINS** is having surgery at the end of the month
- **MISSION WORK IN INDIA**
- **FAYE CADDELL** and recovery from surgery
- **BETTY RAMAY** is having open heart surgery this week.
- **GLENN MILLIGAN**, Doug’s brother, is home from the hospital.
- **SAMUEL RAY MCPHERSON**, coach Bramblett’s Father in Law passed away
- **BETTY SUE BLACKWELL** recovery from surgery
- **KEN & BETTY RAMAY** with his health struggles.
- **MR. SNELLER PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR HIS BROTHER BEING IN REMISSION**
- **DANNY DAILEY** and the upcoming tests
- **BARBIE SMITH’S FATHER** and all of health issues
- **TAMMY TOXEY**, Becky’s neighbor has breast cancer
- **GLENN LAWRENCE**, Andy caddell’s uncle, with bad health
- **DAVID HOWARD**, Andy Caddell’s cousin, bad car wreck
- **BILLY GUYTON’S** wife has stage 3 breast cancer
- **JERRY FARLEY**, Donna’s Brother in Law, and his recovery from surgery
- **LYN’D DUNNWOODY** Debbie’s Brother in Law’s Daughter, has breast cancer
- **JAMIE KELLEY**, James Hall’s daughter, health struggles, is home still needs prayers
- **JAMES HALL** needing prayers and is needing encouragement
- **RUBY MILLIGAN**, Doug’s SIL, has T-Cell Lymphoma. Pray for her and Don.

## ATTENDANCE

Worship A.M. ... 76  
Worship P.M. .... 51  
Wed P.M. ....40

## CONTRIBUTION

Last Week.....\$3,685.12  
**BUDGET**  
Weekly.....\$3,000.00

