



## *A note from the pastor*

First United Family and Friends

It is my hope that each week something is said or done during your worship experience that will encourage your hearts. This blessing may come through scripture, song, sermon or fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ. Importantly, it is my hope you will make God's Word personal and applicable to your daily Christian walk.

### **Sermon from 9/17/23 "The Power of One Plea"**

Friends, for those of us who are not perfect, or one who still falls short of the glory of God, know more times than not that we do not get what we deserve. God poured out the punishment for our sins on Jesus; His only son who willingly went to the cross. Jesus received the wrath that we deserved so that we could receive the blessings of God. This is the Good News. As Believers we are adopted, blessed, and considered God's beloved. We are united to Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit dwells within us. Once we were separated from God by our sins, but now, nothing can separate us from the love of God (Romans 8:31-39). We daily live with the blessings of God's grace and mercy. Even when we fall short, there is "The Power of One Plea." We have provoked God (Exodus 32:7-9). We can be stiff-necked, backslidden, and stubborn, undeserving of the mercy we are shown. These things are not pleasing to God. Additionally, we do not get what we deserve, because "there is an on-time plea." Examples are found in Job 16:21, 2 Peter 3:9 and Psalm 86:5. Finally, we do not get what we deserve, because of the Power of One Plea through the act of Intercession. This week, I challenge you to purposefully pray for others, listing names and concerns. Talk to God on behalf of someone else. Your needs and concerns will be met. Your blessings, breakthroughs, healing, and deliverance will be a by-product of your obedience to God in prayer. There is Power in Our Plea to God.

#### **Reflection for 9/18**

Allow the FUPC Praise Team to bless you thru song. See the attached link.

[https://youtu.be/GFMIT6f6mXw?si=Nh\\_2l0AsFBheKm47](https://youtu.be/GFMIT6f6mXw?si=Nh_2l0AsFBheKm47)