

## Prayer is the Key

I can think of no better way to encourage and support a pastor than by praying for him. Included in our prayers should be the following: his family, ministry, health, finances, emotional, and physical well-being. In other words, issues that affect the pastor inside as well as outside the church.

One of the most remarkable pastors in my life was a pastor named Charlie Whitlock. He for several years was the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lueders, Texas. During my years at Hardin Simmons, I had the opportunity to work with Charlie and the Church in the areas of music/youth/education. It was a valuable experience in many, many ways.

Each Saturday morning Charlie would meet me on the front row of wooden seats in the auditorium of First Baptist Church. It was on that row of seats that I heard for the first time, a pastor crying out to the Lord about the struggles of life, marriage, ministry, and living in a small west Texas town, where everybody had an opinion of what the pastor “should” be doing. He taught me to open up and take my concerns to God, leave those concerns at the foot of the prayer altar, and trust that God would help me deal in a Christlike way with those situations. He was a prayer-warrior. Those sessions of prayer might last two or three hours. What a blessing to be taught how to pray by a real-life man of prayer. My heart was touched by the opportunity to pray for and with a pastor. Can we do less?

We are offering the second annual Pastor and Wives prayer gathering on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. This year's event will be from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM at New Prospect Baptist Church. The congregation of New Prospect meets at 1964 FMR #199, Nemo, Texas 76070. Please mark your calendar and join us as we fellowship, but more importantly pray for one another. Can we do less?

While you are praying, please include these other great PBA supported events:

Operation Andrew Training for pastors /church volunteers, Saturday February 1<sup>st</sup>.

The annual Women's Gathering, on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Annual Pastor/Wife prayer meeting on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Annual Music/Worship workshop on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.

Operation Andrew PBA project, May 2-8<sup>th</sup>.

GOD bless you, let's pray for all of our pastors, not just our own.

Boots Hubbard  
Director of Missions