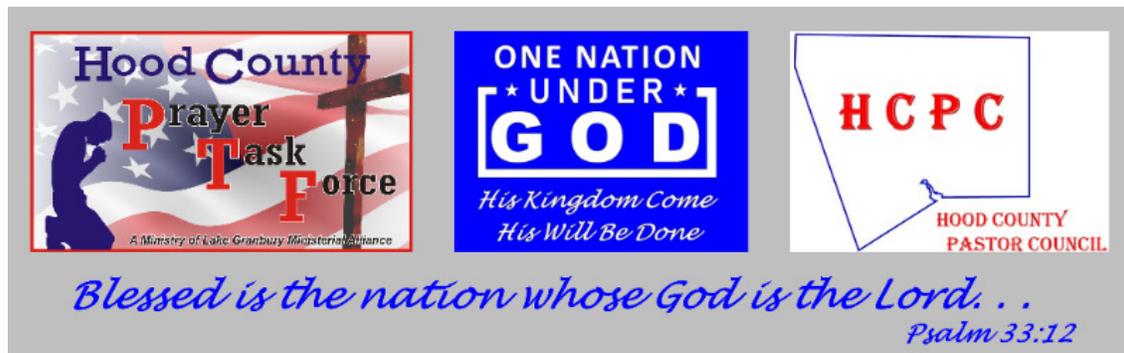


Fred Orcutt

From: Hood County Prayer Task Force <ptf@granburyministries.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 1:59 AM
To: fred@orcutfamily.net
Subject: ONE NATION UNDER GOD Devotional - October 30, 2018

ONE NATION UNDER GOD Devotional

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Pray for Our City and County

My prayer is not for them alone, I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one. I in them and you in me – so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and loved them even as you have loved me.

John 17:20-23

Reflections

Have you ever been on a mission trip or been involved in some type of evangelical event in a group effort to see people enter into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ? If you have with a group of people, I bet you noticed a few things. The first thing you would notice is that everyone on the trip does not agree on everything; like where to eat, what we should wear, when to report, what to pray about, and oh, don't forget, what version of

Challenge

Make a special effort to mingle with those of a different opinion with the single focus of showing them empathy, being

the Bible do you use when sharing the message of the gospel? We could get so caught up in the fog of disagreement that we lose our focus of what we are there for in the first place. Accepting the fact that we can't always think alike and we are all created a little different should make the effort more effective. Remember the mission, being effective in the process of sharing our faith so that others may enter into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. In other words, keep the Main Thing the Main Thing. If you want to succeed, don't get bogged down in the uncertainty of confusion, disagreement and dissention among your team.

Now let's roll this analogy out and compare this mindset to our lives and responsibility in our city and county. It is election season and there are plenty of disagreements, confusion on issues, and dissention among citizens and political candidates going around. We do have strong differences of opinions, political values and moral values. Do we let these differences make us less effective in what should be our daily mission? Do we allow these differences to show disrespect, inconsideration for others, and a lack of civility toward opposing viewpoints of people? If we do, are we being effective for "Keeping the Main Thing the Main Thing"? Don't allow our world of politics, issues, and behaviors to mold you into a different path to follow than the one God has called us to follow. Matthew 4:19 reminds us that Jesus said, "Come, follow me and I will make you fishers of men."

Prayer

Father, please keep your mission in the center of our thoughts in the way we live our lives and as we vote. May we be careful to find unity through you with all believers in our city and county so that we may be effective in "Keeping the Main Thing, the Main Thing" so we can be a city on a hill with a bright light shining for others to know you.

respectful, agreeing to disagree on your differences, and see if you can show love to them to a point where they are willing to enter into a relationship with Jesus. Can you make the Main Thing the Main Thing in their life as well?

For Discussion

Take a few minutes and reflect on your current attitude toward Matthew 4:19. Are you fishing for Christ followers?

Now take a few minutes and think how we can influence the city and county for Christ by the way we communicate with others, show respect and compassion to those we don't agree with on every topic.



Chris Coffman is the Granbury City Manager and has been growing as a Christ follower for over 40 years. He is a member of Lakeside Baptist Church. He has been in Public Service for 20 years.

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