



"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV)

Praise to God in and for 2023

I have a challenge for each CPFI member in 2023: to offer genuine, sincere, and intense praise to God for everything. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 tells us it is God's will for us to give thanks for everything. We know we should give God praise and thanks, but instead we often react to our circumstances, especially the unpleasant ones. As I reflected on the past several years, we have experienced a number of negative circumstances both individually and as an organization. How can we improve our eternal perspective on life? One way is by praising God in every situation. As pharmacists, we deal with patients daily who are going through difficult illnesses. If we are to help them focus on God, through praise, rather than focus on their illness, we first must be capable of doing the same. Psalm 113:1-6 (NIV) offers us answers to some key questions concerning praise.

"1 Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, you his servants; praise the name of the Lord. 2 Let the name of the Lord be praised, both now and forevermore. 3 From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised. 4 The Lord is exalted over all the nations, his glory above the heavens. 5 Who is like the Lord our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, 6 who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth?"

- Who is to praise? The servants of the Lord (1a). That is us!
- To whom is the praise given? To the Lord. God's name is used five times in the first three verses.
- When is the praise to be given? From this time forth and forevermore (2b). As Christians, it is our responsibility to praise God. It is the debt of love we owe Him.
- Where is one to praise?
 - From the rising of the sun to where it sets (3). The meaning of this phrase is geographic. Wherever the sun rises and sets, we are to worship God. We are to praise God everywhere and anywhere at all times.
- Why should we praise? Because He is incomparable (4-6)! There is no one like God. There is nothing that may be compared to Him. These verses explain His incomparability in His position (4), His person (5), and His passion (6).
 - He is God over all nations and over the universe (4).
 - He cares and is concerned for those of us down here. From His majestic throne he "stoops down" to meet our needs here on earth. This is the gospel, "heaven coming down." He cares for us so much He sent His only begotten Son to die on the cross for our sins...doing the impossible for us.¹

An excellent source for learning more about praise and the Psalms is the book "And I Will Praise Him" by Ronald B. Allen, which I have cited below. My challenge to offer genuine praise to God is also a challenge to quickly give our problems to God rather than trying to resolve them alone. In these very uncertain times, there is a realistic chance we are in for

some surprises. Keep focused on God by praising Him for every surprise in 2023. May you all have a blessed and praise-filled New Year.

1. Allen, Ronald B. *And I Will Praise Him: A Guide to Worship in the Psalms*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications; 1992.

Daniel Spadaro, CPFI Board Member
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Prayer Wall | Outreach Opportunities | Student Newsletter - Summer/Fall 2022



APhA 2023 Annual Meeting & Exposition CPFI Prayer Breakfast

"A Humble, Limping, Servant-Leader or Something Less"

Sunday, March 26, 2023

7:30 AM to 8:45 AM (GMT)

Cost \$25.

Speaker: Dr. Jeffrey A. Bates, Dean ([Bio](#))

Cedarville University School of Pharmacy

Tickets may be purchased when registering on the APhA website. A small quantity will be sold at the door.

Register: <https://aphameeting.pharmacist.com/>

Visit www.cpfi.org for updates on the prayer breakfast.



2023 CPFI Annual Conference & National Student Retreat Lake Junaluska Conference & Retreat Center

91 N Lakeshore Dr., Lake Junaluska, NC 28745

National Student Retreat May 24 to 28

Annual Conference May 25 to 28

<https://lakejunaluska.com/>

Registration opens January 16, 2023

Early Registration Ends March 13, 2023

Registration Closes April 17, 2023



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CPFI Prayer Ministry Join us Sunday, February 19, 2023 at 5:00 PM ET!

The CPFI Past Presidents Committee was asked to implement a prayer ministry on behalf of CPFI. In March 2020, we started a weekly Prayer Meeting on Sunday evening at 5 p.m. ET, initially to pray about Covid-19 needs. **In 2023, we plan to meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Please join us at 5pm ET on February 19th.** If you would like an invitation, e-mail Nena Lindrose at Office@cpfi.org. She will send a reminder e-mail with instructions on how to join and some suggested prayer concerns during the week prior to the meeting. We hope you will join us **Sunday, February 19, 2023**, for our next session. By signing up you are only committing to participate when able and praying out loud is voluntary.

Fred Eckel, Board Member

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