



Thursday Thought

by Pastor Myron D. Atkinson

Hot Dog Chili with Beans?

Thursday 11/21/2019

Verse for the week: 1 John 5:14-15 (NLT) And we are confident that He hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases Him.

What a strange title for my Thursday Thought, but if you read on you will see why. A few weeks ago I went to lunch with a couple of pastor friends. One of my favorite foods is a hotdog with chili, slaw, onion, and mustard. The restaurant had a special on hot dogs and the server said they were amazing. How could I pass up a chance to have an amazing hot dog? I ordered. When the food was served, the chili had beans in it. I am not a fan of beans in my chili, or anywhere else! My friends decided I should pray for the food. As I prayed I asked God to remove the beans from my chili. When I opened my eyes, the server came up to our table, with a fork in her hand, and she began picking out the beans. I asked her what she was doing, and she said she had heard me praying and decided to answer my prayer. I think my friends were embarrassed, but at the end of the meal we all had a good laugh and learned some powerful lessons:

1. Remember that people are not only watching but listening to us. Make sure your conversations are glorifying to God. 1 Timothy 4:12b (NLT) says, “**Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.**”
2. Sometimes God uses other people to answer our prayers. Be attentive to the needs around you, not just during the holiday seasons, but all through the year. What a gift it would be to answer the prayers of others?
3. Just as our server heard my prayer, so God hears us when we pray to Him. 1 Peter 3:12 (NLT) says, “**The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right, and His ears are open to their prayers.**”

Who would have thought that there could be so many lessons when ordering a hot dog with chili? For those who were wondering, yes we did leave her a very nice tip.

Challenge Questions: Are you attentive to the fact that not only is God, but people are also watching and listening to you? How can you take notice of the needs around you and be an answer to someone’s prayer?