



The Caller

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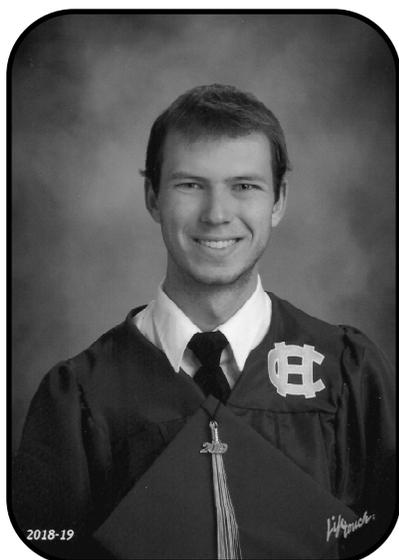
CONGRATULATIONS 2019 GRADUATES!



Keziah Dunn
Meade County H.S.



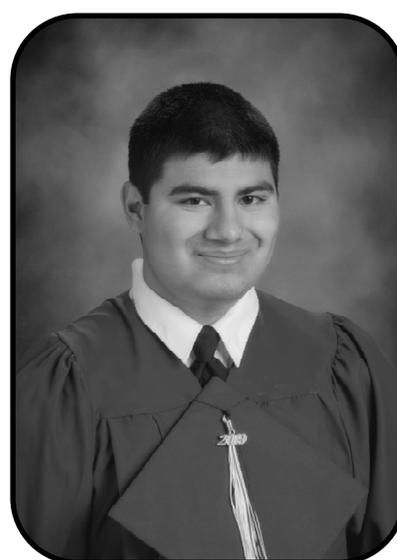
Payton Walker
Thomas Nelson H.S.



Braden Bybee
Central Hardin H.S.



Anthony Reynolds
Central Hardin H.S.



James Woodring
North Hardin H.S.

When Calls Are Not Answered

Do you ever get frustrated when you try to call someone on the phone and they do not answer? On any given day when Brenna and the girls are gone, I might try to call their cell phones only to find that they do not answer because they do not turn their ringers on. I can call as many times as I want and the result is the same...there is no answer. I begin to wonder, as I am sure many people do, "Why do I even pay for them to have phones if I cannot get a hold of them?" Most of the time, what I tried to avoid—being concerned about Brenna and the girls well being—is amplified because I wonder if the reason they are not answering their phone is that something happened. So far, it has only been my overactive imagination; for that I am thankful.

Additionally, consider how customer service works these days. I often call to reach out about a problem only to have to go through a number of prompts on the phone. If I am fortunate enough to prompt through till I can get to a representative, the long wait with background music begins. We pack so much stuff into our lives that our time becomes more valuable, and as we wait on the line, we are more and more aggravated because of the time we feel we are wasting (and then companies use recorded calls so that their employees don't waste time... because time is money...ugh). The days of true customer service seem to be all but gone.

I said all of that to point out how amazing it is to think of the prayer line that is available to all Christians. Do we realize that God always hears and answers our "calls" to Him? Now the answer may not be what we had hoped for, but we can know that when we reach out to God, He hears. We don't have to worry about accidental missed "calls", busy signals, ignored "calls," or being put on hold (eternally) when we reach out to our Father in Heaven. Amazing!

Do you take advantage of the prayer line available for Christians to the Almighty God? Christ, our ultimate guide, sure saw prayer as important. He teaches us about prayer through instruction and example. Prayer was so important to Him that He would rise early, before it was yet morning, to pray to His Father (Mark 1:35). Through His teaching in parables, Christ emphasized persistence in prayer (Luke 18:1–8), simplicity and humility in prayer (Luke 18:10–14), and tenacity in prayer (Luke 11:5–8). If prayer was important to the Son of God, should it not also be important to Christians who are His followers?

What about you? Do you tap into the blessing of prayer? In a world where we cannot always reach those we love to tell them something important, we have a Father who is always available to hear our concerns and needs. To me, it is a truly remarkable thought—the blessing of prayer to a Christian.

*John F. Board
Elizabethtown, KY*