

Voice of Thanksgiving
Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer
Inner Court Ministries

For the week of October 12, 2003

A Call to Prayer

For encouragement in persistent prayer, the following instance may be of service. In an address delivered at Calcutta, George Muller recently said that in 1844 five persons were laid upon his heart, and that he began to pray for their conversion. Eighteen months passed by before the first was converted. He prayed five years more, when the second was converted. After twelve years and a half, yet another was converted. And now he also already prayed forty years for the other two, without letting slip a single day; and still they are not converted. He was, nevertheless, full of courage in the sure confidence that these two also would be given him in answer to his prayer.

from *The New Life: Words of God for Young Disciples* by Rev. Andrew Murray

This Week in Prayer

- Pray for Israel. The clash of nations, religions, ideologies, and peoples all come together in Israel. Prayer for the peace of Jerusalem is more than people putting down their weapons, but is prayer for the conflict of the ages to be completed. A battle to the finish, with God winning, but He calls for prayer and commits Himself to be moved by your prayers.
- Pray for the ***Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries*** pastors and their families; pray for the work of these men in Belarus, and Lithuania.
- Pray for Christ Church International (Inner Court Ministries) in Longmont. God has not been caught off-guard by the recent events, but He has a plan for us, revealed by prayer.
- Pray for outreach. The fields are white ready for harvest in many areas where members of this company live. Now is the time for outreach and church activities. Pray for labors, finances and open doors of opportunity.
- Pray for members of this company who are traveling in ministry. A couple of men for specific prayer, Marek Kaminski travels from his home in Koszalin, Poland to Belarus and Lithuania working with the pastors from the conference as well as other ministry trips. Another minister traveling more and more is Mark Spencer from Longmont, Colorado. As these men and others travel we must keep them and their families in prayer. God is using them to touch lives in many cities, countries, and even on several continents. The travel and ministry is hard and being away from families is never pleasant.

- Pray for the transfer of the German Verein to Inner Court Ministries. Once the transfer has taken place, the ICM Verein will be a social and religious organization in Germany. Pray for a revealing of God's will and plans for this ministry and organization.
- Pray for Michal Szameto a young man from Poland many of you know. Michal is in Afghanistan with UFM International.

Praying Always For You

Pray for one another. The job before us is so important and so great, there is no way to complete it without His strong hand and the power of His might. This week pray for strength, strength in the Lord.

*Finally, my brethren,
be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.*
Ephes. 6:10 (NKJV)

Imperative Importance of the Work of Prayer

Desperate Prayer

When lost on a desert island a man or woman must get desperate to survive. A mental toughness is required to continue to live day after day. An army battling a larger foe must be desperate or they will be crushed. A hiker lost in the woods must get desperate to stay alive until found. In situations like these people have been successful in overcoming obstacles that have destroyed others. Often the difference between survival and death is a desperate attitude and tenacity. Those who are desperate to survive are the ones who survive.

Early settlers of the American west often faced incredible challenges. Many failed. But among those who succeeded, there are story after story of desperate people. They would succeed or die trying. They were mentally tough and willing to go to great lengths to succeed. Sometimes this tenacity was forced on them; there was no way to go home. It was succeed or die. Often it was a pride that refused to fail. Either way they refused to fail.

Today most people are not in desperate situations. Life does not hang by the slender thread with starvation or death lurking at their door. Even in the sad and bad situations there is help available. There are place to go. We have lost our understanding of desperation. We do not know what it is like to stand on the precipice of life itself. We warm ourselves, in if not luxury, at least with basic provision. We comfort and pamper ourselves so we do not face survival. The world seems comfortable and safe, yet all around us the most incredible battles rage.

Every man, woman and child is in a titanic battle. More serous are the consequences of this battle than those of any war. In war the consequences last only a short time. Even the mightiest

of victors in war rules for only a few years. The amazing dynasties of the Chinese the longest lasting rule by a group of men, lasted only a few hundred years. What is that compared to battles over the immortal soul of a man or woman. World wars pale by comparison to the battle for souls.

Every day this battle rages, every day this battle takes it awful toll, men and women shackled with the setting of their eternal destiny. Every man and woman is on the front lines, but God has taken the position of helping with the fight. He sent the Holy Spirit to draw men and women to Himself. He also has called for prayer. By His choice He is moved by prayer. Prayer for men and women, He calls for all who are His to join the fight.

A few weeks ago we had a quote of note from C.S. Lewis.

It is a serious thing to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest and most uninteresting person you talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted to worship, or else a horror and a corruption such as you now meet, if at all, only in nightmare. All day long we are, in some degree, helping each other to one or other of these destinations.

The people around us are in a life and death battle. They need prayer, desperate prayer. Will you pray for those God puts on your heart? Will you faithfully pray? Will you stand firm in faith for them? Like the example of Andrew Murray mentioned earlier in this issue, the need is for persistent confident prayer. Desperate prayer.

Will you pray?

Joining This Company

All Christians who will pray are welcome. **Voice of Thanksgiving** is sent by e-mail or letter to all who will commit to prayer as members of this company. It is a guide to challenge us and direct our prayers. The fee for joining is your commitment to pray. Please join us in praying for the nations.

To join send an e-mail with the word JOIN for the subject. Tell your friends and prayer partners about **Voice of Thanksgiving**. The call is to gather a company of believers who will pray. Together we will reach nations for Jesus Christ.

To receive **Voice of Thanksgiving** by e-mail:

Send an e-mail to david@innercourt.com
include the word JOIN in the subject line

To receive **Voice of Thanksgiving** by regular mail:

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The **Voice of Thanksgiving** is available online

To read or reread articles go to

http://www.feargod.com/VoT_Articles.htm

If you have questions or comments

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