

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

For the week of October 19, 2003

*Editor's note: I have had problems with my computer and I lost a few e-mail addresses. Please e-mail me and I will get you back on the list.*

**A Call to Prayer**

**Greater Works**

By Oswald Chambers

*"And greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto My Father."* John 14:12

Prayer does not fit us for the greater works; prayer *is* the greater work. We think of prayer as a common-sense exercise of our higher powers in order to prepare us for God's work. In the teaching of Jesus Christ prayer is the working of the miracle of Redemption in me which produces the miracle of Redemption in others by the power of God. The way fruit remains is by prayer, but remember it is prayer based on the agony of Redemption, not on my agony. Only a child gets prayer answered; a wise man does not.

Prayer is the battle; it is a matter of indifference where you are. Whichever way God engineers circumstances, the duty is to pray. Never allow the thought - "I am of no use where I am;" because you certainly can be of no use where you are not. Wherever God has dumped you down in circumstances pray, ejaculate to Him all the time. "Whatsoever ye ask in My name, that will I do." We won't pray unless we get thrills, that is the intensest form of spiritual selfishness. We have to labour along the line of God's direction, and He says *pray*. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest."

There is nothing thrilling about a labouring man's work, but it is the labouring man who makes the conceptions of the genius possible; and it is the labouring saint who makes the conceptions of his Master possible. You labour at prayer and results happen all the time from His standpoint. What an astonishment it will be to find, when the veil is lifted, the souls that have been reaped by you, simply because you had been in the habit of taking your orders from Jesus Christ.

**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 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. We must not be held back by fear from doing the will of God. Fear would hinder, slow or destroy our work if we let it. Pray that in place of fear we would have God given power, love and sound mind.

***The Lord is on my side;***

***I will not fear.***

***What can man do to me?***

Psalm 118:6 (NKJV)

***For God has not given us a spirit of fear,  
but of power and of love and of a sound mind.***

2 Tim. 1:7 (NKJV)

### **Imperative Importance of the Work of Prayer**

**Prayer Warriors by E.M. Bounds**

THERE is great need in this day for Christian business men to inform their mundane affairs with the spirit of prayer. There is a great army of successful merchants of almost every kind who are members of Christ's Church and it is high time these men attended to this matter. This is but

another version of the phrase, "putting God into business," the realization and restraint of His presence and of His fear in all the secularities of life. We need the atmosphere of the prayer-closet to pervade our public salesrooms and counting-houses. The sanctity of prayer is needed to impregnate business. We need the spirit of Sunday carried over to Monday and continued until Saturday. But this cannot be done by prayerless men, but by men of prayer. We need business men to go about their concerns with the same reverence and responsibility with which they enter the closet. Men are badly needed who are devoid of greed, but who, with all their hearts, carry God with them into the secular affairs of life. Men of the world imagine prayer to be too impotent a thing to come into rivalry with business methods and worldly practices. Against such a misleading doctrine Paul sets the whole commands of God, the loyalty to Jesus Christ, the claims of pious character, and the demands of the salvation of the world. Men must pray, and put strength and heart into their praying. This is part of the primary business of life, and to it God has called men, first of all.

Praying men are God's agents on earth, the representative of government of heaven, set to a specific task on the earth. While it is true that the Holy Spirit, the angels of God, are agents of God in carrying forward the redemption of the human race, yet among them there must be praying men. For such men God has great use. He can make much of them, and in the past has done wonderful things through them. These are His instruments in carrying out God's great purposes on the earth. They are God's messengers, His watchmen, shepherds, workmen, who need not be ashamed. Fully equipped for the great work to which they are appointed, they honour God and bless the world. Above all things beside, Christian men and women must, primarily, be leaders in prayer. No matter how conspicuous they may be in other activities, they fail if they are not conspicuous in prayer. They must give their brain and heart to prayer. Men who make and shape the program of Christ's Church, who map out its line of activity, should, themselves, be shaped and made by prayer. Men controlling the Church finances, her thought, her action - should all be men of prayer.

The progress to consummation of God's work in this world has two basic principles - God's ability to give and man's ability to ask. Failure in either one is fatal to the success of God's work on earth. God's inability to do or to give would put an end to redemption. Man's failure to pray would, just as surely, set a limit to the plan. But God's ability to do and to give has never failed and cannot fail; but man's ability to ask can fail, and often does. Therefore the slow progress which is being made toward the realization of a world won for Christ lies entirely with man's limited asking. There is need for the entire Church of God, on the earth, to betake itself to prayer. The Church upon its knees would bring heaven upon the earth. The wonderful ability of God to do for us is thus expressed by Paul in one of his most comprehensive statements, "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you," he says, "that ye, always, having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." Study, I pray you, that remarkable statement - "God is able to make all grace abound." That is, He is able to give such sufficiency, that we may abound - overflow - to every good work. Why are we not more fully fashioned after this overflowing order? The answer is - lack of prayer-ability.

"We have not because we ask not." We are feeble, weak and impoverished, because of our failure to pray. God is restrained in doing because we are restrained by reason of our non-praying. All failures in securing heaven are traceable to lack of prayer or misdirected petition. Prayer must be broad in its scope - it must plead for others. Intercession for others is the hall-mark of all true prayer. When prayer is confined to self and to the sphere of one's personal needs, it dies by reason of its littleness, narrowness and selfishness. Prayer must be broad and unselfish or it will perish. Prayer is the soul of a man stirred to plead with God for men. In addition to being interested in the eternal interests of

one's own soul it must in its very nature, be concerned for the spiritual and eternal welfare of others. One's ability to pray for self, finds its climax in the compassion its concern expresses for others.

### **Prayer Is Expecting Answers**

Once again we have had positive answer to prayers. Our prayer request was:

*Pray for Christ Church International (Inner Court Ministries) in Longmont.*

*"Well gang, the City of Longmont this week issued an order demanding that we stop meeting in the 540 Main Street facility immediately! Harvey did everything he could to prevent it, but the officials were determined to push this through. While our committee to finish the process of planning and zoning was initially tardy in its response to the City, it appears that the owner of the building made modifications to the building without obtaining a building permit which has triggered such an unwavering response from the City. And unfortunately, we are stuck in the middle."* Pastor Spencer

God has answered by opening a Grange building for our use. This gives us a new place to regularly meet and opens doors of opportunity to minister to the rapidly growing rural area around the towns of Mead and Longmont.

### **Keep Praying And Expecting Answers**

### **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](mailto:david@innercourt.com)  
include the word JOIN in the subject line

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

Voice of Thanksgiving  
Inner Court Ministries  
P.O. Box 2125-80502  
Longmont, CO 80502

The **Voice of Thanksgiving** is available online

To read or reread articles go to  
[http://www.feargod.com/VoT\\_Articles.htm](http://www.feargod.com/VoT_Articles.htm)

If you have questions or comments

Send them to David Williamson:  
[david@innercourt.com](mailto:david@innercourt.com)