

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

For the week of April 27, 2003

***A Call to Prayer***

**One More Day**

People give up one day to soon. We pray for something and it seems as though nothing happens. We pray and pray and pray; it seems that nothing happens. If we do not have patience we will stop or give up, often just before the answer. Our call to prayer must include a call to patience. Success in prayer often come from praying through “one more day” to see God’s answer.

***That ye be not slothful,  
but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.***  
Hebrews 6:12

***For ye have need of patience, that,  
after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.***  
Hebrews 10:36

***Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses,  
let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us,  
and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,***  
Hebrews 12:1

***Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.***  
James 1:3

***But let patience have her perfect work,  
that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.***  
James 1:4

***Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord.  
Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth,  
and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.***  
James 5:7

***This Week In Prayer***

- Pray for Israel.
- Pray for Mark Spencer’s ministry trip. Mark reports that ministry times have been going well. He is ministering in Polish speaking churches across Australia. Pray for this time of ministry,

protection for Mark and his family, and for his church, Christ Church International, while he is away.

- Pray for the ***Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries*** conference for pastors from Belarus, Ukraine, and Lithuania, June 13-15, 2003. Here is further information about the conference. Please make this conference and the details for its success a priority in prayer.

***Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries*** is the result of travel to Belarus and visiting churches there. For five years Marek Kaminski, a pastor in Koszalin, Poland, has been building a trust relationship with pastors of the region. Listen to how he has been touched by these people,

“Each time I went there my heart was deeply touched both by extreme poverty of the people there as well as by sacrificial devotion of Christians. For all of these years the Lord was touching my heart and building a vision of my involvement.”

The Vision is to find pastors who live and minister in remote areas of Belarus (and also in Ukraine, Lithuania and other former Soviet Union republics) who minister under the pressure of poverty and in loneliness. When we find that kind of person, we want to bring him to fellowship with one of the churches or individuals in the west for following reasons:

- Bring parties into brotherly relationship which includes exchanging friendship, ideas, mutual prayer and care
  - Bringing encouragement to each other and help in times of need simply by meeting every once in awhile and writing letters
  - Supporting a Belarussian pastor financially which is \$50-\$100 a month (depending on the family status of the pastor and location)
  - Help starting new churches by sending a minister to the new place and providing for his financial needs (\$50-\$100 a month)
  - Organize conferences twice a year in Koszalin, Poland to pray and minister to each other, and to fellowship. Learning from each other’s experiences, strengths and weaknesses, as we get involved closely into the lives of the brothers. In this world of shallow relationships we need to learn the beauty of true and deep brotherhood. We certainly lack it in the body of Christ.
- Pray for John Coon, a member of our team, he will be on a ministry trip in Poland, Germany and Austria trip come later in May and June

### ***Praying Always for You***

Week by week we are praying for one another as members of this company of believers joined together for prayer. We have been using prayers of Paul as our guide. Our current passage is Romans 16:25-27 and last week, “**Pray for each of us to be established according to the revelation of the mystery.**”

***Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel,  
and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery,  
which was kept secret since the world began, But now is made manifest,  
and by the scriptures of the prophets,  
according to the commandment of the everlasting God,***

*made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:  
To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.*  
Romans 16:25-27

Read and meditate on the full prayer, but our emphasis this week is: **“Pray for the Gospel to be manifest in each of us.”**

Men present many views to the world. Our opinions, what we think people want to hear, the popular words of the day, but the Gospel is to be our message and our life. Every aspect of daily living should resonate with the Gospel. The Gospel should be our abundance that flows from our heart.

*O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things?  
for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.*  
Matthew 12:34

*A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good;  
and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil:  
for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.*  
Luke 6:45

## **Imperative Importance Of The Work Of Prayer**

### **The Place Of Prayer Before And During Revivals**

From *How To Pray*

By R.A.Torrey

No treatment of the subject How to Pray would be at all complete if it did not consider the place of prayer in revivals.

The first great revival of Christian history had its origin on the human side in a ten-days' prayer meeting. We read of that handful of disciples, "these all with one accord continued steadfastly in prayer." (Acts 1:14, R.V.) The result of that prayer meeting we read of in the 2nd chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, "They were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." (v.4) Further on in the chapter we read that "there were added unto them in that day about three thousand souls." (V.41, R.V.) This revival proved genuine and permanent. The converts "continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers." (V.42, R.V.) "And the Lord added to them day by day those that were being saved." (V.47, R.V.)

Every true revival from that day to this has had its earthly origin in prayer. The great revival under Jonathan Edwards in the 18th century began with his famous call to prayer. The marvelous work of grace among the Indians under Brainerd had its origin in the days and nights that Brainerd spent before God in prayer for an endowment of power from on high for this work.

A most remarkable and widespread display of God's reviving power was that which broke out at Rochester, New York, in 1830, under the labors of Charles G. Finney. It not only spread throughout the State but ultimately to Great Britain as well. Mr. Finney himself attributed the power of this work to the spirit of prayer that prevailed. He describes it in his autobiography in the following words: "When I was on my way to Rochester, as we passed through a village, some thirty miles east of Rochester, a brother minister whom I knew, seeing me on the canal-boat, jumped aboard to have a little conversation with me, intending to ride but a little way and return. He, however, became

interested in conversation, and upon finding where I was going, he made up his mind to keep on and go with me to Rochester. We had been there but a few days when this minister became so convinced that he could not help weeping aloud at one time as we passed along the street. The Lord gave him a powerful spirit of prayer, and his heart was broken. As he and I prayed together, I was struck with his faith in regard to what the Lord was going to do there. I recollect he would say, 'Lord, I do not know how it is; but I seem to know that Thou art going to do a great work in this city.' The spirit of prayer was poured out powerfully, so much so that some persons stayed away from the public services to pray, being unable to restrain their feelings under preaching.

"And here I must introduce the name of a man, whom I shall have occasion to mention frequently, Mr. Abel Clary. He was the son of a very excellent man, and an elder of the church where I was converted. He was converted in the same revival in which I was. He had been licensed to preach; but his spirit of prayer was such, he was so burdened with the souls of men, that he was not able to preach much, his whole time and strength being given to prayer. The burden of his soul would frequently be so great that he was unable to stand, and he would writhe and groan in agony. I was well acquainted with him, and knew something of the wonderful spirit of prayer that was upon him. He was a very silent man, as almost all are who have that powerful spirit of prayer.

"The first I knew of his being in Rochester, a gentleman who lived about a mile west of the city, called on me one day and asked me if I knew a Mr. Abel Clary, a minister. I told him that I knew him well. 'Well,' he said, 'he is at my house, and has been there for some time, and I don't know what to think of him.' I said, 'I have not seen him at any of our meetings.' 'No,' he replied, 'he cannot go to meeting, he says. He prays nearly all the time, day and night, and in such agony of mind that I do not know what to make of it. Sometimes he cannot even stand on his knees, but will lie prostrate on the floor, and groan and pray in a manner that quite astonishes me.' I said to the brother, 'I understand it: please keep still. It will all come out right; he will surely prevail.'

"I knew at the time a considerable number of men who were exercised in the same way. A Deacon P---, of Camden, Oneida county; a Deacon T---, of Rodman, Jefferson county; a Deacon B---, of Adams, in the same county; this Mr. Clary and many others among the men, and a large number of women partook of the same spirit, and spent a great part of their time in prayer. Father Nash, as we called him, who in several of my fields of labor came to me and aided me, was another of those men that had such a powerful spirit of prevailing prayer. This Mr. Clary continued in Rochester as long as I did, and did not leave it until after I had left. He never, that I could learn, appeared in public, but gave himself wholly to prayer.

"I think it was the second Sabbath that I was at Auburn at this time, I observed in the congregation the solemn face of Mr. Clary. He looked as if he was borne down with an agony of prayer. Being well acquainted with him, and knowing the great gift of God that was upon him, the spirit of prayer, I was very glad to see him there. He sat in the pew with his brother, the doctor, who was also a professor of religion, but who had nothing by experience, I should think, of his brother Abel's great power with God.

"At intermission, as soon as I came down from the pulpit, Mr. Clary, with his brother, met me at the pulpit stairs, and the doctor invited me to go home with him and spend the intermission and get some refreshments. I did so.

"After arriving at his house we were soon summoned to the dinner table. We gathered about the table, and Dr. Clary turned to his brother and said, 'Brother Abel, will you ask the blessing?' Brother Abel bowed his head and began, audibly, to ask a blessing. He had uttered but a sentence or two when he broke instantly down, moved suddenly back from the table, and fled to his chamber. The doctor supposed he had been taken suddenly ill, and rose up and followed him. In a few moments he came down and said, 'Mr. Finney, brother Abel wants to see you.' Said I, 'What ails him?' Said he, 'I do not know but he says, you know. He appears in great distress, but I think it is the state of his mind.' I understood it in a moment, and went to his room. He lay groaning upon the bed, the Spirit

making intercession for him, and in him, with groanings that could not be uttered. I had barely entered the room, when he made out to say, 'Pray, brother Finney.' I knelt down and helped him in prayer, by leading his soul out for the conversion of sinners. I continued to pray until his distress passed away, and then I returned to the dinner table.

"I understood that this was the voice of God. I saw the spirit of prayer was upon him, and I felt his influence upon myself, and took it for granted that the work would move on powerfully. It did so. The pastor told me afterward that he found that in the six weeks that I was there, five hundred souls had been converted."

Mr. Finney in his lectures on revivals tells of other remarkable awakenings in answer to the prayers of God's people. He says in one place, "A clergyman in W----n told me of a revival among his people, which commenced with a zealous and devoted woman in the church. She became anxious about sinners, and went to praying for them; she prayed, and her distress increased; and she finally came to her minister, and talked with him, and asked him to appoint an anxious meeting, for she felt that one was needed. The minister put her off, for he felt nothing of it. The next week she came again, and besought him to appoint an anxious meeting, she knew there would be somebody to come, for she felt as if God was going to pour out His Spirit. He put her off again. And finally she said to him, 'If you do not appoint an anxious meeting I shall die, for there is certainly going to be a revival.' The next Sabbath he appointed a meeting, and said that if there were any who wished to converse with him about the salvation of their souls, he would meet them on such an evening. He did not know of one, but when he went to the place, to his astonishment he found a large number of anxious inquirers."

In still another place he says, "The first ray of light that broke in upon the midnight which rested on the churches in Oneida county, in the fall of 1825, was from a woman in feeble health, who, I believe had never been in a powerful revival. Her soul was exercised about sinners. She was in agony for the land. She did not know what ailed her, but she kept praying more and more, till it seemed as if her agony would destroy her body. At length she became full of joy and exclaimed, 'God has come! God has come! There is no mistake about it, the work is begun, and is going over all the region!' And sure enough the work began, and her family were almost all converted, and the work spread all over that part of the country."

### **Joining This Company**

All Christians who will pray are welcome. ***Voice of Thanksgiving*** is sent by email or letter to all who will commit to prayer as member 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. Send me an email with the word JOIN in the subject so I know you are interested in continuing to receive ***Voice of Thanksgiving***. 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 email:

Send an email to [david@innercourt.com](mailto:david@innercourt.com)  
include the word JOIN in the subject line

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