

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

For the week of June 15, 2003

*A Call to Prayer*

*To the chief Musician upon Gittith,  
A Psalm of David. O LORD our Lord,  
how excellent is thy name in all the earth!  
who hast set thy glory above the heavens.  
Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings  
hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies,  
that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.  
When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers,  
the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;  
What is man, that thou art mindful of him?  
and the son of man, that thou visitest him?  
For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels,  
and hast crowned him with glory and honour.  
Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands;  
thou hast put all things under his feet:  
All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;  
The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.  
O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!*

Psalms 8:1-9

*This Week In Prayer*

- Pray for the *Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries* conference for pastors from Belarus, Ukraine, and Lithuania, June 13-15, 2003. Pray for the pastors coming to Koszalin for the conference.

Pray that they will have safe, uncomplicated travel home again.

Pray that they will be further strengthened and established for the job they have been called to do.

Pray that there will develop deeper and stronger relationships with the pastors and Marek from Poland and Mark from Longmont the host of the conference.

Pray that this will be a time of blessing and refreshing for these pastors.

- Pray for members of our company going on mission trips this summer. Pray for God's protection and provision. Pray for the Holy Spirit to work mightily in and through each member of these teams.
- Pray for Israel.

### **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. We have been praying, for several weeks, for the God of peace to be with us. Continue to pray for one another along these lines. In this day and age we need the presence of the God of peace more than ever. This is a simple prayer, “may the God of peace be with you”, but His presence is what will take us through the fires of daily living. **Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.** Romans 15:33

Look further into this teaching by AW Pink from his book *Gleanings from Paul*.

#### **The God of Peace the Reconciled God**

Third, “the God of peace” reveals what He is *judicially*, namely the Provider of peace, the reconciled God. That which here engages our attention is the actual outworking and accomplishment of what has been before us in the last division. Of old, God said concerning His people, “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you... thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end” (Jer. 29:11). Yes, despite the guilt that rested upon them for their legal participation in Adam’s fall, and despite their own multiplied transgressions and apostasy against Him, there had been no change in His everlasting love for them. A real and fearful breach had been made, and as the moral Governor of the universe God would not ignore it; nay, as the Judge of all the earth His condemnation and curse rested upon them. Nevertheless His heart was toward them, and His wisdom found a way whereby the horrible breach might be healed and His banished people restored to Himself, and that not only without compromising His holiness and justice but by glorifying the one and satisfying the other.

“When the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law” (Gal. 4:4-5). God sent forth His Son in order to carry out what had been agreed upon in the everlasting covenant, and to provide an adequate compensation to His law that God’s Son was made of a woman, that in our nature He should satisfy the requirements of the law, put away our sins, and bring in everlasting righteousness. In order to redeem His people from the curse of the law, the Son lived and died and rose again. In order to make peace with God, to placate His wrath, to secure an equitable and stable peace, Christ obeyed and suffered. In His redemptive work through His Son, God provided peace. At Christ’s birth the heavenly hosts, by anticipation, praised God, saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men” (Luke 2:14). And at His death Christ “made peace [between God and His people] through the blood of his cross” (Col. 1:20),

reconciling God (as the Judge) to them, establishing perfect and abiding amity and concord between them.

So let us meditate on “The God of peace” and pray for our further understanding and walking in His peace.

*Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.*

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

### **Abide**

From the True Vine by Andrew Murray

### ***Abide in Me, and I in You***

John 15:4

When a new graft is placed in a vine and it abides there, there is a twofold process that takes place. The first is in the wood. The graft shoots its little roots and fibers down into the stem, and the stem grows up into the graft, and what has been called the structural union is effected. The graft abides and becomes one with the vine, and even though the vine were to die, would still be one wood with it. Then there is the second process, in which the sap of the vine enters the new structure, and uses it as a passage through which sap can flow up to show itself in young shoots and leaves and fruit. Here is the vital union. Into the graft which abides in the stock, the stock enters with sap to abide in it.

When our Lord says: “Abide in me, and I in you,” He points to something analogous to this. “Abide in me”: that refers more to that which we have to do. We have to trust and obey, to detach ourselves from all else, to reach out after Him and cling to Him, to sink ourselves into Him. As we do this, through the grace He gives, a character is formed, and a heart prepared for the fuller experience: “I in you,” God strengthens us with might by the Spirit in the inner man, and Christ dwells in the heart by faith. Many believers pray and long very earnestly for the filling of the Spirit and the indwelling of Christ, and wonder that they do not make more progress. The reason is often this, the “I in you” cannot come because the “abide in me” is not maintained. “There is one body and one spirit”; before the Spirit can fill, there must be a body prepared. The graft must have grown into the stem, and be abiding in it before the sap can flow through to bring forth fruit. It is as in lowly obedience we follow Christ, even in external things, denying ourselves, forsaking the world, and even in the body seeking to be conformable to Him, as we thus seek to abide in Him, that we shall be able to receive and enjoy the “I in you.” The work enjoined on us: “Abide in me,” will prepare us for the work undertaken by Him: “I in you.”

In--The two parts of the injunction have their unity in that central deep-meaning word “in.” There is no deeper word in Scripture. God is in all. God dwells in Christ. Christ lives in God. We are in Christ. Christ is in us: our life taken up into His; His life received into ours; in a divine reality that words cannot express, we are in Him and He in us. And the words, “Abide in me and I in you,” just tell us to believe it, this divine mystery, and to count upon our God the Husbandman, and Christ the Vine, to make it divinely true. No thinking or teaching or praying can grasp it; it is a divine mystery of love. As little as we can effect the union can we understand it. Let us just look upon this infinite, divine, omnipotent Vine loving us, holding us, working in us. Let us in the faith of His working abide and rest in Him, ever turning heart and hope to Him alone. And let us count upon Him to

fulfill in us the mystery: “Ye in me, and I in you.” Blessed Lord, Thou dost bid me abide in Thee. How can I, Lord, except Thou show Thyself to me, waiting to receive and welcome and keep me? I pray Thee show me how Thou as Vine undertaketh to do all. To be occupied with Thee is to abide in Thee. Here I am, Lord, a branch, cleansed and abiding--resting in Thee, and awaiting the inflow of Thy life and grace.

### **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

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

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

If you have questions or comments

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

To have your address removed from our list

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