

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

For the week of September 7, 2003

A Call to Prayer

But above all he excelled in prayer. The inwardness and weight of his spirit, the reverence and solemnity of his address and behavior, and the fewness and fullness of his words have often struck even strangers with admiration as they used to reach others with consolation. The most awful, living, reverend frame I ever felt or beheld, I must say, was his prayer. And truly it was a testimony. He knew and lived nearer to the Lord than other men, for they that know him most will see most reason to approach him with reverence and fear.—WILLIAM PENN OF GEORGE FOX

This Week in Prayer

- Pray for Israel.
- 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.
“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
- 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. Please remember them in prayer.

- Pray for the transfer of the German Verein to Inner Court Ministries. This will make ICM a social and religious organization in Germany. This will facilitate a wide range of activities in Germany, as well as using Germany as a jumping off point for other areas. The transfer will take place in November.

Praying Always For You

Pray for one another, the members of this company, this week pray for endurance.

***Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward.
For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God,
you may receive the promise:
Hebrews 10:35-36 (NKJV)***

Imperative Importance of the Work of Prayer

The Impossible Life

In the most recent two issues of Voice of Thanksgiving had articles about the impossible. The impossible was presented as both positive and negative. The concern was that often people reverse the two.

Most problems in prayer (when people do pray) come from getting positive and negative impossible backwards. It is easy to come to the place where we doubt the positive impossible, believing that God changes, doesn't listen, lies and is not able, while believing that the impossible is impossible.

In the next article the impossible was redefined, when God is involved, the impossible is the seemingly impossible.

God has declared, "Today we will see a harvest of the seemingly impossible." As that word comes to this generation the question is, how will we respond. History is filled with examples of God doing the impossible, but most people have not experienced the impossible made possible.

That article looked at the question, "Why do so few people experience a harvest of the seemingly impossible?"

Editor's note: all issues of *Voice of Thanksgiving* are available online, to read or reread these articles (August 24 and 31, 2003) or any other past issue go to http://www.feargod.com/VoT_Articles.htm

Some of you are saying, okay, but you don't know my life. My life is impossible. There are areas of my life that are impossible. I have prayed, sought God, read the Word, been prayed for; I have done it all, but still my life is impossible.

The impossible life is a common condition, I do not know enough people to say that it is universal, but with great confidence we can describe it as a condition common to all. There are areas in life, for each of us, that loom up before us as impossible. It can be a sin, a family concern, a job situation, or ministry demand. Some times people face a veritable wall of the impossible blocking their progress in life. When you are up against the impossible it can be daunting, after all it is impossible! It seems as though every effort has or will fail. This is facing the overwhelmingly impossible. This is the impossible life.

But God doesn't believe in the impossible life, you may, but He does not. His Word is filled with examples, written for our instruction and help, of men and women who have been confronted with the impossible and God has changed it to the possible.

***All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,
and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction,
for instruction in righteousness,
2 Tim. 3:16 (NKJV)***

All Scripture is given to help us overcome the impossible. Our Father, who does not change, has demonstrated His ability and willingness to overcome what we see as impossible. Over and over He has come through for young and old, for men and women, for Jew and gentile. He will come through for you. More importantly He will come through for you in these areas of concern. Not just in general, but in that overwhelming impossible that you face today. This is not a debate point for theology school, but is for you today, for now, in your current situation.

Look at a few examples, these will get you started, there are dozens of examples in the Bible, one that is just like the situation you face.

Personal Problems and Limitations

Zacchaeus was of short stature and had two major strikes against him; he was a tax collector and more than that he was a chief tax collector and rich. Tax collectors were hated because they collected as much as they could from people, paid the Romans, and kept the rest. But Jesus came and brought salvation to him. Jesus desires to come to your house today. Zacchaeus Luke 19:2-7

***And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him,
and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down,
for today I must stay at your house."
Luke 19:5 (NKJV)***

Family Problems

Prodigal Son left home squandered his money and lived a shady life, but his father received him back. The revelation of God as our Father is so powerful; He is waiting for us so He can put the robe on our back and the ring on our finger. His longing is to be this Father for every member of our family, even the one furthest away. Prodigal Son Luke 15:11-32

***It was right that we should make merry and be glad,
for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.' "
Luke 15:32 (NKJV)***

Ministry Problems

Ananias is sent to talk to Saul. This would get most people upset about ministry. Saul is only the most notorious fanatic fighting against the church. Today most people would respond to this assignment with words like, "You want me to do what?" Yet Ananias went and the world was changed. God often asks for the impossible in ministry because we don't need Him for the possible, but the world needs the impossible. Acts 9:1-19

***But the Lord said to him,
"Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles,
kings, and the children of Israel.
For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake."
Acts 9:15-16 (NKJV)***

Is not the "Roll Call of the Heroes of the Faith" (Hebrews chapter 11) a list of men and women who faced the impossible? Facing every obstacle imaginable, God overcame through them and with them. He made the impossible possible. "Yes," you say, "but many of them died." You are correct, but they leapt from the fire of the impossible into the arms of God. Surely, in His arms is overcoming the impossible, isn't that where we long to be?

If God helped these people, will He not help you as well?

***For there is no respect of persons with God.
Romans 2:11 (KJV)***

***No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man;
but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able,
but with the temptation will also make the way of escape,
that you may be able to bear it.
1 Cor. 10:13 (NKJV)***

He has made a "way of escape" that is making the impossible possible. But we turn away from God, hide from Him, take solace in our pity parties, surrender to the "inevitable", and look for ways to limit God. We are so close to the impossible it appears bigger than God, so we run and hide. But God is searching for those for whom He can demonstrate His Love and strength making the impossible possible. He longs to overcome your impossible life.

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 an email with the word JOIN in the subject so I know you would like 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.