

# Voice of Thanksgiving

## Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

Inner Court Ministries

For the Week of February 1, 2004

### *A Call to Prayer*

He who has the spirit of prayer has the highest interest in the court of heaven. And the only way to retain it is to keep it in constant employment. Apostasy begins in the closet. No man ever backslid from the life and power of Christianity who continued constant and fervent in private prayer. He who prays without ceasing is likely to rejoice evermore. -- Adam Clarke

### *This Week in Prayer*

- Pray for Israel. God has promised His people Israel will know His name. Pray for their eyes to be opened to see their redeemer.

*Awake, awake! Put on your strength, O Zion;  
Put on your beautiful garments,  
O Jerusalem, the holy city!  
For the uncircumcised and the unclean  
Shall no longer come to you.  
Shake yourself from the dust, arise;  
Sit down, O Jerusalem!  
Loose yourself from the bonds of your neck,  
O captive daughter of Zion!  
For thus says the Lord:  
"You have sold yourselves for nothing,  
And you shall be redeemed without money."  
For thus says the Lord God: "My people went down at first  
Into Egypt to dwell there;  
Then the Assyrian oppressed them without cause.  
Now therefore, what have I here," says the Lord,  
"That My people are taken away for nothing?  
Those who rule over them Make them wail," says the Lord,  
"And My name is blasphemed continually every day.  
Therefore My people shall know My name;  
Therefore they shall know in that day  
That I am He who speaks: 'Behold, it is I.' "*

Isaiah 52:1-6 (NKJV)

- Pray for the ***Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries*** Conference in June 2004. Pray for fruit in these ministries. These men and women are laboring in the fields, pray for a great harvest of souls for Jesus.

***The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life,  
And he who wins souls is wise.***

Proverbs 11:30 (NKJV)

- Pray for outreaches. Pray for Mark, he will be speaking to pastors from across Poland in April. Pray for David, he will be conducting business for the ICM eV (Verein) and working on plans for this summer as he travels to Germany and Austria. Pray for their safe journeys and open doors of opportunity.
- Pray for the outreaches of your local church or fellowship. Now is the day of salvation, these ministries working to reach your community needs your prayers. Pray for creative ideas for ministry and fulfillment of the job they are assigned.

### **Praying Always for You**

Pray for one another and for God's refreshing.

***"The Lord God has given Me The tongue of the learned,  
That I should know how to speak a word in season to him who is weary.  
He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear  
To hear as the learned.***

Isaiah 50:4 (NKJV)

***But those who wait on the Lord  
Shall renew their strength;  
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
They shall run and not be weary,  
They shall walk and not faint.***

Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV)

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

What Will You Do With The Foxes?

When the battle rages around you it is easy to be scared. Often we fear the battle and some people even work to stay away from a battle. Even surrender seems better than battle, they claim. It seems battle and fear go hand-in-hand. Western culture is dominated by people who will not or cannot do battle. Tolerance is the name of the game, the battle is only by words and there is a dearth of skilled participants. In some quarters people will go to extreme measures to avoid the battle. Yet as hard as they work death and destruction of the battle lurks at their every step. No one can run fast enough to escape the battle's fearsome power.

As pervasive as fear and dread of battle is, there are still those who will fight. They take the field in battle to fight, to win. They know the secret of battle, when in the battle; there is courage and strength that carries the warrior through the day. The warrior in battle knows that there is a courage that makes the weak strong and the scared brave. The weak and scared have always risen up and been awesome in battle. People who don't know about battles will never understand this transformation, but those who have been in battle know there is nothing like it.

Much more fearful is the little fox. Coming like a little fox, the small and quiet attacks of the enemy are not spectacular. They are just a nip here and a nip there. Hardly worthy of acknowledgement, they can be just as fatal as anything in battle. The fox comes with a nip here and a nip there and his attack is often the little bites, but the collected effort of the pack overwhelms.

In the battle the Christian rises up like the warrior. Like the Christian soldier of the song, we march against the foe. Nothing can stop this force as it marches on to victory. But this same Christian is often no match for the attack of the little fox. Day-by-day the little nip of the fox, the little attacks of the enemy, take their toll. Each attack hardly more than an annoyance, but in concert enough to take down the less than wary saint.

What are the foxes? They are the problems and hassles of life, the little things that sap your life and strength. They are the little things that pile up and overwhelm, they are the little sins that come in swarms like gnats. This is the great battle for most Christians. Not that of the great battle field with all its flourishes and bluster, but the secret battles of the foxes.

***Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,  
let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us,  
and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,***

Hebrews 12:1 (NKJV)

This is the most fearsome battle of them all, the battle with more casualties than wars. This is the battle fought against this one and that, in the secret place. More deadly than all the wars, this battle sees no blood, but in wave after wave, its evil attack goes on.

Won not by the gun, lance or rocket; the foxes are defeated by the Word, faith and prayer. Too many people succumb without a fight, they grow weary and faint. If no weapon formed against them shall prosper, then how can they ever fall? Their death is not by force or might, but like the traitor's slimy might, they are betrayed by weakness, an unwillingness to fight. Foxes come to fight, a nip here and a snarl there, until the combined effect is more than any man may bear.

***No weapon formed against you shall prosper,  
And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn.  
This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord,  
And their righteousness is from Me," Says the Lord.***

Isaiah 54:17 (NKJV)

No weapon formed against us will prosper, this is our heritage, but one not often used. The foxes come and are endured, not driven away, and little-by-little they overwhelm. We must do battle as though in a great war. Every day we choose to battle or grow weary and faint. This battle is important if we are to pray. The foxes come to distract us, to make us weary, to keep us from prayer.

*Even the youths shall faint and be weary,  
And the young men shall utterly fall,  
But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength;  
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
They shall run and not be weary,  
They shall walk and not faint.*

Isaiah 40:30-31 (NKJV)

*And let us not grow weary while doing good,  
for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.*

Galatians 6:9 (NKJV)

Titanic battle or little foxes; both would take us from prayer. He who is weary will not pray. So the question remains, what will you do with the foxes? Will they keep you from prayer? Will you grow weary, or deal with the foxes, daily doing battle large or small, and continue to 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](mailto:david@innercourt.com)  
include the word JOIN in the subject line

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

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