

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

Inner Court Ministries

For the Week of September 5, 2004

A Call to Prayer

Prayer is a solemn service due to God, an adoration, a worship, an approach to God for some request, the presenting of some desire, the expression of some need to Him, who supplies all need, and who satisfies all desires; who, as a Father, finds His greatest pleasure in relieving the wants and granting the desires of His children. Prayer is the child's request, not to the winds nor to the world, but to the Father. Prayer is the outstretched arms of the child for the Father's help. Prayer is the child's cry calling to the Father's ear, the Father's heart, and to the Father's ability, which the Father is to hear, the Father is to feel, and which the Father is to relieve. Prayer is the seeking of God's great and greatest good, which will not come if we do not pray. E.M. Bounds

This Week in Prayer

- Pray for Israel. For many years death and destruction has followed the Jewish people. Now is the time for the Glory of God to be once again in her midst.

***For I,' says the Lord, 'will be a wall of fire all around her,
and I will be the glory in her midst.'***

Zech. 2:5 (NKJV)

Editor note: Several groups are calling for an Annual Day of Prayer for the Peace of Jerusalem. This will be the first Sunday in October. They are calling for sustained, fervent, informed global intercession for the plans and purposes of God for Jerusalem and all her people.

- Pray for the leaders of your country and those in authority over you. Pray for them wisdom and understanding from the Lord.

***Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart
to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil.
For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"***

1 Kings 3:9 (NKJV)

- Pray for outreach and ministry coming this fall. God is reaching the nations and He delights to include us in the work He is about. Opportunities are at hand to pray and work for increase of the Kingdom. Now is the time to pray for your church, fellowship, or ministry plans for the fall.

Continue Earnestly in Prayer

God continues to open new doors of opportunity to this ministry and our friends. This section is a place to report specific request for prayer. Please continue earnestly in prayer for these friends and their ministry.

Marianne Burns – Marianne is a missionary to China with Campus Crusade for Christ. She is working with students at a university in China. This summer Marianne is at a training conference and preparing for continued ministry in the fall. Pray for God's continuing preparation and provision for His servant. Pray for a safe trip back to China and pray for the harvest field of China, fields white unto harvest.

John Coon – John and Helen have been working with pastors and others in Europe for more than 20 years. As missionaries, they worked from Austria with Christians behind the Iron Curtain. John will be in Poland October 14-21, 2004 and he and Helen will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico in September. Pray for these trips and ministries.

Jacek Gromadzki – Jack and Agnes are a young couple who pastor a church plant in a town about 30 or 40 minutes from Koszalin, Poland. Jack writes:

We, and our church, are waiting for decision about a building for our church. We need to pray about favor in office's hearts for our ideas (*Editor's note: office's are the city officials*). Our church is in a place where we're working on the change of our mentality. Polish mentality is full of complains and negative things. We don't want to live in it. Please, pray also about new souls who will be saved for Christ in our town. We're working to grow. We're going to have 20 members; (or more!), saved and baptized, by the end of the year. God bless you! Jack and Agnes.

Praying Always for You

Pray for one another. Pray that we would draw near to God

***But it is good for me to draw near to God;
I have put my trust in the Lord God,
That I may declare all Your works.***

Psalm 73:28 (NKJV)

Imperative Importance of the Work of Prayer

Fellowship with God

***that which we have seen and heard we declare to you,
that you also may have fellowship with us;
and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.***

1 John 1:3 (NKJV)

“The first and chief need of our Christian life is, Fellowship with God.” This quote from Andrew Murray is a simple statement of a powerful, but often ignored, truth. Every aspect of our life is in desperate need of fellowship with God. Just as our human bodies need nourishment, so we need the nourishment of fellowship with God. The manna in the desert was God’s gift of nourishment and was necessary for life. Without it, Israel would starve, without fellowship with God we starve. The manna is a wonderful reminder for us; it was corrupt when the next day came. Like the manna, we must have fresh grace from heaven everyday. Manna was only available by waiting upon God. Fellowship comes only by tarrying before God, we must take (make) time to meet God.

Fellowship begins with devotion before God. “In prayer, or worship, everything depends upon God taking the chief place.” We bow quietly before Him in humble faith and adoration, waiting for Him to work in us and make Himself known. We take time until we know God is very near.

***But it is good for me to draw near to God;
I have put my trust in the Lord God, That I may declare all Your works.***
Psalm 73:28 (NKJV)

“When you have given God His place of honor, glory, and power, take your place of deepest lowliness, and seek to be filled with the Spirit of humility.” The humble place is a place far from the maddening crowd, the rush and bluster of day-to-day living. It is a place far from the limelight and spotlight. It is the antithesis of the longings of the soulish man. It is the place of meekness, patience, and surrender to God’s goodness and mercy. It is place from where God exalts.

***And whoever exalts himself will be humbled,
and he who humbles himself will be exalted.***
Matthew 23:12 (NKJV)

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.
James 4:10 (NKJV)

***Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God,
that He may exalt you in due time***
1 Peter 5:6 (NKJV)

“Then accept and value your place in Christ Jesus.” God delights in His beloved Son; in Christ, you have access into the heart and love of the Father. In this place of God’s holy presence let Him bless you. Fellowship with God is having more of God in our life. The God who formed us has fellowship with us.

***There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus,
who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.
For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free
from the law of sin and death.***
Romans 8:1-2 (NKJV)

***nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing,
shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.***
Romans 8:39 (NKJV)

“This Christ is a living person.” Not a god who is far off, He is personal in His love and response to us. He is also a personal Saviour and the Keeper from the power of sin.

***For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed,
for I know whom I have believed
and am persuaded that He is able to keep
what I have committed to Him until that Day.***
2 Tim. 1:12 (NKJV)

“We have not only Christ's life in us as a power, and His presence with us as a person, but we have His likeness to be wrought into us.” He is creating in us His likeness for the entire world to see. The God, who revealed Jesus in the flesh and perfected Him, will reveal Him in us and perfect us in Him.

***For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death,
certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,***
Romans 6:5 (NKJV)

All of this can only be in the power of the Holy Spirit. “Count upon Him to glorify Christ in you. Count upon Christ to increase in you the inflowing of His Spirit.” The Holy Spirit will reveal the thing of God, anointing the moment with His guidance and direction.

“‘By faith’ must here, as through all Scripture, and all the spiritual life, be the keynote. As you tarry before God, let it be in a deep quiet faith in Him, the Invisible One, who is so near, so holy, so mighty, so loving. In a deep, restful faith too, that all the blessings and powers of the heavenly life are around you, and in you. Just yield yourself in the faith of a perfect trust to the Ever Blessed Holy Trinity to work out all God's purpose in you. Begin each day thus in fellowship with God, and God will be all in all to you.”

Editor note: the quotes through out this article are from the Deeper Life by Andrew Murray

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
include the word JOIN in the subject line

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