

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

Inner Court Ministries

For the Week of October 3, 2004

A Call to Prayer

The call to prayer is a call to relationship. Those who espouse prayer will have relationship with God. He is a God of relationship, those who walk with Him, talk with Him, pray with Him draw near in relationship. There is no fruit in prayer aside from relationship.

***Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself,
unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.***
John 15:4 (NKJV)

***No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing;
but I have called you friends,
for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.***
John 15:15 (NKJV)

This Week in Prayer

- Pray for Israel. Today is a day of Prayer for the Peace of Jerusalem. The call is for sustained, fervent, informed, global intercession for the plans and purposes of God for Jerusalem and all her people.
- Pray for those in authority over you. Pray for a servant's heart to do the will of the Father and serve the people with wisdom and understanding.

***Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people,
that I may discern between good and bad:
for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?***
1 Kings 3:9

- Pray for support for the outreaches and ministries of your church and Inner Court Ministries. God works in conjunction with prayer. Your prayer support of this outreaches and ministries is the fuel for the fire of ministry and revival. Don't let the fire fail for lack of fuel, pray.
- Pray for the national elections. In the United States, the elections are November 2. This is a very important election for the United States. It could have repercussions across America and the world. Please ask God for His plans, goals, and desires. Then pray for His will be done.

Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions,

**and giving of thanks be made for all men,
for kings and all who are in authority,
that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.
For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,
who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.**

1 Tim. 2:1-4 (NKJV)

- Pray for the **Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries** Conference in Poland, June 24-26, 2005.

**A Song of Ascents. Of David.
Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
For brethren to dwell together in unity!**

Psalm 133:1 (NKJV)

- Pray for the ministry of the ICM eV (our German Verein). The Verein conference will be in Germany, June 16-18, 2005.

**Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few;
therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.**

Luke 10:2 (NKJV)

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.

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.

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.

Marianne Burns – Marianne is a missionary to China with Campus Crusade for Christ. She is working with students at a university in China. Marianne.

"We have done some planning as a group this year, and I want to let you know a few of our goals, values, and our team vision for reaching our campus so that you can join us as we pray through these things. The statement we've chosen to state our team vision for this year is: "To step out boldly and model a lifestyle of boldness in evangelism, training,

discipleship and equipping to help students become mature believers, capable of leadership to reach their whole campus with the gospel. We are trusting God to raise up a growing community of students with a common focus and purpose who are equipped and committed to working for God's kingdom on our campus and in the world and will graduate students prepared to live a life for Christ wherever they go." One of the key words in this statement is "boldness," so I hope you will join us in praying that our team will truly be bold as we share the message of Christ's love with as many students as we can this semester. Another of our focuses is modeling--that we will not only be faithful to teaching students truth from God's Word, but also do the, often, harder work of letting the students into our lives so they can see those truths lived out in us."

Praying Always for You

Pray for one another, pray that we would have one mind and one mouth glorifying God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

***Now may the God of patience and comfort
grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus,
that you may with one mind and one mouth
glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.***

Romans 15:5-6 (NKJV)

Imperative Importance of the Work of Prayer

**The Weapon of Prayer
Prayer Essential to God
E. M. Bounds**

We must believe that the divine record of the facts about prayer and God are given in order that we might be constantly reminded of Him, and be ever refreshed by the faith that God holds His Church for the entire world, and that God's purpose will be fulfilled. His plans concerning the Church will most assuredly and inevitably be carried out. That record of God has been given without doubt that we may be deeply impressed that the prayers of God's saints are a great factor, a supreme factor, in carrying forward God's work, with facility and in time. When the Church is in the condition of prayer God's cause always flourishes and His kingdom on earth always triumphs. When the Church fails to pray, God's cause decays and evil of every kind prevails. In other words, God works through the prayers of His people, and when they fail Him at this point, decline and deadness ensue. It is according to the divine plans that spiritual prosperity comes through the prayer-channel. Praying saints are God's agents for carrying on His saving and providential work on earth. If His agents fail Him, neglecting to pray, then His work fails. Praying agents of the Most High are always forerunners of spiritual prosperity.

The men of the Church of all ages who have held the Church for God have had in affluent fullness and richness the ministry of prayer. The rulers of the Church which the Scriptures reveal have had preeminence in prayer. Eminent, they may have been, in culture, in intellect and in all the natural or

human forces; or they may have been lowly in physical attainments and native gifts; yet in each case prayer was the all potent force in the rulership of the Church. And this was so because God was with and in what they did, for prayer always carries us back to God. It recognizes God and brings God into the world to work and save and bless. The most efficient agents in disseminating the knowledge of God, in prosecuting His work upon the earth, and in standing as breakwater against the billows of evil, have been praying Church leaders. God depends upon them, employs them and blesses them.

Prayer cannot be retired as a secondary force in this world. To do so is to retire God from the movement. It is to make God secondary. The prayer ministry is an all-engaging force. It must be so, to be a force at all. Prayer is the sense of God's need and the call for God's help to supply that need. The estimate and place of prayer is the estimate and place of God. To give prayer the secondary place is to make God secondary in life's affairs. To substitute other forces for prayer, retires God and materializes the whole movement.

The Apostles were as dependent upon prayer as other folks. Sacred work,—Church activities—may so engage and absorb us as to hinder praying, and when this is the case, evil results always follow. It is better to let the work go by default than to let the praying go by neglect. Whatever affects the intensity of our praying affects the value of our work. "Too busy to pray" is not only the keynote to backsliding, but it mars even the work done. Nothing is well done without prayer for the simple reason that it leaves God out of the account. It is so easy to be seduced by the good to the neglect of the best, until both the good and the best perish. How easily may men, even leaders in Zion, be led by the insidious wiles of Satan to cut short our praying in the interests of the work! How easy to neglect prayer or abbreviate our praying simply by the plea that we have Church work on our hands. Satan has effectively disarmed us when he can keep us too busy doing things to stop and pray.

"Give ourselves continually to prayer and the ministry of the word." The Revised Version has it, "We will continue steadfastly in prayer." The implication of the word used here means to be strong, steadfast, to be devoted to, to keep at it with constant care, to make a business out of it. We find the same word in Col. 4:12, and in Romans 12:12, which is translated, "Continuing instant in prayer."

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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