

# Voice of Thanksgiving

## Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

Inner Court Ministries

For the Week of October 31, 2004

### **A Call to Prayer**

Would you be an instrument of God's in the great work of human redemption?

*Let us often look at Brainerd in the woods of America pouring out his very soul before God for the perishing heathen without whose salvation nothing could make him happy. Prayer—secret fervent believing prayer—lies at the root of all personal godliness. A competent knowledge of the language where a missionary lives, a mild and winning temper, a heart given up to God in closet religion—these, these are the attainments which, more than all knowledge, or all other gifts, will fit us to become the instruments of God in the great work of human redemption.—CARREY'S BROTHERHOOD, SERAMPORE*

### **This Week in Prayer**

- Pray for Israel. The strength of the Lord is the safeguard of Israel.
- The persecution of Christians continues. There are places where accepting Christ could result in loss of job, homes, and even life. The persecution of our brothers is ours as well. Will you 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.
- Pray for the **Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries** Conference in Poland, June 24-26, 2005.
- Pray for the ministry of the ICM eV (our German Verein). The Verein conference will be in Germany, June 16-18, 2005.

### **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.

DK Limbu Daniel – Who was here in Longmont a few weeks ago, writes, Pray for the New Life Faith Seminar November 1-4 and New Life Youth Convention November 10-14. Pray for God's

best to be manifested to the people at conventions and anointing for the speaker and participants. Pray for provision for buying motorbikes for pastors working on the southern plain. A used bike is \$400 and new is \$1200-1400.

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. Remember this church, pray for the 20 members, saved and baptized by the end of the year.

Marianne Burns – Marianne is a missionary to China with Campus Crusade for Christ. Remember Marianne and the work with students at a university in China.

### **Praying Always for You**

Pray for one another; pray that we would serve God with reverence and godly fear. .

***Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken,  
let us have grace, by which we may  
serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.  
Hebrews 12:28 (NKJV)***

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

How Are The Ears Of Your Heart?  
David Williamson

We live in a time of sounds; there is more noise, more music, more information, more sounds than in any time of man. We have sounds with us in every activity; our silent time even has sounds. The silent time in church has background music. People are uncomfortable in the absence of sound. People want music playing while they work and play. We have a plethora of devices providing sound everywhere we go and whatever we do. True this is a time of sounds.

In the crash of sounds and noise, what do we hear? Many people can pick out the most recent hit CD, selecting it from a mass of noise, often with a focus on these ear-catching sounds. People collect sounds, everything they can find from a time, place, or group they love. Our cars have become concert halls filled with the high fidelity sounds perfectly balanced and reproduced, often just loud enough for everyone within a mile to hear. But, the question remains, what do we hear?

There is more to the questions about sounds and hearing. What do you hear and what do you do with what you hear? These are important and valuable questions for people in a time of many sounds. More than any other parts of our bodies, our ears and eyes are receivers of information. Receivers only, they do not have a choice of what they see or hear. The sights and the sound of the moment are coming into the person to process. Most people ignore most of what comes in. It is like a wake-up call to see a beautiful sight. I live near the Rocky Mountains, the view is wonderful, yet day-after-day we miss the wonder and just go about our daily chores. Then something happens to catch our attention and we see the splendor of the view again. We focus our eyes on the sights we

see and focus our ears on what we hear. Everything comes in, but we set our focus. We see what we will and hear what we choose. “Could you repeat that, I wasn’t listening?”

Paul tells us of a time when people will not listen well.

***For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine,  
but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears,  
they will heap up for themselves teachers;  
and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.***

2 Tim. 4:3-4 (NKJV)

People turn their ears away. Paul wrote to Timothy about people who turn their ears away. They would not endure sound doctrine, they would not listen. They turned their ears away. When we talk about music turning your ears away is not always bad. I turn my ears away from much of the “music” young people listen to today. The crash of sounds does not appeal to me. I turn away.

In spiritual things to turn or not to turn away is a good and important question, one we all must deal with. There are things out there that are good for me. Some times I should not listen.

***They only consult to cast him down from his high position;  
They delight in lies; They bless with their mouth,  
But they curse inwardly. Selah***

Psalm 62:4 (NKJV)

***You have plowed wickedness; You have reaped iniquity.  
You have eaten the fruit of lies, Because you trusted in your own way,  
In the multitude of your mighty men.***

Hosea 10:13 (NKJV)

***Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith,  
giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,  
speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,***

1 Tim. 4:1-2 (NKJV)

***But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear,  
and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them,***

Deut. 30:17 (NKJV)

Before we go and turn off our ears, we should remember there are times we should be listening. God is speaking, speaking to our hearts. He is the good Father; He has much to tell us, His children. Will we listen as He speaks?

***Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise,  
And apply your heart to my knowledge;***

Proverbs 22:17 (NKJV)

***Hear, my son, and be wise; And guide your heart in the way.***

Proverbs 23:19 (NKJV)

He makes it very clear we are to listen with more than our ears, we are to listen to Him with our heart. Like the change that comes when a song we love comes on the radio. Like the change that comes when the orchestra plays a song, we love, so we should listen with new interest and excitement when we listen to Him. A pastor I know says we should turn the radio up like when our favorite song is on, this is how we should listen to our Father.

Those who will not listen, with their ears and hearts tuned in, careful to hear with their ears and heart, will come to a place where they cannot hear.

***"Make the heart of this people dull, And their ears heavy,  
And shut their eyes; Lest they see with their eyes,  
And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart,  
And return and be healed."***

Isaiah 6:10 (NKJV)

***For the hearts of this people have grown dull.  
Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed,  
Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears,  
Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn,  
So that I should heal them.'***

Matthew 13:15 (NKJV)

Today the world around us would dull our heart from hearing. The world would make our ears heavy, and shut our eyes, so we cannot see, hear, or understand. The sign of the time is that more than anytime in history we need to hear our Father's voice hear with our ears and heart. There is much that try to keep us from Him, but we must "turn the radio up", we must listen listening, we must tune Him in and all else out, we must listen.

Prayer is conversation, God and I, speaking and listening. He has promised to listen; He is true to His word. Will we come to Him and speak? Will we come to Him and listen?

### **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

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