

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

Inner Court Ministries

For the Week of December 11, 2005

A Call to Prayer

Everything then, as now, was possible to the men and women who knew how to pray. Prayer, indeed, opened a limitless storehouse, and God's hand withheld nothing. Prayer introduced those who practised it into a world of privilege, and brought the strength and wealth of heaven down to the aid of finite man. What rich and wonderful power was theirs who had learned the secret of victorious approach to God! With Moses it saved a nation; with Ezra it saved a church.

And yet, strange as it seems when we contemplate the wonders of which God's people had been witness, there came a slackness in prayer. The mighty hold upon God, that had so often struck awe and terror into the hearts of their enemies, lost its grip. The people, backslidden and apostate, had gone off from their praying—if the bulk of them had ever truly prayed. The Pharisee's cold and lifeless praying was substituted for any genuine approach to God, and because of that formal method of praying the whole worship became a parody of its real purpose. A glorious dispensation, and gloriously executed, was it by Moses, by Ezra, by Daniel and Elijah, by Hannah and Samuel; but the circle seems limited and short-lived; the praying ones were few and far between. They had no survivors, none to imitate their devotion to God, none to preserve the roll of the elect.

E. M. Bounds from *the Purpose in Prayer*

Continue Earnestly in Prayer

Pray for these men, women, and ministries. The Holy Spirit is looking for partners who will join with these ministries in prayer and support reaching nations for Jesus Christ. Pray for open doors of opportunity for the Gospel.

*And give Him no rest till He establishes
And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.*

Isaiah 62:7 (NKJV)

The Inntal Prayer Initiative – Continue to pray for revival in the Inntal, our prayers are making a difference. From Innsbruck, Austria to Rosenheim, Germany people are praying for revival, join in this prayer for the Inntal. It is very important time for Germany, as it is for all of Europe, The times demand Christian prayer. Pray for revival, pray for the church, pray for men and women to be saved.

The churches started with a monthly prayer meeting with all the free-churches together. It is always at the last Friday of the month. The meeting in November is in Brothaus church and the meeting in December is in a Lutheran church. The main reason they started these prayer meetings is a big evangelistic crusade in some European countries called "Pro Christ". The main

meeting will be in Munich in the "Olympia Halle" from there the program will be transferred via satellite to hundreds of cities in Germany and to some European countries. Pro Christ will be every evening from March 19 to 26th 2006.

The Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries Conference – It is time to begin praying for the 2006 BBB conference. Pray for the men and women who will come to the 2006 conference, this is the time of God's preparation. God has great plans for this conference and plans for touching the nations through this event.

DK Limbu Daniel – Pray for Pastor Daniel and his ministry in Nepal. Nepal is in the mist of a great move of God; continue to pray for this land. Pray for pastors, churches, and training schools. Pray for pastors and the work in new areas of Nepal. Pray for protection for Christians and favor with the government.

Editor's note: This is a very special time in this part of the world. God is moving in powerful ways across the region of South Asia.

- *Please spend extra time in prayer for Pastor Daniel and the many ministries in the region.*
- *Several members of the **Voice of Thanksgiving** Company will be in India in the next few months. Please be praying for outreaches in India in addition to your prayers for the rest of the area.*

***For you shall expand to the right and to the left,
And your descendants will inherit the nations,
And make the desolate cities inhabited.***

Isaiah 54:3 (NKJV)

***For as the earth brings forth its bud,
As the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth,
So the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.***

Isaiah 61:11 (NKJV)

John Coon – John will be returning again to Poland May 1 through 9, 2006. This will be a special time of ministry with pastors from Poland and with a friend of John's from fifteen years ago.

Jacek Gromadzki – **The** church in Kolobrzeg, Poland continues to reach out to the community. Pray for their boldness of faith and ministry.

Joyce Abrahamson – Joyce is a missionary working in Brazil. She runs a school for children and a Bible school. Pray for protection, anointing, and provision. Joyce requests prayer for the effectiveness of the outreach and for finances needed for the ministry.

Marianne and David Dean – Marianne and David are traveling in the United States meeting with people sharing their vision for ministry. Pray for men and women to embrace their vision for reaching East Asia and support them with finances and prayer.

Marek Kaminski – Marek has responsibilities in many areas as a husband and father, as pastor of his church, as a leader of his denomination in Poland, and as leader of **Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries** and the work with pastors. Please pray that God will direct him and give him wisdom.

Mark Spencer – Mark has responsibilities in many areas as a husband and father, as pastor of his church, as leader of *Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries* and the work with pastors, and as leader of the German Verein ICM e.V. which is the sponsor of the *Rise Up O People of God! – A Seminar on Prayer*. Please pray that God will direct him and give him wisdom.

*For “who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?”
But we have the mind of Christ.*

1 Cor. 2:16 (NKJV)

Your Home Church – Pray for your home church, that it would have great fruit in the work of saving people in your city. Pray for your church to be active in the work of saving people. Pray for plans and outreaches of your church this holiday season.

*For He says: “In an acceptable time I have heard you,
And in the day of salvation I have helped you.
Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*

2 Cor. 6:2 (NKJV)

Pray for Israel to see the Messiah who has come. Pray for their eyes to be opened and behold the Jesus Christ, the Messiah.

*From the end of the earth I will cry to You,
When my heart is overwhelmed;
Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.*

Psalms 61:2 (NKJV)

Imperative Importance of the Work of Prayer

The Disciples’ Prayer

David Williamson

The most famous prayer is the Lord’s Prayer, Jesus’ response to His disciples request to teach them to pray.

*Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place,
when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him,
“Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.”
So He said to them, “When you pray, say:
Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us day by day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us.
And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”*

Luke 11:1-4 (NKJV)

The Lord's Prayer is a prayer and a guide to prayer. Jesus explained to the disciples and to us how to pray, He in effect says, after this pattern pray.

Not nearly as famous, but of great importance is the Disciples' Prayer. This is the prayer disciples should be praying day-by-day. Not a rote prayer to be memorized and repeated over and over again, the Disciples' Prayer, like the Lord's Prayer, is a guide to prayer.

The Disciple's Prayer begins with an affirmation of the disciple's relationship with God the Father, as Jesus taught in the Lord's Prayer, prayer begins with "our Father". This is not an optional part of this prayer, without relationship to God as Father there is no Disciple's Prayer. Students of the Disciple's Prayer must first be disciples rightly related to the Father.

***I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live,
but Christ lives in me;
and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God,
who loved me and gave Himself for me.***

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)

Disciples of Disciple's Prayer, pray in faith. The Disciple's Prayer demands faith in God and His willingness and ability to answer prayer.

***So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God.
For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain,
'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart,
but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.
Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray,
believe that you receive them, and you will have them.***

Mark 11:22-24 (NKJV)

Disciples of the Disciple's Prayer forgive. They know disciples stand before God in need of forgiveness and must forgive to receive.

***And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone,
forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses.
But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.***

Mark 11:25-26 (NKJV)

The Disciple's Prayer seeks the fulfillment of God's plans and goals. The Disciple's Prayer seeks God's will over the disciple's will, no longer living in his or her own world, but seeking to join Jesus in His daily intercession and prayer. It is the Father's will that has priority in life and these prayers. The Disciple's Prayer is walked out day-by-day, the disciple dedicated to the life and purpose of Christ, responding to the Father with, "Yes Lord". The disciple is willing to be the vehicle of God's answer to prayer, in effect saying, "Lord answer this prayer by using me."

***Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying:
"Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?"
Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."***

Isaiah 6:8 (NKJV)

Disciple's Prayer confesses and knows God is the provider and seeks after Him for daily provision. This provision meets individual needs, but also flows through the disciple to meet the needs of the Gospel, reaching men, women, and nations. The Disciple's Prayer seeks the Father, knowing He is a rewarder and in His reward is the answer for all our needs.

***But without faith it is impossible to please Him,
for he who comes to God must believe that He is,
and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.***

Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

The Disciple's Prayer, is relationship with God and His power flowing through the prayers of His disciples.

Unfortunately most people do not pray the Disciple's Prayer; they pray the Doubter's Prayer. The Doubter's Prayer is common, but unfruitful. Faith is not the backbone of this prayer; doubt dominates and controls this prayer. Not built on faith, it cannot please the Father. With no expectation of answer, this prayer is just a religious exercise. The Doubter's Prayer fails to change the person who prays and does not affect God, man, or nation.

The good news is that practitioners of the Doubter's Prayer can change their life and habits. Jesus came to seek and to save those who were lost. Today He is willing and able to bring everyone to His saving grace. He is still calling for men and women to dedicate their life to prayer, to Disciple's Prayer.

Be a Disciple of Prayer, Pray the Disciple's Prayer

Editor note: ***Voice of Thanksgiving*** has a new home! VoT now has a website of its own, www.voiceofthanksgiving.com. This website has the current and past issue of VoT and an archive of articles from the section ***Imperative Importance of the Work of Prayer***. Soon there will be a forum on prayer and a section for ***Stimme der Dankbarkeit***, the German monthly version of VoT.

Joining This Company

All Christians who will pray are welcome. ***Voice of Thanksgiving*** is available by e-mail to all who will commit to prayer as members of this company. ***Voice of Thanksgiving*** 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. Also, tell your friends and prayer partners about ***Voice of Thanksgiving***. We are gathering a company of believers who will pray. Together we will reach nations for Jesus Christ.

To receive ***Voice of Thanksgiving*** Send an e-mail with word JOIN in the subject line to dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com

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