

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

Inner Court Ministries

For the Week of April 2, 2006

A Call to Prayer

ARE we praying as Christ did? Do we abide in Him? Are our pleas and spirit the overflow of His spirit and pleas? Does love rule the spirit—perfect love?

These questions must be considered as proper and apposite at a time like the present. We do fear that we are doing more of other things than prayer. This is not a praying age; it is an age of great activity, of great movements, but one in which the tendency is very strong to stress the seen and the material and to neglect and discount the unseen and the spiritual. Prayer is the greatest of all forces, because it honours God and brings Him into active aid.

There can be no substitute, no rival for prayer; it stands alone as the great spiritual force, and this force must be imminent and acting. It cannot be dispensed with during one generation, nor held in abeyance for the advance of any great movement—it must be continuous and particular, always, everywhere, and in everything. We cannot run our spiritual operations on the prayers of the past generation. Many persons believe in the efficacy of prayer, but not many pray. Prayer is the easiest and hardest of all things; the simplest and the sublimest; the weakest and the most powerful; its results lie outside the range of human possibilities they are limited only by the omnipotence of God.

Few Christians have anything but a vague idea of the power of prayer; fewer still have any experience of that power. The Church seems almost wholly unaware of the power God puts into her hand; this spiritual *carte blanche* on the infinite resources of God's wisdom and power is rarely, if ever, used—never used to the full measure of honouring God. It is astounding how poor the use, how little the benefits. Prayer is our most formidable weapon, but the one in which we are the least skilled, the most averse to its use. We do everything else for the heathen save the thing God wants us to do; the only thing which does any good—makes all else we do efficient

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

Continue Earnestly in Prayer

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

Isaiah 62:7 (NKJV)

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.

John Coon – Pray for John who has ministered in Europe and Eastern Europe for more than twenty-five years and his trip to Poland May 1 through 9, 2006. Pray for the work of the ministry. Pray also for the preparations and details for a successful ministry trip.

DK Limbu Daniel – Pray for Pastor Daniel and the pastors he works with in Nepal. Pastor Daniel writes:

Please include our church building project needs in your prayers list. We have just begun last week and committed to finish by first week in June. We will be hiring more labors. Our shortcoming in budget is \$37000 for we had to spend two times more cost than our original budget. Land cost is going up because of unrest in the country people are fluxing into the capital for safety. Kathmandu city's population is 2.5 million and planners are predicting it will reach soon 5 million, if growing rate continues. This is horrible, but we have opportunity to reach the people coming [from] all corners of country; so to accommodate we need to have a big space. That's what we are doing. May God bless you,

In His grace,

Pastor Deu K. Limbu (D. K. Daniel)

Ambassador for Jesus Christ to the troubled world (2Cor. 5:20)

The Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries Conference – Pray for the men and women (pastors from across Europe) coming to the BBB Conference June 2006 in Poland. There is a great move of the Spirit working in Belarus.

Pray for Belarus, this is a time of great change. Now is the time for prayer. Pray for God to change this land so the Gospel will have free opportunity. The country needs government and leadership that open the way for people to hear and respond to God's call.

Pray also for the team preparing to go to Belarus from America later this year.

Marianne and David Dean – *Pray that the Lord would help us find balance while we invest in friendships here in the States yet remain focused on our goal of returning to East Asia in August. Pray that the Lord will bless our times in his Word and prayer.*

Joyce Abrahamson – Pray for the school children, their education is important and their introduction to the Lord is imperative.

Your Home Church – Pray for your church and its world view. Pray that they will in ever increasing measure see the nations of the world as white unto harvest. Pray for labors to be thrust forth for the nations.

The Inntal Prayer Initiative – Pray for upcoming seminars on prayer.

Pray for Israel – Pray for Israel; the times are difficult for this nation and people.

Jacek Gromadzki – Pray for Jack and the church in Kolobrzeg, Poland, pray for the outreaches of this church.

Marek Kaminski – Pray for Marek and his church in Poland, pray for his schedule and wise use of his time. Pray for time to complete all he must do and still have time with his family.

Mark Spencer – Pray for Mark and his plans for this year's seminars and other obligations that he must fulfill. Pray for wise use of his time.

Imperative Importance of the Work of Prayer

Breakup the Fallow Ground—My Heart

Part Three

David Williamson

***Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy;
Break up your fallow ground, For it is time to seek the Lord,
Till He comes and rains righteousness on you.***

Hosea 10:12 (NKJV)

How is your base? The base of a structure determines its size and strength. With a small base the structure is limited. Any attempt to build over these limits will result in problems, the structure will fail. In many ways the heart is the base for the Christian life and for prayer. Too often Christians have been willing to live their life in a limited way. The life Jesus gives is unlimited, but their base limits. The heart base limits, by hardened heart, by limited faith, by giving entrance to fear, by disobedience, by sin, and by so much of life as we live it. We have taken limited life instead of the unlimited life Jesus purchased for us. In many the same ways, we have limited our life of prayer.

The farmer settling in a new area must prepare the ground for planting. He clears the land, breaks up the fallow ground and plants his seeds. Some farmers work all the land they can; others work only a limited section. For the farmer there may be good reasons to limit the size of his fields, but in prayer we can choose to be unlimited. It is our choice. Jesus gave us a full and complete salvation; this includes a full and complete life of prayer, a life of prayer like what Jesus had here on earth. The choice is ours, the unlimited prayer life waits. What will you choose?

The Holy Spirit is willing and able to help you make your choice a reality. If we will allow Him to work on our heart, He will change our heart and make us men and women of prayer, unlimited prayer. Will you allow Him to work on your heart? Will you allow Him to make you unlimited in prayer?

The person who chooses to be unlimited in prayer will invite the Holy Spirit to work, to address every area that would limit. Our cry should be, come and make me joyful in God, a treasury of good, upright, clean, and pure. Cause me to be inclined to obedience, awed by the word of God, and filled with the fear of God. Make me confident in God, zealous, wise, and wholly devoted to God.

Make Me Unlimited in Prayer

Home for This Company

The home of *Voice of Thanksgiving* is at www.voiceofthanksgiving.com. This website has current and past issues of VoT and an archive of articles from the section *Imperative Importance of the Work of Prayer*. The monthly issues of *Stimme der Dankbarkeit*, the German monthly version of VoT are also available here. Send correspondence to dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com

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