

# Voice of Thanksgiving

## Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

Inner Court Ministries

For the Week of April 30, 2006

### **A Call to Prayer**

*This passage applies to the preacher and all who would pray...*

THERE are two extreme tendencies in the ministry. The one is to shut itself out from intercourse with the people. The monk, the hermit were illustrations of this; they shut themselves out from men to be more with God. They failed, of course. Our being with God is of use only as we expend its priceless benefits on men. This age, neither with preacher nor with people, is much intent on God. Our hankering is not that way. We shut ourselves to our study, we become students, bookworms, Bible worms, sermon makers, noted for literature, thought, and sermons; but the people and God, where are they? Out of heart, out of mind. Preachers who are great thinkers, great students must be the greatest of prayers, or else they will be the greatest of backsliders, heartless professionals, rationalistic, less than the least of preachers in God's estimate.

The other tendency is to thoroughly popularize the ministry. He is no longer God's man, but a man of affairs, of the people. He prays not, because his mission is to the people. If he can move the people, create an interest, a sensation in favor of religion, an interest in Church work—he is satisfied. His personal relation to God is no factor in his work. Prayer has little or no place in his plans. The disaster and ruin of such a ministry cannot be computed by earthly arithmetic. What the preacher is in prayer to God, for himself, for his people, so is his power for real good to men, so is his true fruitfulness, his true fidelity to God, to man, for time, for eternity.

E. M. Bounds from *Power through Prayer*

### **Continue Earnestly in Prayer**

There is a great stirring in many of the areas of our prayers. God is hearing and responding to our prayers. Now is the time for great diligence in prayer for these nations, ministries, and people, as well as other projects you are a part. This time is one of great darkness coming over people and a time of the great light of the Gospel setting men and nations free. People and nations hang in the balance, will you pray?

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)

**DK Limbu Daniel** – Pray for Pastor Daniel and the pastors he works with in Nepal. Pray for the necessary paper work for his up coming trips. Pastor Daniel writes:

*Greetings in Jesus' Name!*

*We are fine and blessed in the Lord. Despite the difficult situation, God has protected us and people are coming to the Lord Jesus for the salvation. Please add Nepal in prayer matter for safety and growth of Church of God in Nepal. My country is on the verge of change. Since 10 days country is closed and under strike against monarchy. Everyday there is a demonstration, no vehicle may leave capital and enter. Everything's price is shooting up. In this 10 day movement over 4000 are arrested and 2000 are injured and 5 are killed, dozens are missing. Government is being pressured from everywhere and King is troubled. We had to graduate our school last week. But we are not worried about this, but only worried about souls. Pray for souls that they may come to the Lord more than ever before.*

*May God bless you all.*

*In His service in Nepal,*

*Pastor Deu K Limbu*

**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, pray for the paperwork necessary for this trip.

**The Inntal Prayer Initiative** – Pray for upcoming seminars on prayer. Pray for the Inntal region. Heike writes, *we also feel like "there is something in the air" in our area please pray for protection and manifestation of God's power. Please do also pray for the Christians to wake up and pray! It is obvious that we need the church to intercede.*

**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.*

**Jacek Gromadzki** – Pray for Jack and his church in Kolobrzeg, Poland, pray for outreach in Kolobrzeg and this northern part of Poland.

**Marek Kaminski** – Pray for Marek and his church in Poland, pray for his ministry in his church and his duties across the region. Pray of all of the arrangements for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual BBB Conference.

**Mark Spencer** – Pray for Mark and his plans for this year's seminars and other obligations that he must fulfill. Pray for wisdom and understanding.

**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.

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

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

### **Answers to Seemingly Impossible**

David Williamson

The word, impossible, controls much of a man's life. When he believes something is impossible it is very difficult to change his mind. We have such confidence in the impossible we seldom will even try something we have deemed to be impossible. In America there is an expression, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks." Since it is deemed by most people that teaching an old dog, new tricks is impossible, few people will even try. For all they know old dogs may learn faster or better compared to young dogs, but they will not try because they believe it is impossible.

There are few things as powerful as the impossible. Once we declare something impossible then there is no going back. It is impossible and that is end of story. This has been true for most people of every generation, but not for everyone. Some people do not believe in the idea of impossible. Some declared to be impossible is just a call to them to try and make changes. Others have overcome the limitations of impossible by coming to understand the nature and abilities of God. They have found that He is not limited by what people declare possible or impossible. They know the impossible is possible for God. These are heroes of the faith and they have seen God do the impossible.

***Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly  
above all that we ask or think,  
according to the power that works in us,  
Ephes. 3:20 (NKJV)***

Able to do above all we ask or think, is doing the impossible. If we would ask for something we believe it can be done. God answers more than our meager asking. If we can think it, it can be done, but God does things beyond human thinking. He is willing and able to do the impossible. God has in a very real way declared we can see the seemingly impossible done. The heroes of the faith have joined with God in doing the impossible. However, most people have not experienced this.

Why do so few people experience answers to the seemingly impossible? There are many answers to this question, but we will just touch on a few. The scope of this article does not allow for a study of this questions, areas such as using excuses like "the will of God" ("God knows best, so this must not be His will." Which is a weak argument used to cover weak theology). However, here are three areas where we can examine ourselves to see if we are ready to receive answers to the seemingly impossible.

First, we must authorize God. We must say yes and mean yes, "God you may move in my life". Many people talk about God moving in their life, but for various reasons they really mean no. Dealing with God can be overwhelming and it sometimes seems easier to say no to God. Then we attempt to justify ourselves by claiming, "It was impossible". At times people say yes to God and

mean no. A question for you to ponder and relate to your dealings with God, would God have birthed Jesus through Mary, if she had said no to His request? Do you authorize God to work in your life or by word or action do you tell Him no.

Second, we must align our life, thoughts, and actions with Gods will. When God gave Hanna a son (Samuel), she had aligned with His plans. The son was for God, not to be sacrificed on the altar of Moloch as some were doing, for example, the wives of King Solomon. A request such as, "God I need answers to the seemingly impossible in my finances", is a reasonable request, and to expect Him to move is a reasonable expectation, but check and see if you are aligned with Him and His purposes. Are your finances for Him or for you? God is willing and able to supply for our needs, even beyond just our immediate needs. However, is your request to feed your lusts, to control your life so you do not have to trust God, or some other hidden agenda? A good question to ask, what is God doing (and would have me doing with Him) in my generation, my fellowship, my life? Am I aligned with Him in all these areas?

Third, check to see if you are a man or woman under authority. Who rules in your life, God, self, flesh...? The man under authority and who understands authority is in the place to receive from God. The centurion from Capernaum understood authority; he knew that just as he ruled his men by his authority, so also Jesus could heal because He had authority over sickness and disease.

*For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me.  
And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another,  
'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."  
When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed,  
"Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!"*  
Matthew 8:5-13 (NKJV)

Often we say Jesus is Lord, but in the next breath we deny His Lordship over our sickness, problem or need. We negate our faith and stop His, because we are no longer under authority. We make His answers to the seemingly impossible, impossible.

How do you check out, authorized, aligned, and under authority? If your answer is yes, answers to the seemingly impossible, are yours to expect.

### **Answers to Seemingly Impossible**

#### **Home for This Company**

The home of *Voice of Thanksgiving* is at [www.voiceofthanksgiving.com](http://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](mailto:dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com)

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