

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

Inner Court Ministries

For the Week of September 3, 2006

A Call to Prayer

The key of all missionary success is prayer. That key is in the hands of the home churches. The trophies won by our Lord in heathen lands will be won by praying missionaries, not by professional workers in foreign lands. More especially will this success be won by saintly praying in the churches at home. The home church on her knees fasting and praying, is the great base of spiritual supplies, the sinews of war, and the pledge of victory in this dire and final conflict. Financial resources are not the real sinews of war in this fight. Machinery in itself carries no power to break down heathen walls, open effectual doors and win heathen hearts to Christ. Prayer alone can do the deed. from *the Essentials of Prayer* by E. M. Bounds

Continue Earnestly in Prayer

Will you Pray, men and women in countries of the world need the Gospel. Throughout the centuries of Christianity prayer has paved the way for the spread of the Gospel. This continues to be true today. Our efforts and work toward the spread of the Gospel is very important, but it is imperative that all we do is initiated in prayer, supported in prayer, and completed in prayer. The declaration of His message and demonstration of His power depends on prayer. Now is the time for great diligence in prayer for nations, ministries, people, and needs. The question of the day, will you pray?

Pray for Israel and the peace of Jerusalem – Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Jerusalem is the center of the End Times and the center of interest for all people.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

May they prosper who love you.

Psalm 122:6 (NKJV)

Yes, many peoples and strong nations

Shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem,

And to pray before the Lord.'

Zech. 8:22 (NKJV)

The Inntal Prayer Initiative and Mark Spencer – Pray for Mark who will be ministering in conferences in Germany and Nepal in October. Pray for God's anointing for these meetings and for all the arrangements that must be made. Pray for men and women to be draw by the Holy Spirit to attend these meetings

***For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel,
not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.
For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.***

1 Cor. 1:17-18 (NKJV)

DK Limbu Daniel – Pray for Pastor Daniel and the conference in October. Pray for the arrangements for the conference and the preparation of hearts to receive from the Lord. Pray that this conference will be a prosperous time for all.

***Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health,
just as your soul prospers.***

3 John 1:2 (NKJV)

Marianne and David Dean – Pray for young men and women of East Asia to be open to the Gospel message.

***For a great and effective door has opened to me,
and there are many adversaries.***

1 Cor. 16:9 (NKJV)

Marek Kaminski – Pray for the BBB Conference and future ministry. *Pray for God to guide us as to how to fulfill God's will for this ministry, for time (for travel), and for finances.*

***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)

Jacek Gromadzki – Pray for Jack and his church in Kolobrzeg, Poland. Pray for outreaches with an American team in Poland this summer. Pray that many people will be reconciled to God.

***Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ,
as though God were pleading through us:
we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.***

2 Cor. 5:20 (NKJV)

Joyce Abrahamson – Pray for the school children, their education is important and their introduction to the Lord is imperative. Joyce also writes: *"We are still plagued by rain and mud and depending on God's power and love to move forward each day. His Name is Wonderful."*

***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)

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.

*Ask of Me,
and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance,
And the ends of the earth for Your possession.*
Psalm 2:8 (NKJV)

Imperative Importance of the Work of Prayer

Becoming a Craftsman of Prayer David Williamson

It is fascinating to watch a craftsman in action. They have skills so their craft seems to just flow from their hands, where the transition of the natural material becomes the finished product. Craftsmen give us a glimpse at the ultimate craftsman, God. He creates with a flair that a human craftsman can only envy. A look at creation reveals His skill and imagination. He is the model for all craftsmen; they all should long to be like Him. In prayer this same pattern is true, Jesus is the ultimate craftsman and we should all long to be like Him. We should long to be a craftsman of prayer.

In all aspect of life we should be growing in wisdom and stature. Just as Jesus grew so should we.

*And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature,
and in favor with God and men.*
Luke 2:52 (NKJV)

Christian growth covers a wide range of subjects covering every aspect of life. This includes prayer. In prayer the Holy Spirit works to take us from the novice to the craftsman of prayer. This growth is directed by and taught by the Holy Spirit, but it requires the participation of a willing Christian. We can develop in prayer; the first step is to recognize the possibility of growth. Those who are satisfied with how they pray, seldom grow. Those who think their current practice of prayer is all there is, seldom grow. However, those who long to grow, those who long to be more like Jesus, those who seek training by the Holy Spirit, will grow.

Another key to growth in prayer, a secret of the success of craftsman of prayer, is asking for the searching of the Holy Spirit. The craftsman asks for the Holy Spirit to reveal areas that need work. These may be in prayer and its practices, but also in our daily walk with the Lord. The Holy Spirit will show us areas that are not in alignment with the Word of God, and areas where hindrances are limiting our prayers and their effectiveness. The craftsman seeks to know anything limiting his or her success and deal, with the help of the Holy Spirit, with these revealed areas.

*However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come,
He will guide you into all truth;
for He will not speak on His own authority,*

*but whatever He hears He will speak;
and He will tell you things to come.*

John 16:13 (NKJV)

But as it is written:

"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,

Nor have entered into the heart of man

The things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.

For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

1 Cor. 2:9-10 (NKJV)

Another key to growth in prayer is a commitment to obey the leadings of the Holy Spirit. As mentioned earlier, the Holy Spirit requires a willingness on our part to allow Him to work in our life. The activation of the Holy Spirit's lessons is obedience to God and His commands in our life. The man or woman willing to obey will grow in prayer. The only limit on our growth is the limit of our obedience.

We can grow in prayer. We can become more and more like Jesus our Master and example. The time in which we live and the need of prayer that is around us cries out for prayer. We need continual growth in prayer. This generation longs for you and I to pray and for our prayer to be the best they can be.

A Psalm of David.

Hear my prayer, O Lord,

Give ear to my supplications!

In Your faithfulness answer me,

And in Your righteousness.

Psalm 143:1 (NKJV)

Let us pray!

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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