

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of October 8, 2006

Prayer as a spiritual energy, and illustrated in its enlarged and mighty working, makes way for and brings into practical realization the promises of God.

God's promises cover all things which pertain to life and godliness, which relate to body and soul, which have to do with time and eternity. These promises bless the present and stretch out in their benefactions to the illimitable and eternal future. Prayer holds these promises in keeping and in fruition. Promises are God's golden fruit to be plucked by the hand of prayer. Promises are God's incorruptible seed, to be sown and tilled by prayer.

from *Possibilities of Prayer* by E. M. Bounds

The Life of Prayer

Answer to Prayer
David Williamson

King David records some of the sweetest words on prayer, "I sought the Lord, and He heard me" (Psalm 34:4). You can hear the awe in David, the Almighty God, creator of the universe, has heard him. When we pray this same awe overcomes us. It is overwhelming to realize that God would listen to me. And when it happens, we are hard pressed to take it in. David sought the Lord, heard from Him, and God delivered David. When we seek God and hear from Him, God brings answers to prayer.

*I sought the Lord, and He heard me,
And delivered me from all my fears.
They looked to Him and were radiant,
And their faces were not ashamed.
This poor man cried out, and the Lord heard him,
And saved him out of all his troubles.
The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him,
And delivers them.*
Psalm 34:4-7 (NKJV)

The workings of God are beyond our understanding, but God does choose to reveal much of Himself to us. He has given us the mind of Christ so we can know His revealed secrets.

*The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him,
And He will show them His covenant.*
Psalm 25:14 (NKJV)

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So we might pose a question, what do we know about hearing from God and receiving answers to prayer? A study of scriptures on this subject reveals that there are some characteristics of those who receive answers to prayer. For example, in the first verse in this article we read from Psalms a characteristic of seeking God, "I sought the Lord." A characteristic of getting God to hear and prayers answered is seeking God. Jeremiah takes this characteristic one step further; it is more than just seeking, we are to seek with all of our heart.

***Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me,
and I will listen to you.***

***And you will seek Me and find Me,
when you search for Me with all your heart.***

Jeremiah 29:12-13 (NKJV)

Our seeking can be further defined; we are to wait upon God. If we desire to hear from God, to hear from Him and receive answers to prayer, we must seek God, we must seek Him with all of our heart, and in seeking we must wait patiently for Him.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

I waited patiently for the Lord;

And He inclined to me, and heard my cry.

Psalm 40:1 (NKJV)

Our seeking to hear God is further qualified by a verse in 2 Chronicles. When we seek God we must humble ourselves and turn from our wicked ways.

if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves,

and pray and seek My face,

and turn from their wicked ways,

then I will hear from heaven,

and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NKJV)

We also read of this qualification for hearing God, in Job. Here we read that we must return to God and remove iniquity in our life.

If you return to the Almighty, you will be built up;

You will remove iniquity far from your tents.

Job 22:23 (NKJV)

You will make your prayer to Him,

He will hear you,

And you will pay your vows.

Job 22:27 (NKJV)

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One final characteristic for this study; hearing God requires a setting of our affections and love on God. We must make God our first love. When we set Him first in our life, we can seek Him and He has promised to hear us.

***Because he has set his love upon Me,
therefore I will deliver him;
I will set him on high, because he has known My name.
He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble;
I will deliver him and honor him.***

Psalm 91:14-15 (NKJV)

These are but a few of the characteristics of those who hear God, who receive answers to prayer. In the weeks to come we will explore more characteristics. These are so simple to read about; in essence it comes down to; seek God with your whole heart, make Him first in your life and remove anything that would hinder a close relationship with God. In the practice this is a tall order, much easier said than done. Seeking God comes through two main avenues. The first part is God's part He must seek you. The good news is He has done His part; He has sought after you and called you by name. In salvation and then the on going work of the Holy Spirit God has and is seeking you.

***For thus says the Lord God:
Indeed I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out.***

Ezekiel 34:11 (NKJV)

The second part is our part and this is also an ongoing process for us. We must diligently seek Him out. We are called to make this the diligent effort and work of our day.

***But from there you will seek the Lord your God,
and you will find Him if you
seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.***

Deut. 4:29 (NKJV)

***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)

If we seek Him, we will hear from Him and receive answers to prayer! This is awesome and inspiring. Today we can hear from God, let us seek Him!

Let us pray!

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A Call for Prayer

Pray for Israel and the peace of Jerusalem –Pray for Israel. Pray for the people, the nation and the land.

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

Isaiah 62:7 (NKJV)

Pray for the Inntal Prayer Initiative and Mark Spencer – Mark and David will be conducting conferences in Germany October 13, 14, and 15 in Rosenheim, Germany. Mark will then go to Nepal, for a conference October 23-26 with Pastor Daniel. Pray for safe travel and good connections (especially for Mark, he faces several very long flights). Pray for these conferences; ask for good turnout, for God's anointing on the meetings, and response to His anointing.

*meanwhile praying also for us,
that God would open to us a door for the word,
to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains,*
Col. 4:3 (NKJV)

DK Limbu Daniel –Pray for:

23-26th Oct we have Word Explosion Conference, pray for the participants that they would be enriched by the word and go forth with power and boldness.

Pray for our financial need of 14000\$ to complete our new church building.

Pray for the peace in Nepal.

Thank you for praying for us. May God bless you, Pastor DK Daniel

Marianne and David Dean – Pray for contacts and meeting with students. Pray that these students make genuine decisions and that they will desire to grow and become involved in ministry.

Thanks so much to all of you for your prayers, your love and support! You really have no idea how much it means to us!! - Marianne

Marek Kaminski –Pray for the ministry of the BBB Conference. Pray for guidance for new efforts as well as for continuation of current efforts. Pray for God's guidance and will for this ministry, for time (for travel), and for finances.

*For You are my rock and my fortress;
Therefore, for Your name's sake, Lead me and guide me.*

Psalm 31:3 (NKJV)

Jacek Gromadzki – Pray for Jack and his church in Kolobrzeg, Poland. Pray for the plans for outreaches to the community. Pray for plans for outreaches this summer.

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*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 finances for this ministry, there have been some very difficult setbacks and we need to see God move mightily for Joyce and the children.

*And my God shall supply all your need
according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

Philip. 4:19 (NKJV)

Pray for your Home Church – Pray for your church and the ministry of the Word. Pray for God to speak to those in your church and to direct ministry and outreach to your community.

*I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience,
as my forefathers did,
as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day,*

2 Tim. 1:3 (NKJV)

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