

# Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of October 15, 2006

Nothing so pleases God in connection with our prayer as our praise, and nothing so blesses the man who prays as the praise which he offers. I got a great blessing once in China in this connection. I had received bad and sad news from home, and deep shadows had covered my soul. I prayed, but the darkness did not vanish. I summoned myself to endure, but the darkness only deepened. Just then I went to an inland station and saw on the wall of the mission home these words: "Try Thanksgiving." I did, and in a moment every shadow was gone, not to return. Yes, the Psalmist was right, "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord."—HENRY W. FROST

## *The Life of Prayer*

### **Answer to Prayer, part 2**

David Williamson

There is a longing in our heart. We desire to pray, hear from God, and receive answers to our prayers. This is a good goal and one that should encourage us to study in the Holy Spirit school of prayer. If you are new to prayer or someone who has prayed for years, there is always something new for us to learn. Our cry should be like that of the disciples when they asked Jesus to teach them to pray. We should be asking, teach me to pray.

With this desire to grow and mature in prayer, we have been looking at what the Bible has to say about hearing from God and have been looking at some of the characteristics. When we hear from God we can have confidence that He will answer our prayers. Last week the main characteristic was seeking God. We saw the value of seeking Him and conditions for successfully seeking Him. We began with this verse from Psalms.

*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)

Today let us continue with this study. There are several verses that can be fruitful for our lessons in prayer. These verses center on the word ask. If we are going to hear from God, if we truly want to receive answers to prayer we need to ask God. This bothers some people; they get hung up on the nature of God. They let it hinder their prayers. Their logic, if it can be called logic, is as follows.

# Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

Since God knows everything, why do I need to ask Him for anything? They limit their receiving from God because they have not followed what Jesus taught His disciples. He taught them to ask when they pray. He said to them say, "Give us this day our daily bread." This is asking. Using the mistaken logic mention earlier people would claim we do not need to ask for bread because God knows we need bread. The relationship of Father to son or Father to daughter is one of asking and giving. Right relationship with a parent allows for and encourages children to ask for those things they want.

Asking is closely related to faith. Asking for things is an act of faith. Only a God, who is able to give to His children, need be asked to give. When we ask we are affirming by faith that God is able. Father I know you can and will give me my daily bread, so that is why I ask for it.

If we are going to ask correctly of our Father, we must ask in faith. The prayer of unbelief, prayer without faith is dead. We cannot and should not expect answer. However, when we ask in faith nothing wavering, we should and can expect to hear from God and receive answers to our prayers.

***So Jesus answered and said to them,  
"Assuredly, I say to you,  
if you have faith and do not doubt,  
you will not only do what was done to the fig tree,  
but also if you say to this mountain,  
'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done.***

Matthew 21:21 (NKJV)

***And the prayer of faith will save the sick,  
and the Lord will raise him up.  
And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.***

James 5:15 (NKJV)

As we saw last week, the Bible is great for clarifying and explaining the lessons we are learning on prayer. Just as seeking is carefully defined and explained in the Bible so is asking. When we ask we must ask in the name of Jesus and according to the God's will. In the name of Jesus is not some incantation or secret phrase that we use to conjure up God's answers. It is in the name of Jesus that our faith is empowered. Power and authority rests in Jesus and the man or woman who will pray in faith must stand on His name. We would all laugh if I was to pray, I the name of David, God give me my answer. While I am empowered as a Christian it does not come by my name, but by the name above all names, Jesus Christ. In His name, we receive clout.

***And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do,  
that the Father may be glorified in the Son.***

John 14:13 (NKJV)

# *Voice of Thanksgiving*

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

The power in the name of Jesus requires a right relationship with Him. Jesus was powerful in action and prayer because He was rightly related to the Father. He and the Father were one. Thus all power and authority rested on Jesus and He was able (and continues to be able) to pray and the Father always heard Jesus and answered Him.

*Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying.  
And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said,  
“Father, I thank You that You have heard Me.  
And I know that You always hear Me,  
but because of the people who are standing by I said this,  
that they may believe that You sent Me.”*

John 11:41-42 (NKJV)

We rightly use the name of Jesus, when we pray, when we are rightly related to Jesus.

Asking is also directed by what we ask for. We hear from God and receive answers from Him when we ask according to His will. There is a walk with the Father that reveals His will for our prayers. It is a humble place, it is a committed place, it is place of right standing, a place covered by the blood of Jesus and this place is where God will reveal in our heart His will for prayer. He reveals His will most often by His word. As we pray, we should pray what God has said in the Bible on the subject. This is a place of praying in the will of God. This is a safe place for us and a powerful place for answers to prayer.

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

Let us pray!

## ***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 are 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.

# Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

*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.

*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.

# *Voice of Thanksgiving*

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

*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)*

## *Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer*

*Voice of Thanksgiving* comes in several formats.

The *Voice of Thanksgiving* Website has current and past issues of *VoT*. There is an archive past issues and a search feature to assist you in finding specific information. Visit *VoT* at [www.voiceofthanksgiving.com](http://www.voiceofthanksgiving.com)

The *Voice of Thanksgiving* Blog is the newest feature of *VoT*. The blog is available at [www.voiceofthanksgiving.com/blog/](http://www.voiceofthanksgiving.com/blog/)

*Stimme der Dankbarkeit* is the German language monthly version of *VoT*. It is available at <http://voiceofthanksgiving.com/SDDPage.htm>

To receive *Voice of Thanksgiving* the newsletter weekly by e-mail, send an email with word JOIN in the subject line to [dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com](mailto:dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com)

*Voice of Thanksgiving* Correspondance with the editor of the newsletter, blog, or website should be sent to [dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com](mailto:dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com)