

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of November 19, 2006

Let me burn out for God. After all, whatever God may appoint prayer is the great thing. Oh that I may be a man of prayer.—Henry Martyn

The Life of Prayer

Draw Near in Prayer

David Williamson

Some times we do not come as boldly to God as we should. At times we are like kids running and jumping into our fathers arm; we come to God and fill his embrace. In His arms prayer is easy; our faith leaps high and strong. Mountains are no match; we come out swinging knowing that our prayers avail much. However, sometimes this is just not the way it is. We cannot be bold, we hold back from God.

Although He invites us to come to Him we stand at arms length or even further away.

***Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace,
that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.***

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)

Our Father says come, but we hold back. Why? We stand far off from God due to our sin. And it is more than just sin; we have an advocate, Jesus, who stands for us concerning sin, but the real problem is we do not appropriate and enjoy the benefits of His work. We allow the taint of sin to keep us from close relationship from our Father.

At Mount Sinai God offered Israel a special place, but only Moses drew near to God. All of them had passed from slavery through the Red Sea into a new life, but they would not draw near to God. Many Christians have a similar experience today. They have passed from death to life in baptism, but they still stand a far off from God. They limit the work of Jesus, hoping for the fruit of salvation to be enjoyed at some distant time. With this attitude they limit their prayer life. For them prayer is a chore required of God's children, an exercise in frustration. They hear of men and women of prayer, but they never experience the joy of close relationship with God in prayer or answers to prayer.

This should not be our experience. Our Father has made provision for us, so we can draw near to Him. Moses drew near to God, but we are under a new and better covenant providing for an even closer relationship with God. We should not be standing far off. We must receive His mercy and grace, on His terms, but receive them we must. There is no other way for a prayer life to take on the robust nature that is necessary if we are going to pray for our generation.

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Our Father is looking for men and women who will draw near to Him and pray. Men and women, who are not hindered by sin and its taint, but come close to Him by the incomparable work of Jesus Christ. He is looking for men and women who will come to Him offering all; offering to take off all that hampers the work of prayer. He is looking for the one who will allow Jesus to wash off all sin and even the taint of sin, so that the communion of prayer will not be broken, limited, or hindered. He is calling for men and women who will come and bring radical prayer, prayer of body, soul, and spirit.

This is a radical call to prayer, but the days we live in demand radicals. Sin, death, and destruction are systematically destroying nations and people; the vanguard against this is prayer, radical prayer. God will have His way, He will find men and women of radical prayer; the question is will you take on the mantle; will you stand with Him in this prayer?

If this has roused a stirring in your heart, then act on it. Do not read through this and then just set it down; do not let the stirring subside. You must act. What should I do you may say? Well the Bible tells us that if we are to draw near we must act. It is specific as to how we are to act. We must be washed clean, heart sprinkled, and our bodies washed with pure water. We are to cleanse our hands and purify our hearts.

*let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,
having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience
and our bodies washed with pure water.*

Hebrews 10:22 (NKJV)

*Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.
Cleanse your hands, you sinners;
and purify your hearts, you double-minded.*

James 4:8 (NKJV)

How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.

Psalms 119:9 (NKJV)

*In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity;
And by the fear of the Lord one departs from evil.*

Proverbs 16:6 (NKJV)

*Therefore, having these promises, beloved,
let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit,
perfecting holiness in the fear of God.*

2 Cor. 7:1 (NKJV)

*Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter,
he will be a vessel for honor,*

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*sanctified and useful for the Master,
prepared for every good work.*

2 Tim. 2:21 (NKJV)

And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

1 John 3:3 (NKJV)

Today is the day of prayer, walk in His provision and walk near to Him. Your family, community, and nation are crying out for you to pray. The needs of today, needs a radical like you! Will you respond; will you draw near?

Let us pray!

A Call for Prayer

*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)

Pray for Israel and the peace of Jerusalem –Pray for the building up, the protection, of Zion, for the set time is at hand.

*But You, O Lord, shall endure forever,
And the remembrance of Your name to all generations.*

You will arise and have mercy on Zion;

For the time to favor her, Yes, the set time, has come.

For Your servants take pleasure in her stones, And show favor to her dust.

So the nations shall fear the name of the Lord,

And all the kings of the earth Your glory.

For the Lord shall build up Zion; He shall appear in His glory.

He shall regard the prayer of the destitute, And shall not despise their prayer.

Psalm 102:12-17 (NKJV)

Marianne and David Dean – Pray for teammates who are dealing with difficult situations. Pray for the focus on evangelism, while there is a stirring, it has been difficult to see much spiritual interest. Pray for the girls Marianne has been working with. Pray for open doors of opportunity, open hearts to receive God's Word, and willingness to go deeper into spiritual things. Pray also for safety while traveling for David and another teammate.

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

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Pray for the Inntal Prayer Initiative and Mark Spencer – Pray for open doors of opportunity and provision for walking through those doors.

DK Limbu Daniel – Pray for the pastors of Nepal, pray for protection and provision so they can complete all of God's call for their life.

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

Marek Kaminski – Pray for Provision for completion of all that God has placed in his heart to do.

Jacek Gromadzki – Pray for successful outreaches in Kolobrzeg, Poland. Pray for an open hearted response to the Gospel.

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

1 Cor. 16:9 (NKJV)

Joyce Abrahamson – Pray for the students in the school, pray for their safety and provisions.

Pray for your Home Church – Pray for outreaches to your community.

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