

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of February 18, 2007

“Many exemplary men have I known, holy in heart and life, within my four score years. But one equal to John Fletcher—one so inwardly and outwardly obedient and devoted to God—I have not known.” —JOHN WESLEY.

The Life of Prayer

Do We Know God?

David Williamson

I have a friend who likes chocolate pie. I know this is true; I work with him and have seen him eat this pie from a local restaurant several times. I have seen this enough that one day a few weeks ago when I was at lunch at this place I decided to take a piece of this pie back to this friend. He knew nothing about this; even that I was going to this restaurant. When I returned to work with the pie this man was very excited about the pie. Seeing his smile was worth the cost of 20 pieces of pie.

While reading the book of Jeremiah in the Bible, I came to God’s diatribe against false prophets in chapter 23. I was reading from the New Living Translation and was startled by these words. “But can you name even one of these prophets who knows the Lord well enough to hear what He is saying? Has even one of them cared enough to listen?” What jumped out at me was how the question would apply to men and women of prayer today, to us. Do we know God well enough to hear what He is saying? Do we care enough to listen?

*Let us know,
Let us pursue the knowledge of the Lord.
His going forth is established as the morning;
He will come to us like the rain,
Like the latter and former rain to the earth.*

Hosea 6:3 (NKJV)

There are many people around the world who pray to unknown gods, they pray to inanimate objects and symbols. They do not know the god they pray to because there is no one to know. However, we have a great advantage we have been invited to pray to the living God, the creator of the universe. This is a wonderful thing, but too often we neglect this advantage. We have failed to pursue the knowledge of God.

*And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God,
and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.*

John 17:3 (NKJV)

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Using my friend who likes chocolate pie as an example, I have gotten to know him a little. I know that he is a hard working man. He strives to do what is right and best for the school where he works. He loves his family and is concerned with raising his children successfully. He likes sports and he likes chocolate pie!

Could we make this type of list about our God? Do we know God well enough to tell someone His likes and dislikes? What makes Him angry? What are His plans for the future? What does He love? What type of pie would He like? Do we know the Lord well enough to hear what He is saying? Do we care enough to listen?

Paul prayed for the churches he founded that they would know God. He knew how important this was.

*that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection,
and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,*
Philip. 3:10 (NKJV)

*For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you,
and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will
in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;
that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him,
being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;
strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power,
for all patience and longsuffering with joy;
giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be
partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.*
Col. 1:9-12 (NKJV)

What are you doing to know God? Are you walking with Him, learning His nature, voice, and His likes and dislikes? Are you increasing in the knowledge of God? Do you know the Lord well enough to hear what He is saying? Do you care enough to listen?

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)

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Pray for Israel and the peace of Jerusalem – Pray for Jews to return to their homeland and for the veil that has covered their eyes to be removed so they may see the one whom they have pierced and acknowledge Him as the Messiah.

*Fear not, for I am with you;
I will bring your descendants from the east,
And gather you from the west;
[6] I will say to the north, 'Give them up!'
And to the south, 'Do not keep them back!'
Bring My sons from afar,
And My daughters from the ends of the earth--*
Isaiah 43:5-6 (NKJV)

Joyce Abrahamson – Pray for evangelism with the children and families of all who are associated with the school and for the start of school Feb. 22.

DK Limbu Daniel – Pray for young pastors of Nepal. As churches are planted there is a constant need for men and women to serve in churches and minister to the needs of new converts. Pray for their training and maturing in the Lord.

*But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions,
do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*
2 Tim. 4:5 (NKJV)

Marianne and David Dean – Pray opportunities for meeting young people of East Asia. Pray that their hearts will be prepared to receive the Gospel message. *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*

John Coon – Pray for all the arrangements for John's trip to Poland in May.

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)

Marek Kaminski – Pray for Marek and all the arrangements for ministry trips and meetings including the BBB conference and trips to Eastern Europe.

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The Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries Conference – Pray for the plans for the fifth annual BBB Conference.

Pray for the Inntal Prayer Initiative – Pray for the prayer seminars and ministry in the Rosenheim area of Germany in the summer of 2007.

Mark Spencer – Pray for clarity in Patty and my hearing the voice of the Lord concerning personal direction, His leading for the church and ministry as well as His provision clearly seen and manifest. Also that we would take full advantage of the Spirit's declaration that the year 2007 would indeed be a year of open doors and of fruitful obedience. Thanks!

Pray for your Home Church – Pray for abundant provision for your church.

*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)

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