

# Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of February 25, 2007

Constrained at the darkest hour to confess humbly that without God's help I was helpless, I vowed a vow in the forest solitude that I would confess His aid before men. A silence as a death was around me; it was midnight, I was weakened by illness, prostrated with fatigue and worn with anxiety for my white and black companions, whose fate was a mystery. In this physical and mental distress I besought God to give me back my people. Nine hours later we were exulting with rapturous joy. In full view of all was the crimson flag with the crescent and beneath its waving folds was the long-lost rear column.—HENRY M. STANLEY

## *The Life of Prayer*

### **Prepared for Prayer**

David Williamson

Many years ago there was a cartoon that was produced that was based on the character buying exercise equipment and beginning to work toward being strong and fit. The cartoon was all about the funny disasters that befell him as he tries to work out. With the exercise equipment there was a full size silhouette of a well built man. This was placed on the wall and this was used to compare how the main character looked and where he still needed help; of course in a cartoon the main character was far from the model.

Most weeks we look at prayer for others. The prayer life is not foremost a selfish thing, but is for others. We pray for other people, ministries, churches, and nations. However, there are times when it is important that we pray for ourselves. We call it armor polishing; if the knight is going to go out to battle he should have his armor working well. When we work to improve or set things right we need a standard or model of perfection for comparison, so like the cartoon character and his silhouette, we compare to the standard. The perfect standard for prayer and life is Jesus. Set before us, He is our goal and model.

***I have set the Lord always before me;  
Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved.***

Psalm 16:8 (NKJV)

To help us to grow closer to our comparison let us this week pray the prayer of David found in Psalm 86. In this prayer David commands God concerning many areas of human need, asking for God's answers to David's prayers. First we ask God to hear our prayers.

***A Prayer of David.  
Bow down Your ear, O Lord, hear me; For I am poor and needy.***

Psalm 86:1 (NKJV)

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Next we renew our confession of faith and trust in God for salvation and life.

*Preserve my life, for I am holy;  
You are my God; Save Your servant who trusts in You!*  
Psalm 86:2 (NKJV)

We ask for God's great mercy to be with us working on our behalf as we walk through the days and weeks.

*Be merciful to me, O Lord, For I cry to You all day long.  
Rejoice the soul of Your servant, For to You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.  
For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive,  
And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.*  
Psalm 86:3-5 (NKJV)

We cry out to God for answers to prayers. This is a confession of our dependence on Him and our trust in His willingness and abilities that are more than sufficient for our every need.

*Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;  
And attend to the voice of my supplications.  
In the day of my trouble I will call upon You, For You will answer me.  
Among the gods there is none like You, O Lord;  
Nor are there any works like Your works.  
All nations whom You have made Shall come and worship before You, O Lord,  
And shall glorify Your name.  
For You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God.*  
Psalm 86:6-10 (NKJV)

We ask God to guide and direct our life, and to instruct us in walking the path He has set before us.

*Teach me Your way, O Lord; I will walk in Your truth;  
Unite my heart to fear Your name.  
I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart,  
And I will glorify Your name forevermore.  
For great is Your mercy toward me,  
And You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.  
O God, the proud have risen against me,  
And a mob of violent men have sought my life,  
And have not set You before them.  
But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious,  
Longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.*  
Psalm 86:11-15 (NKJV)

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Finally we call out for His mercy, help, and comfort.

*Oh, turn to me, and have mercy on me!  
Give Your strength to Your servant,  
And save the son of Your maidservant.  
Show me a sign for good,  
That those who hate me may see it and be ashamed,  
Because You, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.*  
Psalm 86:16-17 (NKJV)

Take some time this week and have a heavenly workout. Ask God to polish your armor and prepare you for battle. Let Him place on you the implements of battle and clad you with zeal as a cloak.

*He saw that there was no man,  
And wondered that there was no intercessor;  
Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him;  
And His own righteousness, it sustained Him.  
For He put on righteousness as a breastplate,  
And a helmet of salvation on His head;  
He put on the garments of vengeance for clothing,  
And was clad with zeal as a cloak.*  
Isaiah 59:16-17 (NKJV)

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 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;  
I will say to the north, 'Give them up!'*

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*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)

**Bernhard and Lisa Prumbach** – Pray for the move to Germany, for safe travel and transition to living in Germany. Pray for their new home and jobs. Pray for the provision of all they need. Pray for their ministry to the young people of Germany, that God is opening for them.

*By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called  
to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance.  
And he went out, not knowing where he was going.*  
Hebrews 11:8 (NKJV)

*Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel,  
and a door was opened to me by the Lord,*  
2 Cor. 2:12 (NKJV)

**Joyce Abrahamson** – Pray for Joyce and the workers of the school.

**DK Limbu Daniel** – Pray for Pastor Daniel; for strength and wisdom to carry out the call God has placed on him.

**Marianne and David Dean** – Pray for new converts to Christianity. Pray for these to be disciples of Christ. *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.

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

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**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!

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

1 Cor. 16:9 (NKJV)

**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.*

Psalms 2:8 (NKJV)

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

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