

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of April 1, 2007

“Die before you die. There is no chance after.”

This is from the book *Til We Have Faces*, C. S. Lewis writing about our need to die to self.

The Life of Prayer

Delighted in the Lord

David Williamson

Once we have begun to practice prayer, make it a regular part of our Christian life, we begin to know of key verses from the Bible. These verses are powerful statements about prayer. They state our role, God’s role, His willingness to listen and respond, and His might power in answering prayer. It is important for us to review these verses regularly; we need to guard our life of prayer less unbelief or doubt creep in, we need to focus and direct our faith, and we must continue to grow and mature in our walk with God. These verses are for our instruction, teaching us God’s ways, revealing our shortcomings, changing the error in our ways, and guiding us in righteousness.

***All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,
and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction,
for instruction in righteousness,***

2 Tim. 3:16 (NKJV)

If we become careless in our review of these key verses, we are in danger of slipping into problems and weakness in our prayer. Ultimately we could come to the point where we could not care less about prayer. So since we as a company care about prayer and long to continue to grow and mature in God’s will, ways, and wonders concerning prayer, let us review a verse on prayer. This is a verse from a great man of prayer King David. Although prayer is not mentioned, this verse is all about relationship with God in prayer.

***Delight yourself also in the Lord,
And He shall give you the desires of your heart.***

Psalm 37:4 (NKJV)

If we delight in the Lord, he shall give us the desires of your heart. It seems important, our delighting in the Lord, that is. It is like a door, an entrance to God, an entrance that will take us to God’s provision, the desires of our heart (answers to prayer). The word delight is the key. It seems common enough, we all know what it means, a high degree of gratification. The key is gratification of God; that is to give pleasure. To give pleasure to God, delight in the Lord.

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However, this is just half the story. The word delight in the Hebrew means, to be soft or pliable. What could this mean? It is straight forward enough if we stop and think about it. We give pleasure to God by being soft or pliable to Him. God's disciple is the one who yields to God's will. The disciple has ended control of his own life; remember he is crucified with Christ; he is not his own any more. The disciple's life should be soft and pliable to God's will, direction, and command.

We delight in the Lord by being soft and pliable. We say yes to His request, we follow his directions, and we do what He commands. We are not hard, demanding our wants, we are soft to Him. We are not rigid and set, demanding our way; we are pliable in His hands. The key to God giving us the desires of our heart is delighting in Him. We are to give God the pleasure of being soft and pliable in His hand.

*I delight to do thy will, O my God:
yea, thy law is within my heart.*

Psalm 40:8 (KJV)

*But now, O Lord,
You are our Father;
We are the clay, and You our potter;
And all we are the work of Your hand.*

Isaiah 64:8 (NKJV)

*For you have need of endurance,
so that after you have done the will of God,
you may receive the promise:*

Hebrews 10:36 (NKJV)

*Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead,
that great Shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the everlasting covenant,
make you complete in every good work to do His will,
working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ,
to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

Hebrews 13:20-21 (NKJV)

*Now this is the confidence that we have in Him,
that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.
And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask,
we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.*

1 John 5:14-15 (NKJV)

Let us pray!

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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 true peace to come to these people and this place. Pray that the Messiah would be seen and known by the Jewish people of this land and around the world.

William Williamson – Bill is a pastor in Eastern Colorado, and a long time member of this company. We have prayed for Bill and the teams he has led to India for several years. On the night of March 28 the town of Holly, Colorado, where Bill is a pastor, was hit by a tornado. Please pray for Bill, his family, for the members of his church, and for the people of this community. There are reports of great destruction of property and people taken to local and area hospitals, there has been one death. Pray for restoration of the damage, provision for families, and also pray for the hearts of the people. It is easy in times like this to blame God, but now is the time for Christians to draw near to their God and for non-Christians to come to know Him as Lord. God did not bring destruction to this little town, our enemy did; our God brings life and it abundantly. It is also easy to just give up. This is true for people who have lost everything from their homes. They give up and leave the area. It is true for people spiritually. In time of trouble and pressure it is easy to make this their excuse and quit on their faith.

John Coon – Pray for all the arrangements for John's trip to Poland in May. Pray for the hearts of men and women to be warmed to the Gospel message and life in Christ Jesus.

Bernhard and Lisa Prumbach – Pray for their ministry in Germany. Pray for opportunities to start and develop the ministry God has called them to. Pray for the provision of all they need.

Marianne and David Dean – Pray for East Asian Christian students becoming passionately committed to praying—for their university, country, and the world.

Jacek Gromadzki – Pray for Jack and his church in Kołobrzeg, Poland. Pray for the spiritual climate of Kołobrzeg to warm to the message of Christ and His salvation.

Marek Kaminski – Pray for Marek and for plans and provision for this spring and summer. Pray for great outreach to Koszalin and to the rest of Poland. Pray that this nation would have revival.

Joyce Abrahamson – Pray for Joyce and for those who help her in this ministry in Brazil. Pray for provision and protection for Joyce, workers, teachers, students, and families.

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DK Limbu Daniel – Pray for Pastor Daniel and the pastors under his care. Pray for new areas of opportunity for the Gospel message. Pray for willing workers to respond to God’s call and go to these new areas.

Pray for the Inntal Prayer Initiative – Pray for new opportunities to share the life of prayer, in our prayer seminars. Pray of our ministry across more of Germany.

The Brotherhood Beyond Boundaries Conference – Pray for the message of the fifth BBB Conference. God has a word for East and West and plans to speak, as He has many times, at this conference. Pray for the deliverance of this message and for the men and women who should be there to hear and receive from God.

Mark Spencer – Pray for clarity of message and vision for Mark and Patty as they minister in Colorado and around the world. Pray for open doors of opportunity, for willing obedience, and for God’s provision for walking out all of His will.

Pray for your Home Church – Pray for outreaches for your church. Pray that each member will do the work of the ministry as God gives them the means to do so.

*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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The *Voice of Thanksgiving* Blog is the newest feature of *VoT*. The blog is available at www.voiceofthanksgiving.com/blog/

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

Voice of Thanksgiving Correspondance with the editor of the newsletter, blog, or website should be sent to dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com