

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of December 23, 2007

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Luke 2:8-14 (KJV)

The Life of Prayer

Dogged

David Williamson

When I was a young man I had a paper route and delivered an afternoon paper to about 200 people. Part of my route went through a trailer court. At one of the trailers there was a dog. It was a little dog who came out to bark at me every day. In addition to his bark this dog attempted to bite me. If I was slow in getting past this house the dog would jump up and nip at my pants. This dog was very consistent, except when the weather was bad, the lady who owned the dog would not let him out in the snow, every day he attacked me with all of his might. He was amazing. He might have enjoyed seeing me leave the area, maybe he had a feeling of victory, I did leave his yard, but the next day here came this intruder again. He was a tiny dog and for years he never had the satisfaction of biting me or stopping my return. He was determined. His indomitable spirit would not be stopped.

We have a word in English for the actions of this dog, he was dogged. While this was not a trait that I appreciated in this little dog, it is an important trait for the man or woman of prayer. We are to be dogged in our prayers. This is not a suggestion that we should bark at God, most people do too much of that. We throw our criticisms and protests in His face, we moan and grip. Like that little dog we voice our displeasure, but while he was chasing a boy, we are coming before the Almighty God.

Our doggedness is to be in our prayers. That little dog came after me every day. If we are to have effective prayers we must come before the throne of grace every day. Jesus told His disciples, and through them tells us, that we should ask, seek, and knock. He explains these actions result in receiving, finding, and opening. We want our prayers to result in receiving, finding, and opening. Jesus explains the nature of our prayers if we are to be successful, we must be persistent.

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And He said to them, "Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; and he will answer from within and say, 'Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you'? I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs.

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. [10] For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Luke 11:5-10 (NKJV)

This persistence is like unto the dogged nature of that little dog. The term dogged is not often used in association with prayer. The more proper word is importunity. It is not commonly use today, but it is defined as an insistent or pressing demand. This is what Jesus was teaching; this must be our practice of prayer. We are to be importunate. Look at His second teaching on this subject.

Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.' And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.' "Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said. And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:1-8 (NKJV)

Jesus explained that we are to be crying out day and night, we are to be dogged, that is importunate. He then asks a very important and revealing question. When the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth? Jesus speaking of prayer; asks about faith. It is easy to see that an aspect of faith when we pray is importunity. We act in faith by crying out day and night. Even if God takes a long time to bring His answer, we are to doggedly continue in prayer. This is faith, we continue because we know He will answer.

Pray without ceasing.

1 Thes. 5:17 (KJV)

Praying without ceasing is importunity, doggedness if you prefer. This is also called perseverance. Perseverance in prayer is to continue in prayer. To continue no mater what happens or how things seem to be going, good or bad.

***Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation;
continuing instant in prayer;***

Romans 12:12 (KJV)

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*Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit,
and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;*
Ephes. 6:18 (KJV)

If we desire to pray and receive answers from God, we must be prepared to pray through to completion. This may take a great deal of effort and commitment. Today is not the time to end our prayers. No matter if we have been praying for a few days, weeks, months, or years, today is not the day to stop. Effective, fervent prayer demands faith and sometimes faith is expressed by the act of doggedly continuing in prayer. Continue to pray, continue to pray in faith.

Let us Pray!

A Call for Prayer

*So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God.
For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain,
'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart,
but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.*

*Therefore I say to you,
whatever things you ask when you pray,
believe that you receive them, and you will have them.*

Mark 11:22-24 (NKJV)

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem – When the wise men came to Jerusalem they were looking for the Messiah. They found him. Pray that many in Jerusalem and throughout Israel will find the Messiah.

DK Limbu Daniel – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

"The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." –Matt 9:37-38; "Lift up your eyes and look at the fields for they are already white for harvest"-John 4:35-36;

*God is working through His people, He is partnering with His beloved people to bring as many to his kingdom (1Cor. 3:9). He is working within His people to will and to do for His good pleasure (Phil.2:13). **If we work together in prayer and in all effort then surely we achieve much!!***

I had been to east Nepal since 9th of this month doing Healing Crusades in small scale with friend. We had Healing crusades in 10-12th in Uurlabari, 13-15th in Dharan and 17-19th in Hetauda and 21st in Balaju, Kathmandu. We saw mighty miracles, blind eyes were opened, and eye sights were restored, deaf heard, dumb spoke, crippled walked, stomach problems were

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healed, backaches were healed, and demons possessed were delivered. Many people have accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. We had favor of God and people. Even though there was road blocked by political activists but God showed us special favor and we were let go.

In these two months God has blessed us with many souls, and 27 people have accepted Jesus in Kathmandu. In all over our ministry, over 45 people have accepted our Lord Jesus as their personal Savior and there were 12 baptisms. Our Word to World School students is reaching people surrounding area.

Thanks for your continued prayer and standing in **FAITH** with us.

We appreciate all kind of your prayers and concern to this ministry for that will help us to go beyond our ability. We are reaching Nepalese in India and Bhutan and Nepalese in Myanmar, Thailand and Malaysia are in heart. Your prayer and support can help to materialize things in our heart. Surely

God does good to you,
In His Service,
Bro. D. K. Limbu

Marek Kaminski – Pray that Marek would be guided by the will of God for his congregation and that God would continue to supply their every need for reaching their community, nation, and the world with the Gospel.

Jacek Gromadzki – Pray for Jack and his church to have opportunities to share the Gospel in Kolobrzeg, Poland.

Pray for the church in Belarus and Lithuania – Pray for revival to come to these nations. Pray for the free and effective presentation of the Gospel message.

Mark Spencer – Pray for God's provision for the completion of the things God has placed in Mark's heart.

Marianne and David Dean – Pray for David and Marianne to meet young men and women open to the Gospel. Pray that these people will respond favorably to the call of God for salvation and to be a light to their families and communities when they go home.

Bernhard and Lisa Prumbach – Pray for safety and health for Bernhard, Lisa, and their children.

Pray for Prayer Initiative Seminars – Pray for an understanding of God's plan for teaching about Prayer.

John Coon – Pray for his health and safety.

William Williamson – Bill is a pastor in Eastern Colorado, pray for opportunities to share the Gospel. Pray for those who hear him, ask for soft hearts receptive to the Gospel.

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Joyce Abrahamson – Pray for the salvation of the boys and girls (and their families) coming to the school.

Patty Spencer – Pray for completion of a new worship CD. Pray for the details of mastering the final product and the finances to get it produced.

Pray for your Home Church – Pray for outreaches for your church. Now is the time to be praying for plans for the spring and summer.

*Now this is the confidence that we have in Him,
that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.*

1 John 5:14 (NKJV)

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