

# Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of February 17, 2008

Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergymen or laymen; such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the kingdom of heaven on earth. God does nothing but in answer to prayer.—JOHN WESLEY

## *The Life of Prayer*

### **The Garage**

David Williamson

In Colorado, USA, the weather can be variable. My Grandfather said, “If you don’t like the weather in Colorado just wait fifteen minutes, it will change”. He was exaggerating; you really have to wait about 20 minutes. All kidding aside, one of the great aspects of living in Colorado is the wide range of weather and the sudden changes that are so common. I have seen days when it was 70° Fahrenheit and the next day we got 15 inches of snow. Changes the other way are common as well, 6 inches of snow followed by 50° and 60° weather the next day. With changes like this we have times in the middle of winter that seem just like spring. With these nice days comes spring fever. With spring fever comes cleaning the garage. At our house we need to clean out our garage every year. We never keep our car in the garage and we have to clean out all the junk we collect every year because it gets so full. Some of the stuff in our garage is good we just need to put it away or get it ready to use. Some of the stuff in the garage is just trash. Our prayer life can be like our garage. It is easy to pick-up stuff. Some of it is good and needs to be put away or made ready for use. Some of the stuff is just trash and we need to remove it.

There is so much that is good for our Christian life and for our prayer life. There is so much for us to learn and apply. There is the teaching of the Word. This is a life time of life building materials. The Holy Spirit is the teacher. There is also the minister gifts Jesus has given to the Body of Christ. These are gifts of people whose job is edifying us. There is a great deal of valuable teaching readily available to us today. Technology has made even more available than at any previous time. There are even some things we can learn from sources like the articles in *Voice of Thanksgiving*.

This is a nearly overwhelming supply of teaching. Unfortunately, it is very easy to collect teachings, often we recognize them as valuable, but we just store them in the garage. Instead of applying them to life we put them on the shelf. Jesus told the disciples to listen carefully; we need to hear the teaching and to apply it. It is not enough just to hear, we must be doers of the word. We must take teaching to heart and make it part of our life. We must practice what we hear and not let teachings just hang around gathering dust in the garage.

# Voice of Thanksgiving

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***How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You! Blessed are You, O Lord! Teach me Your statutes! Psalm 119:9-12 (NKJV)***

***that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. Ephes. 5:26-27 (NKJV)***

***Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. James 1:21-25 (NKJV)***

***Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, 1 Peter 1:22-23 (NKJV)***

As good as the teaching of the Word and ministry can be the world gives us stuff that is trash. We need to clean our garage of all the stuff that hinders our Christian and prayer life. It may not be spring yet where you live, but now is a good time for us to do spring cleaning. What is hanging around in your life? What needs to be cleaned out?

***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)***

***But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 2 Tim. 2:20-22 (NKJV)***

***Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,***

# Voice of Thanksgiving

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*and having a High Priest over the house of God, 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. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.* Hebrews 10:19-23 (NKJV)

*Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.* James 4:7-10 (NKJV)

*Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.* 1 John 3:2-3 (NKJV)

*Let us Pray!*

## A Call for Prayer

*Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me,  
and I will listen to you.*

Jeremiah 29:12 (NKJV)

**Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem** – Pray for the peace of this key city, the city of Jerusalem.

**DK Limbu Daniel** – Pray for supply of the ministry needs of Pastor Daniel and the many outreaches he has planted.

**Jacek Gromadzki** – Pray for new opportunities to minister the Gospel and life to people of Kolobrzeg, Poland.

**Pray for the church in Belarus and Lithuania** – Pray for opportunities for supply of need both personal and church wide..

**Marianne and David Dean** – Pray for new opportunities to share with young people of the region.

**Marek Kaminski** – Pray for Marek and his church to continue to grow in the love of the Lord.

**Joyce Abrahamson** – Pray for financial provision for meeting the needs of the school and staff.

# Voice of Thanksgiving

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**Patty Spencer** – Pray for her new worship CD. Pray that it will be ready for release very soon and that it will minister life and grace to people around the world.

**Mark Spencer** – Pray for open doors of opportunity.

**John Coon** – Pray for his health and safety.

**William Williamson** – Pray for Bill and his church and new opportunities to share the Gospel.

**Bernhard and Lisa Prumbach** – Pray for the supply of the needs of the family in Germany.

**Pray for Prayer Initiative Seminars and David Williamson** – Pray for the completion of his first book on prayer.

**Pray for your Home Church** – Pray for your church that it would be a church of outreach to the local community and to the people of the world.

**Pray for your work in Prayer** – Pray that God would bless these areas where you are responsible for support by prayer.

*And my God shall supply all your need  
according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

Philip. 4:19 (NKJV)

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New for *Voice of Thanksgiving*, a monthly issue in Polish!

*Głos Dziękczynienia* w języku polskim: <http://voiceofthanksgiving.com/VoTPPage.htm>

Read voice of *Voice of Thanksgiving* and past articles at the *Voice of Thanksgiving Website*  
[www.voiceofthanksgiving.com](http://www.voiceofthanksgiving.com)

For additional information and articles on prayer visit the *Voice of Thanksgiving Blog*  
[www.voiceofthanksgiving.com/blog/](http://www.voiceofthanksgiving.com/blog/)

For *Voice of Thanksgiving* in German read *Stimme der Dankbarkeit*  
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