

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of April 6, 2008

What the Church needs to-day is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more and novel methods, but men whom the Holy Ghost can use—men of prayer, men mighty in prayer. The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men—men of prayer. E. M. Bounds

The Life of Prayer

Waver Not

David Williamson

How many of you are at this moment wavering between two things. Some times it is a matter that needs prayer an area where we need to hear from God. Other times it might be a matter of obedience, we just need to do what God has said to do. Some times it might be just a matter of preference, we can freely choose between two options, but we need to make a choice. Life is filled with choices and decisions. During these times we waver, maybe only for a moment, but we do waver. However, when it comes to the promises of God we should not waver.

But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. James 1:6 (NKJV)

Prayer is the mightiest force on earth; it moves mountains and changes the path of nations. Man in all his wisdom has not found anything to compare to the power of prayer. God's promises concerning prayer and the testimony of men and women of prayer, describe unlimited power, a power available to all Christians who will pray. Great as this power in prayer is, we fail to see very much of its working today. The dearth of powerful praying is epidemic and this must change. We are at a junction of time where we need prayer and we must have powerful prayer. Powerful prayer begins with God. He is willing and able to move mountains with us and for us. His power has abated not, He is still able to do more than we can even imagine.

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephes. 3:20-21 (NKJV)

The problem with powerful prayer today is not a problem with God. He is every day the same, the power that created the universe is still His and at His service. The problem is with us. Too often we have wavered at the promise of God through unbelief. We do not stand firm in our belief that God can do what He says He can do. We let our views and ideas, and that of the world, dictate to us what

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we will believe. We limit our prayers and see meager return of our prayers. We are like the people who lived in the area around Jesus' home. Unbelief kept them from seeing great miracles.

Now He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

Matthew 13:58 (NKJV)

We do not see the mighty works of God because of unbelief in our prayers. Look at the example of Abraham that we have studied for the last few weeks. He was a man just like us, but he did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief. He was fully convinced that what God promised, God was able to do.

He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness".

Romans 4:20-22 (NKJV)

We believe the promise of what God says; we would not be Christians if we did not. It is by faith that we are saved; it is the gift of God. We believed God's promise for salvation. That is the basic message of salvation. However, when it comes to answers to prayer we waver on the promises. So what do we do? We can and should do what Abraham did. He did not waver because he strengthened his faith, he gave glory to God, and he was fully convinced. We can do these three things as well and come to the place where we do not waver at the promise of God through unbelief.

Faith comes by hearing the Word of God. To strengthen our faith we need to immerse ourselves in the Word of God. This is not just reading, but total engagement in the Word. We need to focus on the scriptures about faith and the promises of God. What has God said He will do? What is His record on doing what He has said? Too many people are satisfied with reading the promises once and passing on, but this does not strengthen their faith. Immersion is the key to success here. Read, listen to, memorize, study, and meditate on the Word of God and especially on His promises.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.

Psalms 1:2 (NKJV)

Second we need to give glory to God. Before we see powerful answers to our prayer we must declare the glory of God. He is worthy of all our praise and it is good for us to praise Him. In addition, our faith will become strong if we continually praise God. We are going to say something; we always do, so we need to be saying great and edifying things, not negative things. Our declarations do carry weight and make a difference in our life. Say it, "God answers prayer."

Finally, we need to be fully convinced. To be convinced is to overpower arguments. As we study His Word and the record of His faithfulness we come to the point of being convinced. It also helps to

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see and experience His faithfulness. We read of those who have had great experiences and we need to have experiences of little successes as well. As we trust God in prayer we see His faithfulness. David saw God work and could declare unreservedly that God is faithful to His promises.

I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread. Psalm 37:25 (NKJV)

For effective prayer we must come to the point where we do not waver at the promise of God through unbelief. We do not waver because we strengthened our faith, we give glory to God, and we are fully convinced. We are fully convinced that what God has promised God will do.

Let us Pray!

A Call for Prayer

Every week we renew our call for prayer. There are many areas of prayer that need our attention. Some are on going prayer needs that will be with us until the return of Christ. Others are very important and will at times have greater importance. Many of you have prayed faithfully (some of you for more than five years) for the needs listed in this section. **A Call for Prayer** is a call for you to continue faithful in prayer. It is important that we continue to pray and to be led by God as to where He wants us to focus. Each week there will be some ongoing basics listed to remind you of the need and their importance. These basic areas of prayer include:

Basic Prayer Focus

Praying for Israel and the Peace of Jerusalem

Praying for the reaching of Souls from Every Nation

Praying for the government of your country (so Gospel can be preached)

Praying for your home Church

Faithful Prayer Focus

Over the years we have prayed for the following ministers and ministries. We need to continue to pray. As God leads you, please pray for these. Do not forget or be slack in your commitments to pray. In addition at times there will be special requests associated with these ministers and ministries.

Joyce Abrahamson – Head of school in Brazil

John Coon – Ministry in Europe and the USA

Churches in Belarus – Growing number of churches in Belarus

Churches in Lithuania – Growing number of churches in Lithuania

DK Limbu Daniel – Pastor of a church in Nepal and church planting among Nepalese people

Marianne and David Dean – Missionaries on college campuses in East Asia

Jacek Gromadzki – Pastor of a church in Kolobrzeg, Poland

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Marek Kaminski – Pastor of church in Kaszalin, Poland, leader in Polish churches, and co-founder and leader of BBB Conference

Bernd and Heike Pastor – Ministry in Germany

Mark Spencer – Pastor of church in Longmont, Colorado, worldwide ministry, and co-founder and leader of BBB Conference

Patty Spencer – Pastor of church in Longmont, Colorado and worship leader

William Williamson – Pastor of church in Holly, Colorado

Special Prayer Focus

This is a special call for prayer. Requests listed here come from special opportunities and needs. Around the world there are places where the fields are ready for harvest and places where the conditions demand immediate help or change. For these opportunities and needs prayer makes the difference. These requests may be part of your on going prayers or they may be something new or different from your norm, but they need your special focus in prayer.

Please pray for Pastor Daniel and the church in Nepal. This is an important time in the region. There is much unrest and conflict, but also a mighty move of God. We are to pray for the peace of nations so the Gospel can be preached. This is critical at this time in Nepal and the region. April 10th Nepal will have a Constituent Assembly Pole. It is important for people to see an end to fighting, strikes, and killing. They need confidence that peace and law and order will be restored. Pray for a peaceful election. Pray for further opportunities for the spread of the Gospel in Nepal and the region. Pray for the ministry of New Life Gospel Church Ministries. Pray for Gospel outreach in Rolpa, this is where the first Maoist rebellion broke out and is an opportunity for a church plant. Pray for short term ministry into the Everest area, pray for grace for the trips (a five day walk from Kathmandu) and times of ministry. Pray for provision for transportation. Pray for conferences in Nepal April 27-29 and the Holy Spirit Conference May 19-20.

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Voice of Thanksgiving is published in a weekly version in English. There are two monthly versions, one in German and one in Polish. And coming soon is a series of books on prayer. This first book (the first of four) is called ***Prayer: A Force that Causes Change – A Call to Prayer.***

- ✓ For an archive of past articles, short notes and studies on prayer, and other information go to www.voiceofthanksgiving.com
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- ✓ You may write to me at: dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com
- ✓ If you would be interested in hosting a ***Prayer Initiative Seminar*** contact me, Dave Williamson, at dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com