

# Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of June 8, 2008

The act of praying is the very highest energy of which the human mind is capable; praying, that is, with the total concentration of the faculties. The great mass of worldly men and of learned men are absolutely incapable of prayer.—SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE

## *The Life of Prayer*

### **Breaking up Blockage**

David Williamson

One morning a few days ago I awoke to a wonderful rain storm. I know that some of you live in places where rain is common, but here in Colorado, rain and especially rain in the morning is rare. This morning it was raining hard. As I stood enjoying the rain, I notice that the gutter on my garage was full of water. While it was raining hard, it was not hard enough to fill the gutter. I had a blocked downspout. Dirt and leaves had gathered and were blocking the water enough to cause a backup in the gutter. In prayer we often have to deal with blockage like this.

***Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands. And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you." While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling. Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come."*** Daniel 10:10-14 (NKJV)

Prayer would be easy if every time we prayed we got an immediate answer. With quick answers you would know how you did and the results. There are times when we are like Daniel; this is good company to be in. He was a great man of prayer and a good example for us. In this situation Daniel faced a blockage in getting an answer to his prayer. Many people would not pray through to completion; they would have given up long before and twenty-one days he waited. However, we know that he did not just wait twenty-one days, he waited in faith. Without faith it is impossible to please God.

Using my example of the blockage of my gutter and these verses from Daniel, we can see a way to faithfully wait when we face a delay in receiving answers to prayer. After this rain storm I had to get a ladder and clean out the blockage. Now I have done this before, as a matter of fact I have to do it

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several time a year if I am going to keep the gutter flowing. So how about blockages to our prayers? What can we do to keep answers to prayers flowing?

There are important lessons we can learn from Daniel. He did not give up and he prayed in faith, but what did he do to breakup the blockage? Daniel first “set his heart to understand”. What is there to understand? Daniel needed an answer to prayer. In this case his need was, understanding what God would do. In prayer, the need first and foremost is coming to understand what God will do. We have unlimited power in prayer when we pray God’s will. So we must come to understand what God wants to do. At times we have plans and goals, we think we know what we should do, but we must understand what God will do. If we want to be successful in prayer, like Daniel, we must be dead in Christ. It is not my will that counts, it is His. I am not the god telling my puppet what to do, I must long for, with all of my heart and being, God’s will and way.

***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)

In addition to understanding God’s will for our prayer; the second key to breaking up blockages is to be humble before God. We humble ourselves it is a choice. To be humble is to bow before God and His will. To be humble is to put others before ourselves. To be humble is to be a servant. To be humble is to pray for others.

There is so much more we could look at here to help with clearing away blockage in prayer. Staying the course, walking in faith, and never wavering from our resolve to receive answers are but a few other keys to success in prayer. Power of prayer is waiting seeking to understand prayer as God understands and to humbly walk with Him. The walk of faith in prayer is to receive guidance and walk it out humbly before God and man.

There is much more to prayer than just the little we know. The great men and women of prayer work a lifetime, learning to pray effectively. Week-by-week we can learn our lessons on prayer. We can learn from the example of these great men and women of prayer and from the Holy Spirit. With His training and faithful working though our lessons, we can become great in prayer.

*Let us Pray!*

## ***A Call for Prayer***

Pray for outreaches to lost men and women. Pray for the successful outreach to people in your town. Pray for opportunities to share the Gospel and for hearts of men and women to be open to the message. Pray for men and women to get saved and to be attached to your church.

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

1 Corinthians 16:9 (NKJV)

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## 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 the Gospel can be preached)

Praying for your home Church

## Continuing Faithful in Prayer

Pray for these ministers and ministries. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide and direct your prayers.

**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

**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

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

*Voice of Thanksgiving* is published in a weekly version in English. There are two monthly versions, one in German and one in Polish. Now available as a book, ***Prayer: A Force that Causes Change – A Call to Prayer***. To order go to <http://voiceofthanksgiving.com/Book/Book.htm>.

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