

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of March 15, 2009

The principal cause of my leanness and unfruitfulness is owing to an unaccountable backwardness to pray. I can write or read or converse or hear with a ready heart; but prayer is more spiritual and inward than any of these, and the more spiritual any duty is the more my carnal heart is apt to start from it. Prayer and patience and faith are never disappointed. I have long since learned that if ever I was to be a minister faith and prayer must make me one. When I can find my heart in frame and liberty for prayer, everything else is comparatively easy.—Richard Newton

The Life of Prayer

The Message in Prayer

David Williamson

For a generation after Americans first explored the Western part of the United States, the region east of the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains was thought to be a desert; it was called the “Great American Desert”. Settlers going west moved through the area, but did not settle there, moving instead to California and Oregon. Later settlers began to move into this region. At first there was ranching, followed by some farming in a few areas, and then farming the dry plains. Most of this area did not get enough rain for traditional farming. Some farmers dealt with the shortage of water by building irrigation systems designed to store and bring water from the mountains. Other farmers developed special techniques for farming this arid region. One of these is the growing of winter wheat. The difference with winter wheat is that it is planted in the fall instead of spring as is the norm. The wheat will sprout and then lie dormant over the winter while the ground collects moisture. At the beginning of spring the small plants grow and mature. In some areas this is the only way to give the wheat enough moisture. When you are around dry land wheat farmers, moisture is their message. With moisture they have a chance for a crop, without it they fail.

Successful prayer, prayer that avails much has a main message as well. When prayer moves from the main message it is not effective. If we move too far from the main message we no longer even have prayer. As important as the message is, too often people forget and the main message of prayer gets pushed aside. We get excited about problems, we get tied up in new and inventive techniques, we hold tight to our tradition, even when these traditions hinder and destroy the main message of prayer. For the dry land farmer moisture is his message, for the man or woman of prayer “through Jesus Christ” is the message.

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. Romans 1:8 (NKJV)

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

The last few weeks we have been looking at Paul's prayer from Romans. Paul has taught us that prayer is to be the first thing; if we are going to be successful, in prayer and life, we must begin with prayer. The next key to success in prayer is thanksgiving; thanksgiving gives us a heart attitude that allows communion with God and His answers to prayers. Third Paul taught us about relationship; my God is the focal point of a successful relationship in prayer. Last week we looked at his teaching on the phrase "through Jesus Christ". In our prayer and life we must come "through Jesus Christ", there is no other way. "Through Jesus Christ" we can come boldly before the Father. "Through Jesus Christ" the Father can come down to us. This opens the way for Him to deal with our needs and desires.

Like the dry land farmers and their message of moisture, we must have a message of "through Jesus Christ" for success in prayer. With any other message our prayer misses the presence of God and the power of God; it only has the pretense of God. However, "through Jesus Christ" as our theme we can have effective prayers. "Through Jesus Christ" is more than just our access point to the Father and He to us, "through Jesus Christ" should be our message of what and how we pray. Prayer, real prayer, powerful pray, effective prayer is always and only "through Jesus Christ". If we pray outside of "through Jesus Christ" we pray in our own understanding and strength. Our prayers become words of man's wisdom, knowledge of traditions, common practices, and estimates of likelihood. We give advice, maybe even good advice, but it is not prayer.

"Through Jesus Christ" is our message; it must be what we pray. Regardless of the need, the foundation of the answer, an answer from God, must be "through Jesus Christ". Seeking a job for a man is just a job, but "through Jesus Christ" a job can be more. It can be a blessing, a full provision, and an assignment, and that is much more than a job. Prayer for a house can be more than just a place to live; it can be a home and tool of a family. Prayer for healing can be more than just feeling better; it can be a stepping stone to being blessed in health and life. The difference is "through Jesus Christ". His message, and so it must be our message, is, fullness of life, abundant life.

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. John 10:10 (NKJV)

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:8 (NKJV)

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, Ephesians 3:20 (NKJV)

"Through Jesus Christ" is our message in prayer; it must also be how we pray. When we pray for a person or a nation, we must pray in faith and this comes "through Jesus Christ". We must come boldly before God's throne and access comes "through Jesus Christ". We must pray the will of God

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

and knowing and doing the will of God, this comes “through Jesus Christ”. Jesus has made a way for us to pray and pray successfully.

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, 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. Hebrews 10:19-22 (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)

For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Ephesians 2:18 (NKJV)

Will we take the opportunity? We choose to pray or not to pray. It is our choice. We choose to pray powerful prayers or weak anemic words that touch neither need nor necessities. We can be powerful in prayer, we can pray effective, fervent prayers that avail much, but if we choose to do so we must pray “through Jesus Christ”. Will we take the opportunity?

Let us Pray!

A Call for Prayer

Pray for Opportunities. Pray for opportunities for the ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray for hearts of men and women to be prepared to receive the Word. Pray for open doors for witnessing. Pray for willing ministers of the Gospel (not just pastors, but all who are Christians. Pray that we will reach this generation with the Gospel.

From Pastor Daniel in Nepal - We have good reports to share with you and boost you in the Lord Jesus Christ. The month of January was very busy month for traveling and conferences. We had our annual ministry convention where over 150 leaders and members gathered. We could not continue our Indian mission field because of difficulty in area and finance. But good news is we have expanded in Nepal itself. We could go to west Nepal. We also dedicated new church building in Itahari east Nepal.

We had healing meetings in different areas in February and we have encountered healings, miracles from the Lord causing many souls to come to the kingdom of God. We have traveled to west Nepal mountainous area where we have started a church last year. That church is now growing very fast and reaching other villages. They are going to open 4 new fellowships in new villages. Two students are studying in our Bible School and are ready to minister in their areas. We have dedicated

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

new church building in Joor, Masina, Rolpa. We had healing meeting and many received healing and delivered from sicknesses.

In the past three months more than 120 people received Jesus Christ as their Savior and are attending Church and we have had 35 baptisms through out our ministry. We have begun Radio ministry twice in a week, 'the Message of New Life' reaching Kathmandu valley, and some eastern parts of Nepal.

And now our upcoming programs:

I am traveling to Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand from March 7th-23rd. mainly I will be ministering to Nepalese working there. Our two native missionaries will leave for their mission fields in 15th March one to Everest region and another to Palpa. I have conference for emerging leaders in Bharatpur in March 29-30th.

April is my busy month in the ministry.

8-10th - healing rally in in Pathari, east Nepal.

11-13th - Church building dedication/healing meeting in Yasok eastern mountain, Panchthar.

14-15th - Church dedication/healing meeting in Lalkhola, Ilam, interior parts of foot hills.

16-17th - meetings in Serjung,

19-20th - Namjang, Terhathum, Healing meetings.

23-25th - New Life Women's Fellowship and Church building dedication in Damak. Jhapa.

May 13-16th - prayer conference in Kathmandu.

There are 17 students in our Word to World School, pray for the needs because of world economic depression and price hike knocking us. Without your prayers and support these events would not be effective, so I lay burden on you to pray for these ministry events for the anointing and power of the Holy Spirit. Ministering in the human strength and knowledge would not be effective. And you are welcome to sow your faith seed in these ministry events, your partnership will helps us to go further than what we are looking ahead. Your prayers are appreciated! Surely God will do good to you!

Basic Prayer Focus

Pray for Israel and the Peace of Jerusalem

Pray for the reaching of Souls from Every Nation

Pray for the government of your country (so we can live peaceably and the Gospel can be preached)

Pray 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

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

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

Lori Farquhar – Children’s Ministry Director

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 in Longmont, Colorado, worship leader, and artist with a great new CD

William Williamson – Pastor of church in Cedaredge, Colorado

Charles and Janice Wilson – Pastors in Wyola, Montana

David Williamson – Editor of *Voice of Thanksgiving*

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

Voice of Thanksgiving is published in a weekly version in English. *Voice of Thanksgiving* is also published monthly in German and Polish and is available in book form, *Prayer: A Force that Causes Change – A Call to Prayer*.

- ✓ For an archive of past articles, copies of the German and Polish editions, short notes and studies on prayer, and other information, or to order copies of *Prayer: A Force that Causes Change – A Call to Prayer* go to www.voiceofthanksgiving.com
- ✓ If you have questions you may email me at: dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com