

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of June 21, 2009

Consecration is much more than a life of so-called service. It is a life of personal holiness, first of all. It is that which brings spiritual power into the heart and enlivens the entire inner man. It is a life which ever recognises God, and a life given up to true prayer.

E. M. Bounds from *Essentials of Prayer*

The Life of Prayer

The Right Place at the Right Time

David Williamson

“Over the river and through the woods to Grandmother’s house we go”. For several years I taught classes on World Geography. One of the lessons was on maps and globes. In this lesson I explained and then we practiced using a grid system on a map. A grid system is made of parallel lines on a map breaking down the space on the map into a grid work of squares. It is valuable in that everything on the map is now in a unique identifiable square. I taught this to students by using the song, “Over the river”.

I would explain that they have been invited to go to Grandmother’s house for cookies. She lives in a nice house in the forest. Unfortunately there is a big bad wolf that lives in a nice house in this same forest. Both houses are surrounded by trees and are nice. It would be easy to be confused as to which house is which and it is very important to get to the correct house. At Grandma’s house there are cookies, at the big bad wolf’s house you are the main course for lunch. A mistake could be fatal. I then draw a map of the area with a river, forest, and houses and then draw over the map a grid of parallel lines. The grid then has columns which we number and rows which we assign letters. Here is a small example.

	1	2	3	4	5
A					
B					X
C					
D	Y				

If you understand the grid system, I could tell you that Grandma’s house is at X in square B5 and the big bad wolf’s house is at Y square D1 and you would know how to get to the right place and where to go to safely get the cookies. It was a fun way to teach the students and they remembered maps and their use far longer than other lessons.

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In living a Christian life we must know where we are going. One of the keys to success in this life is open doors of opportunity. With an open door we can walk through to the blessing and provision of God. The article last week in *Voice of Thanksgiving*, on open doors of opportunity, mentioned that there are three basic components of praying for open doors, be in the right place at the right time, be in the right frame of mind, and have the resources needed to walk through the door. These components are so important it is good to explore them in further detail.

It is important for us to be at the right place at the right time. This is not just a physical location, although that can be important. The right place is in the fullness of our salvation. Salvation in the Christian life is not a place, we are saved, but we daily grow and mature in the fullness of what Christ has done for us. It is more like a walk than a place. The Christian life is often compared to walking and running, in the Christian life there is a way we are to go. Jesus said He is the way; this is both the way to do things and the way to go through life. He has shown us how we are to live, what is good and bad as well as right and wrong. When we are walking with Him, doing what He asks and obedient to His commands, we are at the right place.

The right place is crucial to Christian life and prayer, if we are walking the Christ directed walk, we grow and mature, we love one another, we have faith and are faithful, we pray and get answers. The right place is a process. It begins with salvation; actually it begins before you are saved, as God is seeking you even before you are saved. With salvation we have the rights, privileges, and authority as Children of God. This begins the Christian life, what might better be called, the Christian walk. God begins to work with us and in us to cause us to grow in all things.

Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious. 1 Peter 2:1-3 (NKJV)

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)

God guides and aides as we progress along this walk of growing and becoming like Jesus. He has given The Bible, His word on every matter concerning life and living is illumining the way we should go and guiding us on that way. Jesus has sent us the Holy Spirit to walk with us. We must learn to know and rely on the voice of the Holy Spirit as He teaches us and directs our steps. Success on this walk is built on the work of Christ, His life, death, and resurrection. Our part is to listen and obey as Father, Son, and Spirit speaks to us, often this is from the Bible and always is in alignment with the Bible. We then must stand faithful to God, His promises, and the way we are directed to go.

We need to be in the right place at the right time to receive God's blessing. He blesses us because He loves us and wants us to be blessed. He also blesses us so we can be a blessing. We need to be in the right place at the right time so we can pray for open doors of opportunity for people and a key

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part of this prayer is praying for people to be at the right place at the right time. When we pray for people to be at the right place at the right time, should pray for them to be responsive to those same things we needed to be in the right place at the right time.

Salvation is being open to witnessing, heart softened to message, a desire for the things of God, recognition of sinful state and need for a savior, repentance, and believing in heart and confessing Jesus as Lord. That is a lot to pray about. Then there is all the rest of being in the right place. We should pray for men and women to be reading and meditating on the Word of God, knowing the voice of the Father, Son, and Spirit, learning to be obedient, and walking faithful. This is being in the right place at the right time.

In addition there is something more. I call it, “embrace the race”. For people to be at the right place at the right time, for us and for those we pray for, we must embrace the race. This is a willingness to run the race. Too many people try to sit this race out. They go through life like corps drifting along by the currents of the world around them. Their days are numbered, and each day is just one less on the ledger. However, for those who will embrace the race, there are battles to be fought and won. There are accomplishments to be victoriously completed. There is life to be lived abundantly. Life is a race, a race with difficulties and hindrances that make it tough at times, but the Christian should and must run the race to win. The willingness to run is embracing the race. It is a shout it the wind, to the world, and to ourselves that we will run the race and battle through to completion and victory.

Will you embrace the race? This question is first of all for you. Will you run, work, and win? Take on the challenge and walk with Jesus in the fullness of His salvation. Take up His challenge to live not just somehow by triumphantly. Embrace the race. Also will you pray for others to embrace the race? By your prayers this generation can be men and women who are like Paul and Timothy, like Hannah and Mary and Martha embracing the race set before them. Who knows what is in store for these people if they embrace the race, so will you pray? Will you labor long and hard that they will be in the right place at the right time and embrace the race?

Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. For I bear him witness that he has a great zeal for you, and those who are in Laodicea, and those in Hierapolis. Colossians 4:12-13 (NKJV)

For a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.
1 Corinthians 16:9 (NKJV)

Let us Pray!

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A Call for Prayer

Pray for the BBB Conference Pray for the arrangements and plans. Pray for provision for meeting the costs of the conference. Pray for the men and women who will be attending this year's conference, pray that they will be able to attend. Pray for safety and protection as they travel and for their families as they are away from home. Pray for anointed words well and wisely spoken at the conference, to help prepare men and women for the work that is to come.

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem Pray for the Jewish people and their homeland. Pray for peace that comes through knowing the Messiah. Pray for hearts to be softened so when He is revealed, they will receive Him. Pray for understanding and wisdom so they will respond to His gift of salvation and life.

Pray for DK Limbu Daniel and churches in Nepal

Praise reports: In this month we led 55 people to Jesus Christ. We baptized over 30 believers through out the ministry in these last two months and dedicated two church worship facilities. We also had two conferences in Kathmandu and east Nepal. I have traveled three times to east and mid Nepal for meetings.

Prayer Requests: A school teacher with very good salary after serving 24 years resigned job in the time of economy recession, to respond the call of God, fully trusting God for all supplies. He is going to west Nepal, a completely different culture, people and linguistically different accent and dialect and needs monthly financial support. His son is already in the mission field, he is just 20 years old. We also have need for 6 motorcycles for the pastors to cover more areas and needs for church facilities for 4 churches.

Pray for Rebecca Williamson Rebecca is one of the daughters of Bill Williamson. Rebecca is ministering in Italy as part of a church planting team in northern Italy for about six weeks.

Basic Prayer Focus

Remember to be always in prayer for the following:

For Israel and the Peace of Jerusalem

For the reaching of souls from every nation

For governments of your country and other countries to be open to the Gospel

For your home Church and the people of the church and community

Continuing Faithful in Prayer

Remember to be in prayer for these ministers and ministries. Ask the Holy Spirit to each week guide and direct the specifics of your prayers.

Joyce Abrahamson – Head of school in Brazil

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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

Lori Farquhar – Children’s Ministry Director

Jacek Gromadzki – Pastor of a church in Kolobrzeg, Poland

Marek Kaminski – Pastor of a 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 a 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 (Bill) Williamson – Pastor of a church in Cedaredge, Colorado

Charles and Janice Wilson – Pastors in Wyola, Montana

David Williamson – Editor of *Voice of Thanksgiving*

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Voice of Thanksgiving is published in a weekly version in English. *Voice of Thanksgiving* is also published monthly in German and Polish.

- ❖ 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 my books please go to www.voiceofthanksgiving.com
- ❖ If you have questions you may email me at: david@voiceofthanksgiving.com

Prayer: A Force that Causes Change – Volume 1 – A Call to Prayer

Prayer: A Force that Causes Change – Volume 2 – A Life of Prayer

To order copies of these books, email me at david@voiceofthanksgiving.com