

# Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of July 19, 2009

Praying, which does not result in right thinking and right living, is a farce. We have missed the whole office of prayer if it fail to purge character and rectify conduct. We have failed entirely to apprehend the virtue of prayer, if it bring not about the revolutionizing of the life. In the very nature of things, we must quit praying, or our bad conduct. Cold, formal praying may exist side by side, with bad conduct, but such praying, in the estimation of God, is no praying at all. Our praying advances in power, just in so far as it rectifies the life. Growing in purity and devotion to God will be a more prayerful life.

The character of the inner life is a condition of effectual praying. As is the life, so will the praying be. An inconsistent life obstructs praying and neutralizes what little praying we may do. Always, it is “the prayer of the righteous man which availeth much.” Indeed, one may go further and assert, that it is only the prayer of the righteous which avails anything at all—at any time. To have an eye to God’s glory; to be possessed by an earnest desire to please Him in all our ways; to possess hands busy in His service; to have feet swift to run in the way of His commandments—these give weight and influence and power to prayer, and secure an audience with God. The incubus of our lives often breaks the force of our praying, and, not unfrequently, are as doors of brass, in the face of prayer.

From *The Necessity of Prayer* by E. M. Bounds

## *The Life of Prayer*

### **Having the Necessary Resources**

David Williamson

It was the most beautiful building built by man, the Temple built by King Solomon. Notice some of its features; gold for the table of showbread, forks, basins, pitchers, bowls, the altar of incense, and the cherubim over the Ark of the Covenant. There was also silver, linen, and cedar wood. All who came and saw it, including the queen of Sheba were impressed.

King David had the idea to build the temple. He had a wonderful palace and he wanted to do something special for God. David saw the temple as an opportunity to bless God. God would not allow David to do the building, but David did prepare the resources. Through David, Solomon had everything needed for this grand building project; the gold, silver, the layout of the buildings, the pattern of the furniture, and the design of every item, even the dishes and tools. God blessed David, so David could open the door for Solomon, provide the needed resources.

***Furthermore King David said to all the assembly: "My son Solomon, whom alone God has chosen, is young and inexperienced; and the work is great, because the temple is not for man but for the Lord God. Now for the house of my God I have prepared with all my might:***

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*gold for things to be made of gold, silver for things of silver, bronze for things of bronze, iron for things of iron, wood for things of wood, onyx stones, stones to be set, glistening stones of various colors, all kinds of precious stones, and marble slabs in abundance.*

1 Chronicles 29:1-2 (NKJV)

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

1 Corinthians 16:9 (NKJV)

The open door is important for people and ministries. One of the hallmarks of Paul's ministry was open doors of opportunity. At times there seemed to be no opening, but God provided and doors opened. He also mentions adversaries. Adversaries come in many forms; they can be people, government officials, problems and limitations, even the devil and his forces. Doors must be opened and adversaries dealt with and overcome, if we are going to be successful in doing what God has called us to do. Part of our prayer assignment is to pray for open doors, for our use, for those around us, and for ministries.

The last few weeks we have looked at praying for open doors. There is much to say on this subject; much that can help us to pray effectively. In addition to praying for a door to be open, we need to pray for the use of the open door. There are three basic components for using an open door. First, praying that the person or ministry to be in the right place at the right time. If you are not where you ought to be, you miss the opportunity. Second, praying to be in the right frame of mind. Without a sound mind, if you are not walking in faith and love, if you are caught up in fear, doubt, anger, unbelief or other sins, you will not be able to step through the opportunity when presented. Third, we need to pray for the resources needed to walk through the door.

David provided the resources for Solomon, Solomon walked through the open door. He had all the resources he needed. Having the resources we need is very important. Resources can include a wide range of things like a person's health, equipment, permits and licenses, and helpers and workers. Most often we think of financial resources. It does take money to do many things. Even Paul had financial needs and wrote about the gifts given by various churches. He was grateful to those people and churches that joined with him in the work and all of the help he received. This help came in many forms; those who traveled and ministered with him, those who gave money, those who ministered to his needs, those who supplied items for his use, and those who prayed for him. He knew how to live with little and with a great abundance, but in what ever state he was in, he knew that God was his source and supplied his needs. Paul knew that God was a great supplier and gave far above and beyond what could be imagined.

*Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress. Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from*

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*Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God. And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

Philip. 4:14-20 (NKJV)

*But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 1 Corinthians 2:9 (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)

Prayer opens doors and around the world today there are people and ministries that need doors opened. As we pray the opportunities will come. With an open door, men and women unreached by the Gospel will be reached. With an open door, places where ministry is difficult or seemingly impossible will receive ministry. With an open door, necessary resources will come. We need to pray for open doors and the use of the open door; right place, right frame of mind, and right resources.

*Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.*

Col. 4:2-4 (NKJV)

*Let us Pray!*

## **A Call for Prayer**

**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 understanding and wisdom so they will respond to His gift of salvation and life.

**Pray for Pastor Daniel in Nepal** Pray for open doors to regions of Nepal that have been difficult to reach. Pray for favor and protection for teams going out to plant new works. Pray for the provision for these teams.

**Pray for Churches and Christians** Pray for churches in your region. There is a need for revival in countries around the world and revival comes by prayer, first to the church and Christians and then to communities, regions and nations. Pray that we would be changed and be on fire for Christ.

**Pray for Open Doors** Pray for ministries near to your heart, that they would have open doors of opportunity for the Gospel to be preached and people to be reached.

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## 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

**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*

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

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