

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of May 23, 2010

Men may spurn our appeals, reject our message, oppose our arguments, despise our persons; but they are helpless against our prayers. --J. Sidlow Baxter

The Life of Prayer

The Booster Rockets

David Williamson

Witty inventions and startling breakthroughs have come to every sector of life. And many of these breakthroughs have made us faster. There is a wide range of changes that have come, domestication of the horse made travel and hunting faster. Development of trains has taken us from the speed of a walking man to more than 200 mph. And I remember watching film of experimental aircraft doing the unthinkable, breaking the sound barrier. They would drop a jet, the X-15, from a B52 bomber and then the pilot would throw a switch firing the booster rockets on his jet, which would slam him back into the seat and to incredible speeds. The X-15 set numerous records for speed and height, with a couple of flights actually qualified as space flights, exceeding 100 kilometers in altitude.

Thanksgiving, praise, and praying in the Holy Spirit are like booster rockets to our prayers. These three transform our prayers like the horse, train, and jet breaking through various barriers of speed, so these three breaks through barriers to effective prayer. They adjust our attitude, liberate us from the quandaries of life, and quicken our faith.

Thanksgiving is presented to God for all He has done. At times thanksgiving is easy, other times it must be given as an offering. I am upset, frustrated, struggling, overwhelmed, defeated, hurt, worried or any other negative attitude and position, but thanksgiving takes me out of the morass of my attitude. It stops me from complaining, doubting, fearing, or being in unbelief. Sometimes I must do this as a sacrifice, thanking even when I do not feel like it. Thanksgiving transforms me and my prayers. It is not by chance that the name of this newsletter is ***Voice of Thanksgiving***.

He who sacrifices thank offerings honors me, and he prepares the way so that I may show him the salvation of God. Psalm 50:23 (NIV)

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Colossians 3:15 (NKJV)

Praise is presented to God for who He is. God is worthy of all our praise. There are great and wonderful things He has done. We also praise Him for who He is. Praise takes us from our self life, with its concerns, hassles, and problems, to life in Him. This radically changes our actions and prayers. Praise rattles the chains that would bind us and opens the doors that would hold us.

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Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable.

Psalm 145:3 (NKJV)

But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them; and suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains were unfastened. Acts 16:25-26 (NASB)

The praying in the Holy Spirit is presented to God; it is directed and empowered prayer. To often prayer time is a time of floundering around wondering what to pray and longing for power in prayer. God has sent His Holy Spirit to guide us. He knows the heart and will of the Father, He knows the prayers of the great Intercessor, the Lord Jesus Christ, and He can help us to be effective in prayer.

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Romans 8:26-27 (NKJV)

praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— Ephesians 6:18 (NKJV)

For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.

1 Corinthians 14:14 (NKJV)

“My spirit (by the Holy Spirit within me) prays.” 1 Corinthians 14:14 (Amplified version)

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, Jude 1:20 (NKJV)

There is nothing new or even innovative in what has been written thus far in this issue of Voice of Thanksgiving. You know these things and practice them, right? In his classic book the Screwtape Letters, C. S. Lewis explores the Christian life by presenting letters to a novice demon from his trainer, a more experience fiend. Part way through the book, disaster strikes; the man the novice is working on becomes a Christian. The lessons at that point turn to the many possibilities for still return the man to the fold of evil or blunting his effectiveness and value as a Christian. Letter after letter talks of the things that can be done to wreck this mans walk with the Lord and his faith.

One of the avenues available, is to get him to be active in his church and other activities, so active that he thinks he is walking as a Christian, but he is merely going though the motions. He will walk by works and not by faith. The former has no power or force and is no threat; the later is a problem

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that must be avoided. Lewis has struck at the heart of one of the chief problems of Christianity. History is filled with examples of men and women who have become Christians, but limited the effects and their affects, by not continuing in faith. They are not a treat to the Devil or his kingdom and they pose no threat of utilizing the power of the faith.

This problem is often manifested in prayer. People begin to pray, but instead of continuing in faith, they slip into just going through the motions. This malady is dangerous because it comes subtly, often taking over a person and their prayer life, with no noticeable change. They were praying believing God to answer their prayers and now they are just speaking the words. Faith is gone, religions practice and traditions have taken its place. Instead of being a force to be reckoned with, they are no threat at all.

It is incumbent on us to regularly check our practices of prayer. A great place to start is looking into our use of the prayer power boosters listed above. Are you person of thanksgiving? Is thanksgiving missing from your prayers? Is your heart missing from your thanksgiving? What is the substance of your prayers, which predominates, praise or complaint? Does the Holy Spirit guide, empower, and help your prayers or is He missing in action relegated to the prayer closet, but not your prayers? Examine yourselves; are you in the faith of Christ or in the fog of life? Make sure the booster rockets of effective prayer are present and active in your life.

Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?--unless indeed you are disqualified.

2 Corinthians 13:5 (NKJV)

Let us pray!

A Call for Prayer

Pray for DK Limbu Daniel – Church planter among Nepalese people

Greetings in Jesus' Name! We had wonderful 13th anniversary God has encouraged us to go more for His Kingdom. We praise God for He has helped us to plant 10 churches different parts of country in 5 years. This church is part of New Life Gospel Church Ministries of Nepal. Plus from our church, 5 new churches have been begun in Kathmandu in 5 years. They are independent churches, now serving the Lord, spreading the gospel, training people, and raising leaders with great potentiality. As a main church, we are blessed by them.

We must believe God for about half of our mission budget this year. Please join your faith with us to reach more souls in Nepal for Christ Jesus, which will everlasting reward for us both. Starting in February 2011 we are going to begin *Kingdom Harvest Bible Institute*, a two years study to raise harvesters and church planters, as well as leaders. We would thank you for your prayers and financial help. We will be having *School of Ministry for the Pastors and Leaders* for 21 days in January, 2011.

May God bless you, Deu K. Limbu (DK Daniel)

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Pray for the BBB Conference in Poland the last weekend in June. Continue to pray as the plans are being completed, both by the organizers and by the participants. There is much to do for this conference, but of even more importance, there is much that those who attend need to do and they need your prayers to help them, prepare them, and support them.

Continue Faithful in Prayer

Continue to pray for the ministries listed here and use this as a spring board for praying for nations, churches, pastors, ministries, and people close to your heart and according to the Spirit's direction. Your faithful prayers make a difference!

Pray for Pastors of Churches

DK Limbu Daniel – Pastor of a church in Nepal
Jacek Gromadzki – Pastor of a church in Kolobrzeg, Poland
Mark and Patty Spencer – Pastors of a church in Longmont, Colorado
William (Bill) Williamson – Pastor of a church in Cedaredge, Colorado
Charles and Janice Wilson – Pastors in Wyola, Montana

Pray for Nations and the Churches of Nations

Israel and the peace of Jerusalem
Churches in Belarus
Churches in Lithuania

Pray for Leadership over multiple Churches

DK Limbu Daniel – Church planter among Nepalese people
Marek Kaminski – Bishop of Poland and co-founder and leader of the BBB Conference

Pray for Christian Ministries

Joyce Abrahamson – Head of a Christian school in Brazil
John Coon – Ministry in Europe and the USA
Marianne and David Dean – Missionaries on college campuses in East Asia
Lori Farquhar – Children's Ministry Director
Bernd and Heike Pastor – Ministry in Germany
Mark Spencer – Worldwide ministry, and co-founder and leader of BBB Conference
Patty Spencer – Worship leader, and musician
William (Bill) Williamson – Leader of a mission outreach to India
David Williamson – Writer and editor of *Voice of Thanksgiving*

Calling Christians to Effective Fervent Prayer

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