

Prayer Tips

2009-2010

submitted by Dale Hughes

September

The Alliance believes wholeheartedly in the power and necessity of prayer. We cannot “Live the Call Together” unless prayer is central to all we do—as a denomination, as churches, and as individuals. For that reason, we want to encourage you to make prayer more foundational to everything you are and do.

To make this happen, this prayer section of the Web site is designed to...

- Fuel your personal prayer life.
- Provide you with guides and tools to help you pray more powerfully for the advancement of Christ’s Kingdom.
- Give churches, pastors, and prayer leaders the tools they need to make prayer foundational in the life of the church.

It is our prayer and desire that this Web site will serve you as you seek to become a stronger prayer warrior and a champion for prayer in your church. May God bless you as you intercede for His Church and servants worldwide, praying for His Spirit to open hearts so that every people group and nation would receive the gift of salvation.

Prayer section of the official website of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, 2009

www.cmalliance.org

Pray for wisdom and with wisdom for those who are servants in God’s Kingdom and those who are lost to God’s Kingdom.

October

“Truly, truly I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life” (John 5:20-24 ESV; see also 6:29-30). The greater work is to bring people to eternal life through our proclamation of the gospel.

As we stick at the task of proclaiming the gospel, Jesus gives us a lovely promise: “I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father” (John 14:13). In John’s Gospel the Father is glorified as the son gives eternal life (John 17:1-5)—the “greater work” Jesus promises to do through our words (John 5:20-24). When we pray, Jesus promises to do the greater work of giving life in his name—the name we proclaim in the gospel.”

Tim Chester and Steve Timmis, excerpt from “total **CHURCH**—
A Radical Reshaping around Gospel and Community”

Pray for an understanding of God’s Word and of the purpose He has for circumstances and people He brings into your life.

November

Here are closed lands. Human governmental authority seems responsible for these. But in the background, there stand the shadowy forms of the great princes (Daniel 10) whose dicta rules the minds and wills of the men who we see. Afghanistan, Arabia, Tibet and lesser areas are thus garrisoned against the entry of truth. They will thus remain until there rises in the Church believing groups who shall “agree” that this state of affairs shall no longer continue. And as such bands, with one accord, exercise a spiritual will of freedom for these lands, saying in the name of the Lord, “This shall not be!” The unseen dominant forces shall be dominant no longer but shall yield ground, and the barriers shall fall.

John A. MacMillan, excerpt from “The Authority of the Believer”

Pray that God would burden the hearts of many for the spiritual battle raging all over the world, and then pray together, as a team, for the victory of Light over darkness in the hearts of people.

December

In the ongoing work of the kingdom of God, nothing is more important than Intercessory Prayer. People today desperately need the help that we can give them. Marriages are being shattered. Children are being destroyed. Individuals are living lives of quiet desperation, without purpose or future. And we can make a difference...if we will learn to pray on their behalf.

Richard J. Foster, excerpt from “**Prayer**—Finding the heart’s True Home”

Pray that the wonderful love of God, Who sent His only Son, Jesus, to be the sacrifice for our sins and to offer the gift of eternal life, will overflow from your hearts to those around you who are in such great need of His love and forgiveness.

January

“For 12 years I prayed, ‘Oh, Father, make me a foreign mishener. I want to go to foreign lands and preach.’ Und Father say, “Sophie, stop. Where were you borned?’ ‘Germany, Father.’ ‘Where are you now?’ ‘In America.’ ‘Well, ain’t you a foreign mishener already? And who lives on the floor above you?’ ‘A family of Svedes.’ ‘Und on the floor above them?’ ‘Why, some Svitzers.’ ‘Und in the rear house are Italians, und in a block away some Chinese. Do you think I will send you a thousand miles away to the foreigner und heathen, when you got them all around, und you nefer care enough about them to speak vit them about their soul?’

“I had some money saved up; und I learnt if I give a few dollars, I could send a boy to school in Japan. I do it, and now he is mishener among his own people. One day I hear about the people down South. ‘Vell,’ Father said, ‘Sophie, you can give to that sure’; but I vas stingy-like. I felt bad, und Father seemed to say, ‘All you haf I gif you, und you won’t gif a little back.’ I feel worsen until I gif enough to send a woman to teach. Und now I haf a woman teaching for me down South. So I was in Japan, down south, und here in New York—preaching in three places, like as though I vas triplets!”

Sophie “The Scrubwoman” Lichtenfels

From an article by **Patty McGarvey**, alife, July 2008
FOUNDATIONS—ALLIANCE HERITAGE

Pray the Lord will bring to your mind those times and circumstances in which He has spoken to you, and taught you, and changed your life. Then pray for opportunities to share your stories.

February

If we call upon the Lord, he has promised in his Word to answer, to bring the unsaved to himself, to pour out His spirit among us. If we don’t call upon the Lord, he has promised nothing—nothing at all. It’s as simple as that. No matter what I preach or what we claim to believe in our heads, the future will depend upon our times of prayer.

Jim Cymbala, excerpt from “FRESH WIND, FRESH POWER”

Pray boldly before the throne of God for those who do not as yet know Him, and pray for boldness to share the gospel with those He brings into your life.

March

It was at a church service in Munich that I saw him, a former S.S. man who had stood guard at the shower room door in the processing center at Ravensbruck. He was the first of our actual jailers that I had seen since that time. And suddenly it was all there—the roomful of mocking men, the heaps of clothing, Betsie’s pain-blanching face. He came up to me as the church was emptying, beaming and bowing. “How grateful I am for your message, Fraulein.” He said. “To think that, as you say, He has washed my sins away!” His hand was thrust out to shake mine. And I, who had preached so often to the people in Bloemendaal the need to forgive, kept my hand at my side. Even as the angry, vengeful thoughts boiled through me, I saw the sin of them. Jesus Christ had died for this man; was I going to ask for more? Lord Jesus, I prayed, forgive me and help me to forgive him. I tried to smile, I struggled to raise my hand. I could not. I felt nothing, not the slightest spark of warmth or charity. And so again I breathed a silent

prayer. Jesus, I prayed, I cannot forgive him. Give me Your forgiveness. As I took his hand the most incredible thing happened. From my shoulder along my arm and through my hand a current seemed to pass from me to him, while into my heart sprang a love for this stranger that almost overwhelmed me. And so I discovered that it is not on our forgiveness any more than on our goodness that the world's healing hinged, but on His. When He tells us to love our enemies, He give, along with the command, the love itself.

Corrie Ten Boom, excerpt from "The Hiding Place"

Pray for God's grace to flow through you, to be sufficient for you so that love and forgiveness, acceptance and compassion will bear witness to His presence in your life.

April

Lord, the daily miracles I see so clearly are often lost on those who do not know You. I understand how privileged I am to be counted as one of Your own. I weep when I think of all the wonders I missed during my years of blindness. This is why I point out Your beauty and power to my children when ever I can. Until their hearts take hold of You with a firm grip of faith, I am their eyes, I am their witness, I am their guide.

Lord when other people shrug at my claims of the miraculous infusing my daily routine, encourage me to continue sharing what I know as truth. I have been where they stand. I know that in the edge of their peripheral vision they see rays of Your light. My certainty shakes their doubt to its deceptive core. And they are that much closer to witnessing the wonders in their life.

Hope Lyda, excerpt from "One-Minute Prayers For Busy Moms"

Pray for an openness to the wonders of God around you, and for times to be a testimony of influence to those who don't see.

May

Worship and praise is the purest form of prayer because it focuses our minds and souls entirely away from ourselves and on to Him. – When we worship God, we are the closest to Him we will ever be.

Stormie Omartian, excerpt from "The PRAYER that Changes Everything—the Hidden Power of Praising God"

Pray for a heart of praise and worship. It will strengthen your relationship with Him, and give strength in serving Him.

June

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY. They sound like innocuous, almost harmless little words. Only five of them. But don't be fooled. This might be the most dangerous little prayer you ever say to God. It has the potential to radically transform your life. Once you learn to pray, there is nothing that God wants you to have that you can't receive from Him.

Fred A. Hartley III, excerpt from "LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY—Finding Delight in the Practice of Prayer"

Pray for the desire to know Him, His ways, His Word— so you will have knowledge to give witness to a transformed life.

July

Eighteen-year-old Hudson Taylor wandered into his father's library and read a gospel tract. He couldn't shake off its message. Finally, falling to his knees, he accepted Christ as his Savior. Later, his mother, who had been away, returned home. When Hudson told her the good news, she said, "I already know. Ten days ago, the very date on which you tell me you read that tract, I spent the entire afternoon in prayer for you until the Lord assured me that my wayward son had been brought into the fold.

Our Daily Bread, July 19, 1989.

[Hudson Taylor (1832-1905) was a famous missionary in China.

He was the founder of the China Inland Mission which, at his death, included 205 mission stations with over 800 missionaries, and 125,000 Chinese Christians. He spent 51 years in China].

Pray for unsaved loved ones, friends, and those around the world you do not know, believing He hears you and will answer.

August

You and I are in Christ and commanded to abide with Christ. Christ is the head and we are his body. When we are at the grocery store, school, home, or work, we are supernaturally connected with Christ all day, every day. We have God Almighty living in us as the Spirit, and we are called to reflect this reality and take advantage of it in the form of prayer. Sometimes it will be a gushing river of conversation with God, flowing through the forefront of our minds. Sometimes it will be a quiet stream of meditation and rest in the background of our minds. Regardless, we should always walk mindful of God's presence. We all know what it's like to have something on our mind all day. Well, God is to be on our mind continually. We are called to constantly acknowledge and take advantage of the supernatural union we have with God Almighty.

Wendy Horger Alsup,

excerpt from "**Practical Theology** for Women – How Knowing God Makes a Difference in Our Daily Lives"

Pray intentionally wherever, whenever for whomever because He is always with us and always listening.