

## **The Need Necessitates Action**

It seems that, while in some areas of the Lord's work there is ample response to meet the challenges at hand, there is yet a tremendous need for individuals who will take time to pray. God wants His people to be dedicated to the specific ministry of prayer and to pay the price involved. The prayer requests never cease. There will never be too many prayer warriors. We cannot expect just a few to carry the burden.

Due to the busyness of life in our complex society, many simply do not give prayer a high priority in their lives. As a result, God's work suffers. Other seemingly important things often come higher on those priority lists than does prayer. In the Scriptures, Martha is an example of one who was so overly concerned about other things that the better and more important part was crowded out. In her case, service is what replaced time with the Lord; and she was admonished for it (Luke 10:38-42).

Have you chosen the better part? I must confess that in my early experience and walk, I did not. Every time I heard a sermon on prayer or read something regarding the subject, I wanted to pray. Nevertheless, I wasn't praying, only playing. The urge would soon diminish, and I continued in my prayer-less life.

The day arrived, however when prayer was woven into my life as an integral part of each day's activity. I realized its vital importance and felt that I could not function on a day-to-day basis without meeting my Master in prayer. Since that time, I have never relinquished this prayer life which my lovely Savior has given to me.

## **True Disciplines Bring Results**

I could never deny that prayer is work and that it requires discipline. It has its incentives, though. One of the most encouraging incentives to pray is that things happen. The Lord hears and responds. Another motivation is that prayer is a literal celebration and climbing to the heights of the sublime! How delightful it is that our Lord entertains us, who, apart from His grace, are mere faltering, failing humans. If you are not yet in that group of those who truly pray, I would invite you and urge you to get on board.

As we pray, others are helped. Limitations are reduced to shambles. Christians are strengthened and guided through the conflicts and battles of daily life. The discouraged are encouraged. Victories are won. Lives are touched. The lost come to know Jesus Christ. Souls are saved. The enemy is defeated. Mountains are removed. Really, one of the most effective ways to help anyone is to pray for them, and yet, how many times is something else substituted that does not resolve the problem that they are facing.

We are also personally helped through prayer. As the hymn-writer penned, "*Oh what peace we often forfeit, oh what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.*"

I do not know what type of a Christian I would be today if I had not learned to pray in an effective, regular, and daily manner. Truly, it is another evidence of God's mercy, because not only does prayer change things, but God changes us through prayer.

## **Effectual Prayer Brings Results**

Vagueness and indecisiveness are not consistent with genuine prayer. Pray definitely. Ask largely and expectantly (without selfish motives).

- How big is our God?
- What can He really do?
- What does He want from us and for us?
- What is His will, His plan, and His purpose?

Brethren, pray! He will show you. Allow God, by His Holy Spirit, to lead and reveal to you how to pray. He can teach you all you need to know.

Include praise and worship. They minister to our wonderful Lord. It is not only how much we can receive, but what we can give. What type of a message do we convey to our Heavenly Father? Oh, may we become immersed in a true prayer life!

Take some of the precious promises from the Word of God as your foundational direction. Isaiah 40:31, for example, is an exhilarating verse to any prayer warrior. It speaks of those who 'wait on the Lord'. Waiting speaks of the time involved. Patience and persistence are in order. This verse speaks also of renewing one's strength. I believe that both spiritual and physical strength may be acquired through prayer. Renewal, recharging, and revival come by waiting before the Lord. He does carry us on eagle's wings to lofty heights. The air is clearer—fresher. The vision is greater—farther. It is easier to see from that vantage point. Even before a "mountain" is removed, we have the lofty focal point of faith.

Why should we ever settle for anything less than legitimate, down-to-earth, true praying that is heavenly?

*“They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.”* **One of the greatest guards against a shipwrecked life, dismal and debilitating failure, emptiness, powerlessness, lack of direction, and lack of victory, is a sound, stable prayer life.**

Are you ready to climb, to soar, to travail, to behold the hand of the Lord in a way not heretofore experienced? Then, my dear one, join hands in this unlimited ministry of prayer. The stakes are high and the superlatives are awesome.

*(Ephesians 3:20, “Now unto Him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us....”)*

If you are not yet one of those who truly prays, come, join in, become one now. There is yet much room and so much to be prayed for. “The Lord has need of you.” Can he count on you? The only power we have is prayer. Don’t abandon this mighty weapon of our warfare.

O.V. Marsden said, “Doing the lower when the higher is possible constitutes one of the greatest tragedies in a man’s life.”

Alfred Tennyson has said, “More things are wrought by prayer than this world has ever dreamed of.”

***Let us climb and move mountains together in prayer.***

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**Vern Edmonds was the Executive Director of Tecate Mission International from 1986 until his home going in 2005. His life was characterized by his passion for prayer and his deep concern that this same love and dedication be experienced continually by all followers of Jesus Christ. He would often share the miracles which were done by His Heavenly Father in his life and the lives of others as a result of traving prayer.**

# We Can Move



# Mountains Together

*“I feel rather inadequate to share about the subject of prayer as there is so much that I don’t yet know about it. Nevertheless, I would like to suggest some of what God has helped me to learn throughout the years.”*

*Vern Edmonds*