

The Call to Prayer

In all of our meetings, church services, as well as seminars and Bible school sessions, we have an hour of prayer, where we are interceding for others, as the Spirit gives us utterance. There is so much work building the kingdom of God, in reaching the lost with the Salvation message, as well as feeding the sheep and building up the body of Christ by teaching them the Word of faith.

In order for God to be able to accomplish in this world what He desires to get accomplished, He needs all of us, as believers, to pray and intercede on behalf of others. The apostle Paul said in Ephesians 6: 18, 19,

¹⁸Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

¹⁹And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

And in Colossians 4: 2, 3, 12, Paul admonishes us to,

²Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; ³Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: ¹²Epaphras, who is *one of you*, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

And Jesus said in Matthew 9: 37, **The harvest truly *is* plenteous, but the labourers *are* few; ³⁸Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.**

Many people have the misconception, idea and belief that God is in charge of this world, and that He's running it. If that were the case, why would He ask us to pray so utterance would be given to ministers, or so that doors of utterance would be opened up to ministers, and, as Jesus said, so that labors would go forth?

Matthew 7: 7-11

⁷Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: ⁸For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. ⁹Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? ¹⁰Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? ¹¹If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Matthew 18: 18-20

¹⁸Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

John 16: 23, 24

²³And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give *it* you. ²⁴Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

Acts 12: 5

⁵Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

Acts 16: 25

²⁵And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

These scriptures, along with many others in the New Testament, show us the importance and responsibility that each one of us, as believers, has to pray so that God's will **will** be done on this earth. Jesus knew that prayer had to go forth for the kingdom of God to be built. The early church knew they had to pray to get Peter out of jail, and Paul knew the importance of getting others to pray, as well as himself, so he solicited prayer help in his letters. He said in Ephesians Chapter 1:16 and in chapter 3:14-16, that he was praying for them. He also asked the people receiving the letters to pray for him.

The greatest call we can answer today is the call to prayer. For it is in and through prayer that God is able to fulfill His plan here, on this earth. If at all possible, do your best to pray every day at least one hour.

I look forward to sharing with you tomorrow.

Your partner in faith and prayer,

Brother Rich

Remember, God wishes above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers (3 John 2).