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# The Mission Trail

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## Pray Without Ceasing

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Good morning, friends. It is indeed a pleasure to be coming your way once again. I am deeply indebted to God and to many of you who have helped to make possible this work of faith. May your reward be great in heaven and may you find many blessings right here in this life for all the sacrifice you've put forth. Let me stir up your pure minds with this scripture. It is a short verse found in I Thes. 5:17 and it contains only three words, "Pray without ceasing." And then this other verse from I Tim. 2:8 which exhorts to do the same thing. I quote, "I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting."

There is no denying the fact that we as the people of God are faced with many problems. But the world who doesn't know the Lord is faced with problems too. Our cities, our counties, and our states have problems. Some times the answer is not easy to find and further- more our country and other countries have their problems. The politicians seek for the answer, and the scientists are searching, the psychologist gives his version of where he thinks the answer lies.

Now, let me give you the key to the solution to many of the ills of this our present day. It is short and it is simple and if you want to prove it, just give it a try and see how well it works. Here it is in II Chron., the 7th chapter and beginning with verse 12, "And the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for an house of sacrifice. If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land,

or if I send pestilence among my people; If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Now notice one thing especially which the Lord said to Solomon, "I have heard thy prayer". This means that Solomon had been praying. Do you not remember how God made an offer to Solomon to grant the desire of his heart? Solomon did not ask for riches, or honor, but he asked for an understanding heart that he might know how to conduct himself.

Remember the first text which says, "Pray without ceasing." If you have a problem, take it to the Lord in prayer. If you are sick, pray for the Lord to have his way in your heart and life and when he has tried and proven you, that he would heal you. If you have financial trouble, take it to the Lord in prayer. Tell him that all you have and ever ex-



pect to have belongs to him and he can do whatever he will with it. If you have enemies, the scriptures say to pray for your enemies. You see they need the Lord too. This also helps to condition your heart to feel toward them as you should. Prayer is the key which unlocks heaven's door. You see the enemy is waiting for every opportunity to ensnare you. Prayer is in order in every home and every city and every country through out the world.

Now let us look at a few examples recorded in the Bible of those who prayed. Daniel was in Babylon. He'd been taken captive by his enemies but God had blessed and prospered Daniel and had given him wisdom and an excellent spirit. But one day his enemies, who were jealous of him, sought to do away with Daniel. So they had the king to sign a decree that if any one should ask any petition of another, except from the king he should be cast into the den of lions. You see they knew that Daniel had deep convictions toward his god. So sure enough Daniel knew this decree had been signed but he went into his room, knelt before his open window, as he had often done before, and he prayed to God 3 times daily. Now this praying didn't keep Daniel from facing the test but it did give him victory when the test came, for when he was thrown into the den of lions the angel of the Lord shut the lions' mouths that no harm or hurt was found on Daniel. But look what happened to the king. He spent a restless and a miserable night thinking of Daniel and God reversed the situation and it was Daniel's enemies who suffered death at the mouths of the lions while Daniel walked out of there free from injury. The secret: Daniel prayed.

Think of Paul and Silas now, who were

beaten and placed in stocks in the inner prison in Philippi. Do you know what they did about midnight that night? They prayed and sang praises unto God. That is the first part of it, friends. The next part of it is that the prisoners heard them, there was an earthquake which shook the jail, the doors were opened, their stocks fell off, and the jailer woke up and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners were escaped. But the best results of it all is that in the end the jailer believed with all of his house and was baptized. Now don't forget: Paul and Silas prayed.

Hezekiah was told by the prophet to set his house in order for he was surely going to die. What did he do? He turned his face to the wall and prayed to God. The Lord heard him and added 15 years to his life. Hannah was a godly woman, but she had an earnest petition which she brought to the Lord in prayer. She wanted a child of her very own and she promised God that she would give him to the Lord. God heard Hannah's prayer and in due time Samuel, a judge for the people of God and one of the greatest prophets, was born. Jonah prayed to the Lord out of the belly of the great fish which God had prepared to swallow him up. God heard that prayer and gave him a second chance to preach to the people of Ninevah. "Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain; and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit." James 5:17, 18 It was through prayer that the windows of heaven were opened and the rains came down.

Dear ones, you too can take your bur-



dens to the Lord in prayer. You can pray in the home or on the job or at school. Let your prayer be continually to God whose eyes are over the righteous and his ears are open to their prayers. It was in the Garden of Gethsemane that Christ won the victory before he was crucified on the cruel cross of Calvary. He prayed to his father. Remember the text, will you? It says, "Pray without ceasing." And now this poem:

#### EXHORTATION TO PRAYER

What various hindrances we meet  
When coming to a mercy-seat!  
Yet who that knows the worth of  
prayer  
But wishes to be often there?

Prayer makes the darkened cloud  
withdraw;  
Prayer climbs the ladder Jacob saw,  
Gives exercise to faith and love,  
Brings every blessing from above.

Restraining prayer, we cease to fight  
Prayer makes the Christian's armor  
bright;  
And Satan trembles when he sees  
The weakest saint upon his knees.

While Moses stood with arms spread  
wide,  
Success was found on Israel's side;  
But when through weariness they  
failed,  
That moment Amalek prevailed.

Have you no words? Ah, think again!  
Words flow apace when you complain,  
And fill your fellow creature's ear  
With the sad tale of all your care.

Were half the breath thus vainly spent  
To heaven in supplication sent,  
Your cheerful song would oftener be,  
"Hear what the Lord hath done for me."

And, dear ones, do you know of any thing more fitting for us to do now than to pray?

Our Father,

Bless this broadcast to the good of every listener and as they lift their petitions to thee in earnest prayer hear from heaven, send deliverance, give victory and healing, through the name of Christ and to thee we will give the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen

Friends, if we may be of help to you, be sure to let us know. We appreciate those who have so faithfully stood by to help support this work of faith. You may write to us by addressing your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying may God's richest blessings be with each of you and a very cheerful good-bye!

Coming next week, a message on—  
"The Hypocrite's Hope"



HYPOCRISY



## Testimonies

From Ohio: "Home again praising and thanking God for all His blessings for we can never begin to count them one by one! Left Myrtle day light Fri. -- that it best as all the Dayton folks were leaving then--to be along with them just in case? But God so blest and gave added strength that Sam drove all the way and pulling the trailer too-- no trouble at all and arrived home at the going down of the sun--Bro. Johnnie, Bro. Bill and theirs right behind us. Indeed, indeed, what a mighty God we love and serve--Pray for us to love him more and serve him better. . . Sam preached last nite--first since the bad heart attack--he took it rather easy --and God blest him (and us too) No ill effects. Praise God!"

--Bro. and Sis. Sam Abbott  
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From Mo.: "I have felt so close to the Lord Jesus last week. I have the victory today, praise the Lord. I would like to tell you how the Lord healed me last week. After I ate my dinner I felt so sick I asked the Lord to heal me and he healed me instantly."

--Mary McPherson  
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From La.: "We are happy to be able to send greetings your way once more. We're very thankful for the blessings of the Lord to us up to this very day. I could never thank and praise the Lord enough for instantly removing the pain from my fingers at Myrtle camp meeting after I had gotten them locked in an electric mixer beaters. My fingers have continued to improve since then and I'm able to use them a lot now. . . We pray the Lord will bless you and the work by supplying all your needs. I must close and get this in the mail. Pray for us."

--Doyle, Cynthia LaCroix and family

From Arkansas: "The Lord is so mindful of us and will do every thing for us that we will let Him do. I do have a desire to serve Him more diligently each day to seek His dear will. I don't want a flimsy consecration (if that is a possible thing). To be willing and obedient is the desire of my heart. . . Do tell my dear friends hello for me. Some how Guthrie has a warm place in my heart."

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From Ore.: "I greet you in Jesus dear name--can report victory in my soul and so thankful for the Lord's love and mercy to me. It is dry here but most of the time isn't too hot. Usually there will be 3 pretty warm days, then we will have a few nice cool days for which we are thankful. Oh, we have had Bro. Ostis up here 2 different times for a week at a time and we sure do enjoy the good messages. Evelyn was with him and we did enjoy them. They left the last time Monday, 10th. Well, it is 10:30 so better get to bed. Christian love and prayers,"

--Sis. Emma Busch

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### PRAYER REQUEST!

Sister Edna Crummie of South Carolina writes that her husband was involved in a auto accident and was hurt quite badly on Aug. 7. His pickup was torn up and an x-ray showed he had several cracked ribs. She asks that the saints have special prayer for him that his life be spared. She also writes: "tell all the saints which came to the Holly Hill camp this year we sure did appreciate the sweet fellowship and the love and the Holy Spirit leading and guiding us throughout the 10 days meeting. The Lord surely did own and bless us together. We hope more will be able to come another year, if the Lord's wills."

--Sis. Edna Crummie



"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people. . ."  
 Rev. 14:6 The following touching incident which took place in India was related by E. E. Byrum in the early days of this reformation. Surely God is still calling for those who will fully consecrate their lives in order to carry the gospel over land and sea and say like the prophet Isaiah of old "Here am I; send me."

#### THE MAN WHO HAD NEVER HEARD OF JESUS

One day as Brother Moses and I were making some purchases in the city, we came to a place where a poor native was standing in a pool of blood, with his head bent over near the curbing of the sidewalk. There bareheaded, bare-backed, in the hot sun, suffering with intense pain, he was weeping loudly, having in some way received an injury to his foot. Brother Moses, speaking to him in his native language, asked him to get up on the pavement, which he did. Some cloth was procured, and a bandage made for his foot. After it was properly dressed, Brother Moses asked if we should pray for him. We then asked him if he knew anything about Jesus Christ, to which he replied that he did not. He said that he had never heard of him. We then told him of some of the wonderful healings that the Lord had been doing the past few days at the meeting, and asked him if he would believe if we prayed for him. He replied that he would. A crowd had gathered about us. As we knelt, we laid our hands upon his foot, asking God to send the healing power. He was yet weeping, the tears rolling down his cheeks because of the pain; but instantly while we were praying God sent the

healing power, and his weeping was turned to laughing, and his tears swept away, and he began to rejoice. The change was instantaneous; he felt the power of God go through him. Being in a hurry, we started away with a bag of sugar which had just been purchased. We had gone but a few steps when the man caught up with us, began pulling the bag of sugar, and insisted upon taking it, and immediately placed it upon his head and started on before us. He wanted to do something to show his gratitude for our attention to him, and knew of no other way by which he could express his feeling of gratitude. This made quite an impression upon my mind, to think that here was a man who had never heard of Jesus Christ and his power to heal, and upon the first opportunity he submitted himself to God and believed and received the healing touch. If a poor ignorant heathen can receive such benefits in so short a time, what ought we to do who have heard the Word of God time after time for years, and have seen the manifestation of his power? Should we not almost be put to shame because of our lack of faith? The last commission that Jesus gave to his followers was to go to all nations and preach the gospel, and he said, "These signs shall follow them that believe." Among the signs mentioned were that in his name they should cast out devils, lay hands on the sick, and they should recover. See Mat. 28:19, 20; Mark 16:14-18. In the same commission he gave the promise of salvation to those who believe, and as we read nowhere in the Bible that these promises were to be denied believers, we can go forth with all confidence, knowing that God will fulfill his Word.

--Excerpt from "Travels and Experiences in Other Lands" by E. E. Byrum printed in 1905.

