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**STRIVING TO DO
 GOD'S WORK, GOD'S WAY, FOR GOD'S GLORY**

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In Proverbs 15:8 the Lord declares, "The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord; **but the prayer of the upright is His delight!**" Our Lord and God takes great pleasure in the prayers of His 'twice born' children. You may ask, "How could we do anything that could possibly delight the God of the universe? The true and living God is a consuming fire! The Bible declares in II Samuel 6, 'Who is able to stand before this Holy Lord God?' We know that God is so Holy that the seraphim must hide their faces in His presence. He is so holy, that when Job, (the most godly man of his era), encountered the Lord God, he cried, 'I abhor myself and I repent in dust and ashes.' God is so holy that when the prophet Isaiah saw the Lord in His sovereignty and sanctity, he called out, 'Woe is me, for I am undone!' Our Creator is infinitely set above us, in our humanness; our fallenness; and our sinfulness. So, how could we possibly do anything that would delight this Holy Lord God?"

Well dear friends, God is delighted in 'one thing' that we can possibly offer him. That is the personal realization of, and a sincere declaration of: our total neediness of Him; our absolute dependence on Him; our complete confidence in Him; resulting in a diligent seeking of Him in prayer; and an assured personal expectation of Him to hear and answer that prayer, according to His perfect will and in His perfect timing!

"God does not delight in the strength of the horse; He takes no pleasure in the legs of a man. The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him; in those who hope in His mercy."- [Psalm 147:10-12] Why does God delight when one is 'seeking and believing' in prayer? I believe that it is because our Lord delights in meeting needs, more, than in making demands! So fellow disciples, should we not also find delight in spending quality time, priority time, and consistent time in communion with the Lord in prayer, since our Father so delights in it? (Continued on p.2)



Upcoming Schedule

**March 24 - 29Nola Baptist
 Brookhaven, MS**

**March 28Home of
 Grace - Mobile, AL - Dianne
 Teaching**

**April 1-4.....City of Refuge
 Lucedale, MS**

**April 7-10Pine Grove
 Baptist - Laurel, MS**

**April 17Mission of
 Hope**

**April 21-24Shelbyville
 Mills Baptist, Shelbyville, TN**

**April 25.....Home of
 Grace - Mobile, AL - Dianne
 Teaching**

**April 27First Baptist
 Kenner - Kenner, LA - Ladies
 Spring Outreach - Dianne
 Teaching**

**May 3-4Melbourne,
 FL - (Our son Dwight's -
 Graduation - Masters)**

**May 10-17Cuba
 Conference - Christ
 Centered Discipleship**

The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him; in those who hope in His mercy. - Psalm 147:11



While many in the contemporary church are looking for new 'humanly concocted' techniques and tactics, in attempting to accomplish His mission; our God is looking for faithful soldiers, who will seek Him in believing prayer! The Holy Spirit does not flow through religious gimmicks and gadgets. The Holy Spirit flows through men and women who are committed soldiers in the warfare of prayer!

I believe that effective prayer is that majestic transaction in which the infinite wealth of God's provision is magnified; and the needs of God's people are satisfied! Consider the wonderful promise the Lord Jesus gave to his disciples, **"And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son!"** God the Father is perfectly pleased with the Son; and by His grace, we become **friends** of the Son. We are now **accepted** in union with the Beloved One, the Lord Jesus Christ! We are **heirs** of God and **joint heirs** with Jesus Christ! And our King and Master has authorized every one of His disciples to ask, seek and knock at the door of His Father; so that, the Father, through His answers, might be glorified in His Son! Oh dear brothers and sisters in Christ, the glory of our God is put on display, in the joy that we experience, when we receive His mighty answers to prayer!

If the prayer of the upright is His delight; then the delight of every child of God should be to engage in intimate prayer with our Father. The great Baptist preacher Charles Spurgeon has well said, "To pray is to enter into the treasure of God and to enrich one's self out of God's inexhaustible storehouse". Our Great High Priest ever lives to make intercession for us. We have 'open access and freedom of speech' to pour out our hearts to our God. Think of it, Friends! We can come to the King of the universe, without hesitation; and with sweet assurance, that our prayers will be heard and answered, *according to God's will and in God's timing!* For God is not only the Creator and Sustainer of the universe; He is not only the Alpha and the Omega; He is not only the omniscient, omnipotent and omnipresent Lord of all; He is also our Heavenly Father! Our 'Abba Father' delights to answer the 'faith-filled' petitions of His frail and needy children, which are being perfumed by the sweet incense of the mediation of our Great High Priest! This is exactly why the apostle John proclaims in 1 John 5:14-15, **"Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask; we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him"**. Oh, that there might be a 'mighty revival of fervent and believing prayer' among all of us. Yes, we need a revival of powerful preaching; however, we also need a revival of passionate praying. May we ask the Lord to bestow a spiritual hunger in His people; and draw them to fervent and faithful intercession! May our Lord, once again, pour out the spirit of grace and supplication, into the hearts of the bride of Christ!

Since the last newsletter, the Lord has given me 3 wonderful opportunities to teach my workbook on prayer entitled, "The Biblical Path To An Effective Prayer Life" in Baptist churches in Florida, Louisiana and South Carolina. I was very encouraged from the faithful attendance and spiritual hunger in all three. Usually when it is announced that you are going to teach 12 sessions on the subject of prayer; it can be like screaming "fire" in a crowded theatre! But, I was extremely heartened by the corporate commitment, as well as, the spiritual appetite for the teaching of God's Word on this essential area of the Christian walk.

The most recent prayer conference was held at Mount Moriah Baptist Church in Easley, SC. In this Greenville-Spartanburg area of SC, there are presently residing over 30,000 people from the nation of India. Church Planter, Suresh Jonnalagadda, is working under Mount Moriah Baptist Church as a missionary to these 30,000 souls. The Holy Spirit did a precious work in the heart of Suresh and his wife, along with many other believers, during this conference. Suresh shares the following words: **"First and foremost we want to thank the Lord for making it possible for us to attend such an amazing conference. Bro. Ed, we want to thank you personally, for taking the efforts to come all the way from Mobile, AL to edify, educate and equip us in this conference on prayer. We want to thank the Lord also, for the love that He has given you for God's children. We could sense the genuine concern and burden that you have for us; that we should grow in this vital area of our prayer lives. We were powerfully reminded that prayer is one of the 2 greatest weapons, which the Lord has placed in our hands. This conference was a soul searching, a soul stirring, and a soul surging experience. It has totally revolutionized our attitude toward prayer; and it has shattered many falsified and misconceived notions about prayer, that are widely prevalent in Christendom today. (Continued on next page)**

I personally sensed the work of the Holy Spirit in my heart throughout the teachings. The Lord rekindled the fire in my heart to effectively pray in His will; and to intercede for the lost, with the burden and compassion of the Lord. Every part in this prayer series unfolded the art and attitude of prayer, in such a powerful way! By the end of the conference, we could all grab hold of these spiritual nuggets, to meditate on them daily, and apply them in our individual and corporate prayers. We now have every teaching that we need to mature in to the likeness of the image of our precious Lord, in this essential area of intercession. What a glorious conference this was. My words cannot describe the beauty of the gratitude that fills my heart toward my brother, for coming to teach us on this most vital, fundamental and foundational truth of "THE BIBLICAL PATH TO AN EFFECTIVE PRAYER LIFE". Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, Thank you! May the Lord give you a long life; and continue to use you mightily for the edification of many souls across the globe".

There were also a number of other pastors and leaders from other congregations in that area, which attended the conference. One of those pastors was Bro. Rod Wilton. He is a dear friend in Christ, and the pastor of Living Grace Baptist Church. He wrote the following in their church newsletter. "Bro. Ed Lacy was used by our God to disciple believers at Mount Moriah, last week. The Word of God is still ringing in my heart from that conference. Frankly and sincerely, from my heart to yours, my most earnest spiritual desire would be to gather you all together for a solid week, so that the Holy Spirit may saturate us with the vital need to be a people who are 'always praying-----both individually and collectively'! Oh that we would be 'Christ---imitators' in this one thing; namely, the fellowship of prayer with the Father, the Son and the Spirit. I implore you to go to the Mount Moriah website and listen."

The prayer conference in FL was held at Fellowship Baptist Church in Steinhatchee, FL with Pastor Aaron Turner. Aaron has become a dear friend in the Lord, over the last few years. He is an awesome preacher; a man who walks with God; and a brother who is a faithful and loving shepherd to his flock. He shares these words of testimony about the conference on prayer. "God used this prayer conference in a very wonderful way; not only in the life of the church, but also in my own personal life! Our desire to pray and our excitement in anticipation of God's answers have been greatly augmented. There is now a new freshness in our services that has greatly encouraged me. God has used this conference to make some "well needed" adjustments in my own life; as well as in the life of our church. We have already seen God do some awesome things in answer to prayer! We are so grateful that the Lord sent you my brother! I am also very thankful for the time of fellowship that I enjoyed with you. It refreshed my heart more than I can say. I feel like the Lord has knitted our hearts together. Since the conference, we have experienced a number of spontaneous prayer meetings among myself and members of the church, as well as with other pastors." We came to realize the Lord's perfect timing involving this prayer conference. Just days following the conclusion of the conference, Aaron was diagnosed with a very serious heart disease. He testified to me personally, that the Lord prepared him for this diagnosis in such a powerful way through the conference on prayer. He testified that his heart has been flooded with peace, even in the midst of some of the most difficult news that a believer could hear.

I also taught this study at Friendship Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, LA. At this church we had two churches joined together for most of the sessions. One church is a predominantly white church and the other church is a congregation of black brothers and sisters in Christ. We enjoyed a tremendous time of blessing throughout the conference! There was great liberty to teach, from the very first session. Every night we enjoyed a terrific attendance; and there were many testimonies, of the Holy Spirit powerfully applying these truths on prayer in the lives of many! Glory to our Lord and Savior for His mighty working in our midst!

THE CHURCH TREASURER IS CONVERTED TO CHRIST

I was recently preaching the Gospel in a Baptist church near Thibodaux, LA for a 4-day meeting. I was very grateful that many members from other churches were attending the meetings and also testifying that they were being blessed; for there appeared to be nothing but an atmosphere of "spiritual coldness and death" among the members; or so I thought! I noticed on Sunday morning that there was an older man named Kenny, who really appeared to be "plugged in" to every word of the message. I discovered, later that night, that he was not only one of the members, but he is the church treasurer and one of the leaders in this church. (Continued on next page)

As the week progressed, The Holy Spirit was burdening my heart to pray for Kenny; but I did not know why. He was one of the few members of this church, who was bringing guests to the meeting. On Monday evening, He brought his unconverted catholic sister. Then on Wednesday night, he filled an entire pew with some of his other relatives! I was so thankful that something was apparently happening in Kenny's heart, because there was no other visible evidence of the working of the Holy Spirit, among the other members.

When the final service of the week concluded, I began packing up my Bible and other materials, in my preparation to depart. Then I noticed that Mr. Kenny returned to the sanctuary. He requested to speak with me for a few minutes. Of course I gladly said, "Certainly, Kenny, Let's go to the pastor's office". When we closed the door, Kenny immediately began to testify, "**I realized this week that I have been lost. I came to see on Sunday morning and evening, that I was never truly converted to Christ. I was never saved before this week! But now, I have surrendered my life to the Lord Jesus. I want Him more than anything or anyone! I want to follow Him; I want to serve Him; and I want to tell everyone about what he has done for me this week!**" Friends, this 65-year-old, church treasurer had apparently been born from above! The Wind of God had mightily blown on his spiritually dead soul, in answer to evangelistic intercession and the preaching of God's Word! After a little while of sharing more from the Word of God with Kenny, I asked the pastor to join us in his office. Kenny freely declared to him that he had been converted to the Lord Jesus. The Pastor asked Kenny, "Do you want to tell the church this Sunday night?" Kenny responded, "I want to tell them tonight; Sunday morning; Sunday night; and I want to tell everybody what Jesus has done for me!"

While working on this newsletter, I received a phone call from Kenny. It has been 7 weeks since his conversion; and he was sharing with me how he and his wife are faithfully going through my workbook study on the Beatitudes. He is so excited about what God is teaching him. He also said, "I am making copies of this study and giving out to others in the church!"



Also, over the past couple of months, we have been blessed to see the Lord working in the midst of the outreaches at the drug and rehab facilities - The Mission of Hope and the Home of Grace. At the Mission of Hope, we have especially been blessed to see the Lord use His Word to declare Truth of Who He; why He came; and what He does in and through a life that is truly born-again. I am thinking of young man in his 30's, named Jonathan. He attended every meeting of our 5-day evangelistic outreach. Over those 5 days, God gave me a number of opportunities to counsel with this young man, concerning the gospel and the terms of conversion. I began interceding for Jonathan's soul. As the services progressed, it appeared as if Jonathan was wrestling with the Lord, concerning his lost soul; and he seemed to be fervently and urgently seeking the Lord, as he was striving to enter through the narrow gate. That was several weeks ago! I saw Jonathan again last Wednesday evening. He testified to me, with tears flowing from his eyes, "**Bro. Ed, I KNOW HIM! I have such a supernatural appetite for God's Word. I have a desire to tell everyone about the Lord Jesus!**" All I can say is, Glory to our Lord and Savior, Who is mighty to save! God still answers prayer, according to His perfect will and in His perfect timing!

Friends, James 1:17 reminds us that "**Every good gift and every perfect gift us from above, and comes down from the Father of lights....!**" We are often reminded that God is the ultimate Giver of every gift. But, dear friends, we also know that He gives through generous people, who have a passion to honor God. God had revealed His promise to us, long ago, that if we would be faithful to focus on His rule over our life and ministry; and if we will submit to be lead in His paths; that He would meet all of our many needs in our life and ministry! He has been absolutely faithful to fulfill His promise, since the early days of ministry in 1983! Brothers and sisters, **You**, have been an ongoing answer to God's promises to supply every provision that we need, as we strive to do "God's work; God's way; for God's glory"! We want to say, once again, that we thank our God in all of our remembrances of you. You are so precious to our lives and ministry; and you are a specific and ongoing answer to our prayers! Please know of our continuous love, gratitude and prayers for you, as we continue to work together, for His Glory!

II Corinthians 4:5
Ed & Dianne Lacy