

The Power of Prayer

Bev Robinson

A few years ago I was reading a book about revival and read an interesting illustration about quantum physics demonstrating the power of prayer. The experiment was of holy water used in the Catholic church. Two containers of the water were used. One was prayed over and one was not. The one prayed over registered energy, while the one not prayed over did not. I am not sure that proves anything, but you'll have to admit it is interesting. It is a good start for what I want to say on the power of prayer.

I have one of the most powerful tools of the Christian life to be prayer. My husband Ras and I have discussed many, many times, how impossible situations have been changed or maintained for God's will by praying.

I want to share with you a way I have been praying recently. I shared this with a Bible Study class I teach and it seems to have caught on as an easy way to remember to pray. I just simply told how God has led me.

We have had a tremendous number of responses from people who signed up to pray when Ras asked people via "What the Lord is Saying Today" if they would like to be part of a group of prayer warriors. I have great joy reading the personal requests that come in, praying for the requests and making a list for others around the world to agree in prayer.

I began to ask the Lord how to communicate to people the prayer needs without going through long lists of requests. This plan came to me:

I pray early in the morning before I get out of bed. You could do this at any other time convenient for your schedule. This plan helps keep me from getting caught up in my own personal requests and stopping there. Start from the greatest to the least.

First: pray for the world:

1. For Christians around the world.
2. For lost people to hear the gospel and receive Christ and be discipled.
3. Most of us watch, hear or read the news – pray as led for world events, for our leaders to make wise Godly decisions.

Second: pray for your nation:

1. For revival to come and change churches, and even your society.
2. For those in authority over you.

Third: Pray for your state the same as the world and your nation.

Fourth: Pray for your city the same as your world, nation and

state.

Fifth: pray for your community and neighborhood the same as your world, nation state and city.

Sixth: pray for your church, your workplace, your school etc. the same as above.

Seventh: then pray for your family and your personal needs.

Somehow if we start with our personal request, we often get so caught up that we fail to pray for other needs around the world. Instead of praying for your own needs first, lay down your life for others and see what happens to your own requests.

The rest of the day I offer up zip prayers as the need occurs.

Of the classic books on intercessory prayer is one written by Norman Grubb entitled Rees Howells Intercessor. Rees Howell's says something in there that was a principle for his life that is different from what Andrew Murray writes about prayer.

Rees Howells said prayer wasn't really prayer with just words. There needs to be emotion and fervor. Andrew Murray prayed in the daily needs for orphanages which he ran, and said that he felt like a block of wood during most of his praying, but nevertheless he continued to pray

Just pray, whether or not you pray with fervor and emotion or feeling nothing at all. Both work. How you do it, and when you do it are not as important as that which the Nike commercials tell us -- JUST DO IT.

The Bible tells us:

"...The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much." James 5:16b

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