

“And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear”  
**Isaiah 65:24.**



"Brothers and sisters, I really feel that I've heard from God about the future of our church. While I was away, I was calling out to God to help us – to help me – understand what He wants most from us. And I believe I've heard an answer. It's not fancy or profound or spectacular. But I want to say to you with all the seriousness I can muster: From this day on, the prayer meeting will be the barometer of our church. What happens Tuesday night will be the gauge by which we will judge success or failure because that will be the measure by which God blesses us...No matter what I preach or what we claim to believe in our heads, the future will depend upon our times of prayer" Jim Cymbala

**There has never been a spiritual awakening in any country or locality that did not begin in united prayer.**

The true church lives and moves and has its being in prayer.

**Prayer requires more of the heart than the tongue.**

The Prayer Chain newsletter is published monthly as an encouragement for prayer. Names are rarely provided so that God can receive all honor and glory for article content.

## HOW TO PRAY FOR ONE HOUR

**PRAISE** - Start your prayer hour by praising the Lord. Praise Him for things that are on your mind right now. Praise Him for one special thing He has done in your life in the past week. Praise Him for His goodness to your family. Psalm 34:1

**WAITING** - Spend this time waiting on the Lord. Let Him pull together reflections for you. Think about the hour before you and the things you want the Lord to do in your life. Psalm 27:14

**CONFESSION** - Ask the Holy Spirit to show you anything in your life which might be displeasing to Him. Ask Him to point out attitudes that are wrong, as well as specific acts for which you have not yet made a prayer of confession. Now confess that to the Lord and claim 1 John 1:9 so that you might be cleansed for the remainder of the hour before you, and then pick up and read the Word. Psalm 51:1-19

**READ THE WORD** - Spend time reading promises of God in the Psalms, in the prophets, and passages on prayer located in the New Testament. Check your concordance. Psalm 119:97

**PETITION** - This is general request for others, praying through the prayer list, the prayer cards, or personal prayer interest on behalf of yourself and others. Hebrews 4:16

**INTERCESSION** - Specific prayer on the behalf of others. Pray specifically for those requests of which you are aware. Romans 15:30-33

**PRAY THE WORD** - Now take the Scriptures and start praying the Scriptures as certain sections of Psalm 119 lend themselves beautifully to prayer expression. Psalm 119:38-46

**THANKSGIVING** - Spend these minutes giving thanks to the Lord for things in your life, things on behalf of the church, things on behalf of your family. Philippians 4:6

**SINGING** - Take your hymnal and sing a prayer song, sing a praise song, sing a song regarding soul winning or witnessing. Let it be a time of praise. Psalm 59:17

**MEDITATE** - Ask the Lord to speak back to you and keep a paper and pen handy, ready to relate the impressions that He makes upon your life. Psalm 63 Spend time merging the things you have read from the Word, the things you have prayed, the things you have thanked the Lord for, the things that you have been singing, and see how the Lord brings them all together to speak to you. I Samuel 3:9-10

**END WITH PRAISE** - Praise the Lord for the time you have had to spend with Him. Praise Him for the impressions that He has given you. Praise Him for the prayer requests He raised up in your mind. Psalm 145:1-13

## PRAYER SERMON?

Why would it be necessary for anybody to have to speak long on prayer? Have you read your Bible? Have you ever noticed one good and great man who didn't pray? Have you ever heard of a great preacher who wasn't great in his place of prayer? Oh, may the Lord search us out and help us. Time is so short. Eternity is so long. We must not let our prayer path be clouded with the clouds of unforgiveness, doubt or impurity or uncleanness, an unclean attitude or spirit. Oh, may God bless you as you say, "Lord, oh, get me back to my prayer place and get me back to the prayer spirit." "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10.

**Prayer pulls down the strongholds of the devil.**

## **TOMATO PRAISE!!**

This morning I picked two okra from my garden. Two! That is more than I thought I would have because my garden has not been well this year. I had two squash, two okra and one (golf ball size) tomato this year that my husband and I split. It was wonderful! The squash was delicious and the okra will be too! I thanked God for making them for me. Anything home-grown is better than store bought!

When I got to work this morning one of the girls in the office asked me if I left a sack of tomatoes on her door. "No," I replied. "I wish they had been left on my door!" I said jokingly. She said I could have some of them but she never gave me any. My husband and I love home-grown tomatoes! I thought to myself that I wish I had some of those tomatoes because I only had the one from my garden this year.

I went back to work and about an hour passed when one of the Christian female professors came to my office and handed me a sack of...you guessed it...tomatoes! I couldn't believe it! I thanked the Lord when the word 'tomato' came out of her mouth! She then asked me if I like tomatoes. *ARE YOU KIDDING ME? PRAISE THE LORD!*

I thought my summer was over and all we would have was that one (golf ball size) home-grown tomato this year then God blessed us with a sack of them! **GOD IS SO GOOD! THANK YOU, LORD!**

## **JUST FOR FUN....**

Two cannibals were eating a clown. One turned to the other and said, "Does that taste funny to you?"

## **REVIVAL IN AMERICA**

Some have given up and say it's too late for America. I refuse to believe that because of the word "Thou." "Wilt Thou not revive us again ....?" If it depended upon us, indeed, it would be too late. But as long as there is God, there is hope for America and for revival.

On Mount Carmel Elijah was God's only prophet. There was political, moral, and religious corruption. But there was one man who knew God. Elijah prayed, "... Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that Thou art the LORD God, and that Thou hast turned their heart back again." (1 Kings 18:37) Verse thirty-eight says, "Then the fire of the LORD fell...." God sent a mighty spiritual awakening. If God could do that on Mount Carmel, He can do it in America.

What a revival it was that took place on the day of Pentecost (see Acts 2)! Never was there a more unlikely place for revival. Jerusalem was gospel-hardened. They'd heard the preaching of the prophets and seen the ministry of Jesus Christ, yet they had rejected them. But on the day of Pentecost, revival came. If God could send revival to Jerusalem, He can send revival to us in this day and age.

Think about the Dark Ages. The Word of God was virtually unknown. Few people had ever seen a Bible. Dark ages they truly were; but God raised up Martin Luther, Calvin, and others. And what we call the Protestant Reformation was probably one of the greatest revivals this world has ever known, when millions came to Jesus Christ by faith. Now, if God could do that in the Dark Ages, He can still do it today.

There was a great revival in Wales early in the twentieth century. Revival came, one man said, "like an unexpected tornado." So great was the power of God hovering over that land, that fishermen coming ashore in their boats would fall under conviction as they drew near to land. Multitudes were swept into the kingdom of God. Jail doors were left unlocked because there were no prisoners. Old debts were paid. Alcoholics were made sober. Criminals were reformed. Wales was changed and set aglow for Jesus Christ. What will God have to do to send that kind of revival to America today?

The problem is not in Washington. It's not in the schools. The problem lies with God's people. We, like the patriot in Psalms, must pray, "...Revive us again." We say, "If only Hollywood would... If only Washington would... If only education would... If only the liquor industry would...." But God says, "If My people..." would, First Chronicles 7:14.

God wants His people to humble themselves and turn back to Him. Our sins have hidden His face. We must turn from that which is wicked and sinful. All-night prayer meetings are to no avail unless we repent

The call of the hour is for revival. The only thing that can save America is revival. And the only people who can start revival are God's people. It's time that we say it and mean it, pray it and feel it: God bless America and revive us again.

*"Turn us, O God of our salvation, and cause Thine anger toward us to cease. Wilt Thou be angry with us for ever? wilt Thou draw out Thine anger to all generations? Wilt Thou not revive us again: that Thy people may rejoice in Thee?" Psalm 85:4-6*

**John Wesley was asked the question, "How do you gather a crowd?" He quickly responded, "I set myself on fire and people come to watch me burn!"**

**I do not wonder that we have seen so few revivals, when we have such little praying. May God send upon His people again the spirit of supplication, the spirit of prayer. When people prevail in prayer, God will give mighty revivals.**

**The best way to learn how to pray is to pray!**

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