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is for

Prayer!

January 1

Prayer in the Throne Room

Throughout Scripture prayer is mentioned. In Genesis God created Adam and Eve to fellowship with Him on a regular basis. Sin broke that fellowship. God came at the appointed time, but Adam and Eve were hiding because of sin. Many Christians are hiding from that close fellowship with God because of sin.

In Acts chapter three, Peter and John went to the temple at the ninth hour because it was the hour of prayer. The early church did not have one prayer meeting a week or even two prayer meetings a week. They had prayer meeting every day at three o'clock in the afternoon. That was the ninth hour of the day. At that time, those who could gathered to pray. In the early church, it was a regular part of life to gather for prayer, to pray in their homes and to pray privately.

In Revelation God has painted the picture of the revelation of Jesus Christ. In the last chapter when the picture is complete, we have a prayer. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." The Bible opens with prayer, is filled with prayer and closes with prayer.

January 2

Prayer in the Throne Room

Rules on Prayer by Dr. Moody Stuart

- a. Pray till you pray*
- b. Pray till you are conscious of being heard*
- c. Pray till you receive an answer*

The best prayer is in the throne room with God. Jesus talked directly with the Father. He did not just make requests and hope an angel would come by and haul them up to Heaven. That is the way many people pray. They make a lot of requests, but they never get into the presence of the Father. The saved person has free access into Heaven and the throne room of God. There are great and mighty things available to us by access into the throne room. This access will change our prayer life. Hope-so requests become talking with God Himself, hearing from Him and seeing mighty things accomplished.

Jesus said, “The works that I do shall ye do also and greater works than these, because I go to my Father” (John 14:12b). This statement is not referring to His work on the cross. It is referring to His life and ministry here on earth. Jesus went to the Father to help us in our prayers. He also sent the Holy Spirit to teach and assist us.

January 3

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 10:19-27

We have been invited to come. We are told in verse 19 to come with boldness (not brashness or brazenness) because of Jesus. “Come unto me!” God says. Ask, seek, and knock. He has given so many invitations. Come boldly when you come in prayer. Do not come whimpering, whining, and worrying. No! Come boldly!

It was said of Praying Hyde that he challenged God and God challenged him. Praying Hyde would take hold of God and would not let Him go. God would take hold of Praying Hyde and humble him and make him almost a laughingstock. Praying Hyde just clung to God whatever men might say or do. (*Praying Hyde* 178)

“Petition asks. Supplication entreats. Pleading argues.” (*The Path of Prayer*, Chadwick, Samuel 52)

January 4

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 10:19-27

The book of Hebrews teaches that the tabernacle that Moses built was a scale model of Heaven. The area of the outer court was where the altar was for the burnt sacrifice. Then, within a veil, was the Holy Place where the priest ministered. Here we find the altar of incense, the table of shewbread and the golden candlestick. The altar of incense was a picture of prayer.

Once a year, the high priest could go through the great veil into the Holy of Holies--the Holiest. The Ark of God and the Shekinah Glory above the mercy seat were here. On the Day of Atonement, the high priest took blood that was offered for himself and the people into the Holiest. He could only go in once a year; and when he went in, he had to be right with God. History tells us that a rope was tied around one of the high priest's ankles in case God should smite him dead when he was in the Holiest. Others could then pull him out under the veil.

We are right with God. We are not right with God based on our lives. We are right with God based on the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ Who died, was buried and rose again. We are told to come boldly into the Holiest.

January 5

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 10:19-27

God ripped the veil in front of the Holiest when Jesus was dying on the cross. It was a high veil and several inches thick. Jewish historians say it was woven so thickly that pulling on each end could not tear it. This veil was ripped from the top to the bottom. God ripped it from up there on high and opened for us what had never before been opened. We have direct access by Jesus into the very throne room of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. (Read a description of the glory of God's throne room in chapters four and five of Revelation.)

When builders constructed the Temple under Solomon, they recreated the structure and layout of the Tabernacle. When Solomon's Temple was reconstructed in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah, builders used that same pattern. When Herod built his temple (which was really a major remodeling project), it was built with the same pattern. The pattern is a scale model of what Heaven is like. Today, we do not go into a model of the Holiest. We go into the actual place of the Holiest. Seated there on His throne is God. On His right hand, is our Savior, the Lamb slain before the foundation of the world.

January 6

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 10:19-27

When we were saved, we were made kings and high priests so that we can represent God to man and man to God. Our High Priest is Jesus. Often when I go into the throne room, I am not quite sure where to go; and I am not sure how to handle my responsibilities. There in the throne room sits Jesus our High Priest. In a sense He says, "I will guide you. I will help you. I have given you the Holy Spirit who is able to make intercession." I like that. My High Priest guides me and helps me to carry out my duties. He also gave me a Bible to teach me how to handle my duties in the throne room. I am connected with the Highest of the High. I have a personal Savior, and I have a personal High Priest.

January 7

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 10:19-27

Do you remember when Esther went into the king's throne room? The king raised the scepter so that she could come near with her requests. In the throne room of God, we do not have to look to see Him raise the scepter. We hear Him say, "Draw near." God did not say we should stay at the door or stay in the back row. God tells us to draw near.

How do I draw near? I come with my burdened heart to the very throne of God. It would be a wise thing, before I step to the door, to consider whether I have what He tells me to bring. I want to make sure I have my credentials. I know that I am saved. I could not have gotten near the door without that. I know that the blood of Jesus is a personal thing to me. I have experienced its power. What else do I need?

I need a true heart. Is my heart true, or is it deceitful? Do I have an honest and pure heart, or are there issues on which I need to act? Hypocrites may not draw near because they do not have a true heart. Self-deceived persons may not draw near because they do not have a true heart. We need God Himself to search our heart. If your heart is true, draw near!

January 8

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 10:19-27

As we draw near, not only do we need a true heart but also a full assurance of faith. We do not stand at the door and say, “Well, I hope this works. I do not know if it is going to work. I do not know whether I can believe or not.” Without a full assurance of faith, we are not going to get in the door. We must have an absolute assurance in God being God. We trust in the promises of God. We know that He saved us and that He is going to honor our faith. Thus, we come boldly with a full assurance of faith.

By the time most world politicians come to the United States to talk with our national leaders, they are not coming to try to figure out how our countries can get along. That has already been worked out. After reaching a preliminary agreement, world politicians come together to discuss that agreement. They are pretty sure ahead of time what is going to come from the meeting. When we go in the throne room with a true heart and a full assurance in the promises of God, our will is in line with God’s. He says, “Come near!” We can walk in boldly.

January 9

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 10:19-27

If we have a true heart, we do not want any corruption, any dust or any difficulty. God says that our heart needs to be sprinkled. We want to have our conscience clean and right. We check ourselves in our souls. These are the issues: Is my heart right with God? Is it a true heart? Have I dealt with any evil in my conscience? How is my faith?

Thus far we have made progress because God's Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God.

Finally, we come to our bodies. Do we show evidence that the Holy Spirit indwells our body? Is it cleansed from the filth and pollution we pick up in the world? That is why God gave us the washing of feet. It is a reminder that we pick up filth in this world. Looking at magazines, advertisements, billboards, television, and those around us will put some corruption on us. By the washing of the water of the Word (Ephesians 5), we can be clean as we walk into the presence of Almighty God.

January 10

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 10:19-27

In verse 23 God says, “Hold fast your profession of faith.” Do not waver back and forth. I think I am in. I think I am out. I think I believe. I am not sure if I believe. I am not sure if I can trust God for this. I am not sure if I will.... James wrote that a double-minded man is unstable in all his ways. “Let not that man think that he will receive anything from the Lord,” (James 1:7). Hold fast to your profession of faith. We may say, “I thought God was holding me.” What is wrong with squeezing back? We do not want to be like a little child who is flopping all over the place. Hold fast. God will keep us saved, but hold fast to that profession. Be faithful to it. Do not waver back and forth. The devil would like to jerk us around, but we need to hold fast. It’s a command.

God is faithful. We may struggle, but remember that God is always faithful. He will encourage us.

January 11

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 10:19-27

In verse 24 we are told to consider one another. Take a look at your brothers and your sisters. Consider. Do not criticize. Consider and then provoke your brothers and sisters. When I was a boy, I had four brothers; and we specialized in provoking one another. We could stir up other people too. If several of us ganged up on somebody, watch out. We could provoke them. We could get them to do most anything we wanted. Provoking others and getting them to do what we wanted was sort of a little game that we played.

You are coming in to pray. Take a look around and then provoke some of your brothers and sisters. Do not provoke them to anger. Provoke them to love! Do we know how to help somebody that is not as loving as they ought to be? Do we know how to stir them up so that they will start loving better and more? Do we know how to provoke them to good works? Consider one another, not to criticize but to provoke to love and good works. This will help our prayer lives.

January 12

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 10:19-27

In verse 25 we are told that we are not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together. We need time together. We need to help others. We need others to help us. We are also told that we should gather even more frequently as we see the day of Christ's return approaching.

This passage continues on to teach us to pray about sin. If a person sins "willfully after they have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sin but a certain fearful looking for of judgment." God judges them. He washes sin out of those that sin ignorantly and against their will; but He burns sin out of those that willfully sin. Oh, that we would be kept from sinning willfully!

January 13

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 4:14-16

We have a great High Priest. There is none like Jesus. Oh, how He helps me when I am not all that I ought to be in my ministry! Oh, how He can help you in your ministry or in your prayer life. He is One to assist us. He is a great High Priest. “Seeing then that we have a great high priest,” we are told again to hold fast to our profession. We are to be consistent and move forward.

People say, “You do not know how I feel.” I do not, but Jesus does. Whatever your infirmity, Jesus feels it. He feels your infirmities and my infirmities and other people’s infirmities. He has the hurt in Him as He feels these infirmities. He understands. He knows what we are going through. That is a great High Priest.

Isaiah 63:9 states, “In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the angel of His presence saved them: In His love and in His pity He redeemed them; and He bare them, and carried them all the days of old.”

Bring your cares to Him!

January 14

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 4:14-16

Jesus was tempted in all points like as we are. Whatever areas we were tempted in last week, He has already been through those temptations. The Devil did not neglect temptation of any nature in Jesus' life. He was tempted in all points as we are. However, Jesus did not sin. My High Priest feels what I am going through. I can come to Him for help.

The Jesus we have is not just some historical character that performed a mighty act of service. The Jesus we have is a personal Lord and Savior. Prayer brings us into the presence of this One we love, adore and want to serve and please. Jesus wants us to come boldly. He wants to talk with us and to hear our requests. He said, "Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do" (John 14:13a). So come!

January 15

Prayer in the Throne Room

Hebrews 10:19-27

When we are in the throne room, we see things differently than we see them on earth. In the throne room are all the mighty treasure houses of Heaven with all of the assets. In the throne room is the mighty Creator God--our High Priest who is still creating things.

I know if I come boldly with faith, I can see great things done. I am not sure that anyone has fully utilized all that is available to us in prayer. The older saints become, the more they confess that they still have much to learn. George Muller could feed, house, clothe, educate, train, and provide medical treatment for his 2,000 orphans without ever asking for as much as a penny except in the throne room. He supported over 100 missionaries, helped Hudson Taylor finance his great advances in China, gave out millions and millions of Bibles and New Testaments all over the world and supported 10,000 students in Christian schools without ever asking for a penny. What do you think is available to us if we just learn to claim the promises of God? God does not depend on us to look at our little wallets and our checking and savings accounts and decide what we can do. We are going to the One that can do anything. There is nothing impossible with God. Lay hold of God's promises and spend time in the throne room.

January 16

Prayer in the Throne Room

Psalm 100

How do we make it to the heavenlies--the throne room--while we are still living and breathing down here? God put the answer in Psalm 100. We are told that we make our approach to the great celestial palace and enter into the gates with thanksgiving. Thank God for what He has done. One of the problems of many American Christians is that we say “give me” more often than “thank you.” When we receive something, we forget to thank God.

We do not enter into the gates of glory until we have a spirit full of thanksgiving. Too often we do not thank God. We ineffectually sit and toss our requests up.

January 17

Prayer in the Throne Room

Psalm 100

After entering the gates with thanksgiving, we work our way into the palace. We enter into His courts with praise. We are thanking Him for what He has done, and we are praising Him for who He is. He is the Almighty. He is the Creator. He knows everything. He is everywhere. His Son is the Sustainer of everything. He owns everything. He gave us a perfect book and kept it perfect. He is the God we love.

We praise Him and enter into His courts. In verse two of Psalm 100, we are told that we enter into His presence with singing. I kept a hymnal by my chair in my study. I wanted into the presence of the Almighty; and so I would sing “Holy, Holy, Holy.” One must choose music that brings him into the very presence of God Almighty. Enter into His courts and into His heavenly palace and into His throne room with singing. Perhaps you are thinking, “My singing is not very pretty.” That is why I believe in private praying. I do not always sing out loud. Sometimes I just sing in my heart. David sang for King Saul. With music he could drive off the demons that were depressing Saul. When Elisha the prophet needed to hear from God, he brought a minstrel to play so he could better hear the voice of Almighty God. We enter into His presence with singing.

January 18

Prayer in the Throne Room

Ephesians 2

Look at verse six, “And hath raised us up together, and made us to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.” Think about this. When God saves a sinner, He places him in heavenly places. (We are talking about the conversion of a sinner by Almighty God. We are not talking about religion or a simple decision.) The sinner is dead in his trespasses and sins, but God makes him spiritually alive. He cleanses the soul and puts the Holy Spirit in the body. He takes a part of that sinner and raises him up with other saints. The converted sinner is not seated here on earth, but he is seated together with other saints in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Before I was converted, a big piece of me was out in the world; and the world drew me. When I got saved, I did not lose my flesh nature; but I did die to sin and the world. I die daily because until I get to Heaven, I still have my flesh nature. When I was converted, God placed a part of me in heavenly places in my High Priest, Christ Jesus. If you are saved, part of you is already in Heaven. You do not have to worry about whether you are going to Heaven for part of you is already there. God will just bring the rest of you on in through death or the rapture. When I pray, I join the rest of me in the throne room.

January 19

Potential in Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

This teaching on asking, seeking, and knocking was given toward the middle of Christ's three and one-half years of ministry. He taught the same truth in the first year of His ministry in the Sermon on the Mount found in Matthew chapters five, six and seven. We also find two forms of what is often called the Lord's Prayer. Each was given as an outline and a form to consider in praying. Each was given to different groups of people, at different times and places and at different points of the Lord's ministry. Jesus did not teach only once on prayer. He taught on it again and again.

The first time Jesus taught on prayer, the disciples did not seem to learn much. The second time, the disciples themselves requested that Jesus teach them to pray. They did not ask Jesus to teach them *how* to pray or *what* to pray. Instead, they wanted Jesus to teach them to do the actual thing--to pray. They already had some instruction on content, form and structure; but they needed help in actually praying. The best way to learn to pray is to be taught by someone who prays.

January 20

Potential in Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

The disciples came to the Lord Jesus and asked Him to teach them. He began to teach them to actually pray. A person must realize what is available in prayer. People like to go to their favorite shopping place. They do not go just for the items they need that day. They go to see what things are available. Later, they may go back to purchase something that they had seen. I used to like to walk through hardware stores. I didn't need the things; but if I ever did, I knew where to go to get them. It is sort of like that with the Lord Jesus' teaching on prayer. This is *what* is available. This is *where* you can come and get it. This is *how* you can obtain it. When we have a need, we should pray. We should not plan how we can satisfy the need on our own. We should not maneuver or manipulate but pray. In James 4, Jesus told us that we war and we have not because we do not ask. We need to ask. He also said, "Ye ask and have not because ye would consume it upon your lusts." We must ask with pure motives!

January 21

Person of Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

Not all people's prayers are equal. I would rather have had one Apostle Paul pray for me than fifty Judas Iscariots. Some people are mighty in prayer. Some are beginners in prayer, and some are failures in prayer. Which person is most likely to have a hearing in the throne room, to make progress with the requests and to get the answers? Which person would you turn to in a time of crisis?

It makes a great difference if the person who prays is saved. Lost people, according to the book of Romans, are the enemies of God. That is how God views them. Lost people are dead in their trespasses and sins according to Ephesians chapter two. They have no love of God in their hearts but have a love for the world. Those who are lost, dead, at enmity with God, and loving the world are not likely to make much progress in getting prayers answered. Some, like the Pharisees in the Gospel of John, would teach that God does not hear the prayer of sinners. That is not so. Occasionally, in His mercy, God will hear the prayers of someone like Hagar or Ishmael. In fact, He will hear a sinner's prayer when he comes in repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus and begs for forgiveness. God overlooked the prayer of the Pharisee; but He heard the prayer of the publican, "God be merciful to me a sinner."

January 22

Person of Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

There are times when you are alone in prayer communing and fellowshiping with God. You are walking in a sense of His presence. You do not calculate how long you will need to clear up some issues between God and yourself. You do not calculate how much time you will need to get your heart prepared and find the way in prayer. Instead, you simply pray. Once you have begun to pray, you want to pray through the day and night.

When you wake at 3:00 in the morning with a miserable dream on your mind, you pray, “God help me. Cleanse me.” If you are still unable to sleep, you may realize that someone must need prayer. You begin to pray, person by person, until you feel you have come to the person that needs prayer. Sometimes I pray for those that attend the services or for our missionaries area by area.

January 23

Person of Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

In the military, some work through the day and then stand guard through the night. So it is in prayer. Only after we have stood guard in prayer, may we sleep. It may be the changing of the guard when I am awakened at 3:00 in the morning. God is allowing another of His soldiers that had been standing guard in prayer to drift off to sleep. I may then stand guard in prayer until He awakens another to pray in my place. Many times I have found that the time I was awakened is the time that someone else finally got to sleep; and when I finally got to sleep, someone else had been awakened.

God's kingdom operates by prayer. God can draw from those on the whole face of the earth. He may have dozens praying at once.

Are you a person of prayer? Do you pray over some aspect of His kingdom when God taps you on the shoulder and wakes you up? Maybe you think that it was not the Lord that woke you but the Devil. I'll tell you the best way to get to sleep. In prayer start storming the gates of Hell, and the Devil will put you back to sleep. He will be sorry that he woke you up. You cannot lose when you pray. Are you a person of prayer?

January 24

Person of Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

Jesus could pray day or night. Time was not an issue. Place was not an issue. Jesus was a praying man. The disciples came to Jesus and said, "Teach us to pray like John taught His disciples." John was a man of prayer. His disciples also learned to pray. Are you a person of prayer?

Some people have paid \$5,000 a night to stay in the Lincoln Room and maybe have a few minutes with the President. Years ago I read that a cardinal of the Catholic Church in Boston had lunch with different people each day of the week. The people were so glad to be able to have lunch with him and be seen at a restaurant with him that they would buy his lunch. That cardinal did not bother with just anyone that wanted to buy his lunch. He figured that each lunch ought to be worth at least a \$10,000 donation to one of the Catholic organizations--a school, hospital or whatever. In this way, that cardinal was able to pick up \$70,000 a week along with free lunches. People were glad to donate just to be with him. What a privilege we have to go far above the religious and political dignitaries of this world into the presence of God. In prayer we have fellowship with the Ruler of the entire universe. Are we people of prayer?

January 25

Person of Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

When they are in trouble, people look for a person of prayer. Will you be that person of prayer? Will you be remembered as a praying man or a praying woman? Will you be remembered as someone who prayed and got answers? Is that not a good legacy? Remember, Elijah was a man of like passions as we are, and he prayed and received answers. The disciples wanted to learn to pray so that they could be people of prayer. Much of the Gospels is given to instruction on how to ask, how to seek, how to knock, how to get doors opened that are closed, how to find what you cannot find and how to receive what you do not have. Teach us to pray. We need to be people of prayer.

January 26

Place of Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

As Christians we ought to be able to pray anyplace; but we also ought to have a certain place for prayer. Jesus had a certain place to pray. Judas knew where to look for Jesus after the last Passover. It was nighttime, and it was late; and Judas knew that Jesus would most likely be praying. He knew where Jesus liked to pray and where He often went to pray. There was a little garden outside the city walls at the base of the Mount of Olives. The garden had a wall around it and paths and trees. It was a place of meditation and quiet. Jesus liked to go there and pray; so, Judas knew to bring others there to find Jesus.

I highly recommend that you have a certain place to pray. I am not talking about when you pray in an emergency or pray by a bedside. I am talking about having a certain place for daily prayer. You are going to want a quiet place that does not have a lot of clamor. If you are going to spend time with God, don't you think you ought to let Him talk at least half of the time?

January 27

Place of Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

For years I preached at Christian Lake Bible Conference. While there, I would often go to pray; and my family knew where to find me. I would go down the hillside beneath the trees. The ground was covered with pine needles and a little bit of brush that had grown over the years. A certain moss-covered rock lay at the edge of the lake. This was my certain place for prayer.

At Maranatha Bible Conference Ground, down by Buffalo Creek was a certain place. You followed the creek for a bit and crossed a little log bridge over a brook that came down the mountain and dumped into the creek. Then you went a little farther on the path by the creek and up to the left. Large rocks, leaves thick on the ground and a few benches were there. Tall, stately trees formed a natural cathedral. I would go to this certain place to pray. Where is your certain place to meet with God?

When we enter into our closet to pray, Jesus told us to shut the door. Shut the world out. Do you have a closet or a certain place where you can shut the door and shut the world out? Shut the worries out. Shut the pressures out. Pray. Be a person of prayer.

January 28

Place of Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

Where is your place of prayer? Some women lived in two and three room houses with a lot of children and could not go outside to pray. They just threw their aprons up over their heads and took some time to pray alone in a corner. Sailors on ships sometimes would use corners or their beds. They put caps over their heads just to shut things out. A cap was the only closet door they had. I knew a woman in Sinking Spring that had a beast of a husband. He would beat her. If she came to church, she knew that she would get a beating when she got home. That was the price of fellowshiping with God's people. Her husband did not forbid her to go to church, but he would beat her when she did. If he caught her praying in the house, he would beat her. He was drunk most of the time, and he was merciless. In hot summer or snowy, icy winter, this woman went out into the field in the dark to pray. She had found a place to pray for her husband and for her family. Have you found a place to pray?

January 29

Place of Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

Jesus prayed in a certain place. Sometimes He was in the mountains. Sometimes He was in the wilderness. Sometimes He was in a garden. Wherever Jesus was, He had a certain place of prayer. A certain place for prayer helps us deal with distractions to prayer. When Vlado Fajfr lived under communism, he still found a place of prayer. Vlado would go out for a walk and be gone one or two hours. As he walked around town, he prayed. He prayed for people in their houses. He prayed for people in the church. He prayed for family members. He prayed for missionaries. He prayed for others including us. Vlado had a path mapped out in his mind, and that path became his place of prayer. In eighth through twelfth grade and into college, I had a newspaper route. Today I could take you and show you where six days a week, Monday through Saturday, I prayed that God might give me the right wife. I could take you to other parts of town and show you where I prayed for other things. I prayed about specific requests as I went place by place through my route. The route was my certain place of prayer. Do you have a place of prayer?

January 30

Place of Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

The Lord's place of worship is called a House of Prayer. Yes, it is a place of teaching, preaching, sacrifice and giving; but most importantly, it is a House of Prayer. In the book of Acts, whenever the disciples were in a trial, they prayed. Prayer meetings were important in that day. You can always measure a Christian's temperature spiritually by his prayer life. You can measure a church's temperature by its prayer life. When my wife and I got married, my wife left the liberal church where she was raised; and I left the church where I attended. We knew we had to find a spiritual home in which to worship. We visited churches on Wednesday nights. We knew the Wednesday night service would show us whether that church would be a possible spiritual home for us. Why bother visiting the church on Sundays if their Wednesday night prayer meeting was not powerful? The Wednesday night group is your real church and your power of the week. The Wednesday night group—not just the attendance but the praying that occurs--determines what is going to be accomplished.

January 31

The Power of Prayer

Luke 11:1-10

What practical power do you have in prayer?

Hudson Taylor would not go to China until he was satisfied that he could move men by talking to God only. Hudson thought that if he could not see things accomplished by prayer and prayer alone in London, he was not going to see them accomplished in a big, heathen country. In China he would be far from home with people under no Christian influences. Was he going to be able to move men in China by prayer and prayer alone? It was past payday. Hudson's boss owed him money, and Hudson desperately needed that money. His boss did want to pay on time but was forgetful and had told Hudson to remind him if he forgot. Hudson did not remind him. Here was an opportunity for him to find out if he could move his boss's memory into action by prayer alone. Hudson prayed, and his boss remembered. His boss did not wait until the next day but came that night to see that Hudson got his money. This lesson on prayer was learned when Hudson was in his upper teens. He did not wait until he was a gray-headed man to learn about power in prayer. Read his biography. It is a blessing to see what God taught him about prayer.