



McCLAIN MINISTRIES

Since 2000 A Monthly Christian Newsletter Publication

August 2007



Summertime Blessings

This Month's Issue

LIFE EVENTS



MELVA'S CORNER
True Worship



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PROJECT**



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**LIVE - McCLAIN MINISTRIES INTERNET
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NEW WEBSITE OFFERINGS ARTICLE
From Impotency to Power
Part II



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Life Events

Happy Birthday!



**Shefonia Candia
Betty Hardy
Jannice Horton
Cheryl Hudson
Evelyn Magee
Mary Jordan Smith
Sylvia Washington
Delilah Porter**

Wedding Celebrations



May all the Blessings of the LORD be
yours. **Happy Anniversary to Two Very
Special Couples:**

The Sanders' & Daniels'

Melva's Corner

TRUE WORSHIP

(Gal. 6:10)



Central Truth: People who have been loved as much as Christians should know how to love one another.

Have you ever thought of paying attention to others (i.e., support, compassion, a helping hand) as a spiritual gift?

Do you remember the biblical character named Barnabas? He had this highly desirable gift. Devoted as he was to loving and honoring God, he dedicated himself to nurturing weak and struggling, cast-off and unwanted souls. This trait of his redeemed personality made him one of the more significant characters in the Acts of the Apostles. Interestingly, his original name was simply Joseph, but the apostles gave him the name Barnabas. The name means, according to Luke, “Son of Encouragement” (Acts 4:36). To call someone “the son of x” is a well-known Semitic way of identifying the person’s most notable quality. That Barnabas lived up to his name is apparent from reading through Acts.

In chapter 4, Barnabas sold a piece of land and donated the proceeds for the apostles to distribute to saints in need. It was unthinkable to him that he should have surplus when others were lacking the basics. In chapter 11, he risked his own reputation to take Saul of Tarsus under his wing and involve him in kingdom activity at Antioch. It was unthinkable to him that someone exhibiting repentance and the

desire to join himself to the church should be refused. In chapter 15, he parted company with the now highly respected missionary Paul in order to take a once-failed younger missionary, John Mark, on a preaching tour with him. It was unthinkable to him that the young man’s failure should be turned into permanent shame or that he suffer punishment beyond the anguish of heart he had already endured on account of his lapse of faith. When someone needed a boost of encouragement generated by sincere compassion, he was there.

Ever know anyone like Joseph Barnabas? Over the years, I have known several men and women cut from the same bolt of cloth. They show up regularly in hospital corridors and nursing homes. They pay attention to children who don’t smile enough or easily. They sacrifice for missionaries, orphans, and people on hard times. They have such compassionate hearts that their eyes tend to moisten easily. When someone needs a listening ear, they make time to listen – no matter how busy they are. And when somebody asks one of these godly people to pray for him or her, you sense immediately that it will be done.

These women have the gift of caring for others. These men are encouragement. They are genuinely compassionate, kind-hearted, and benevolent. And they tend to be very quiet and inconspicuous people whose behavior calls attention to others more than to themselves. Theirs is a genuine spiritual gift. The church is God’s community in which this gift is imparted, shared, and appreciated. It is the place where healing occurs through self-giving love that shows itself as concern (*not* nosiness), compassion (*not* pity), and comfort (*not* enabling indulgence).

Created as we were for relationship, it ought not to surprise us to find that the disconnected lives most people live are un-

fulfilling and even unhealthy. Oh, we go to work along crowded highways and streets, work in sight of others, and sit in packed church buildings. But for many today relationships don't have much quality to them. There is no real depth or warmth. There are lots of acquaintances but few friendships. And it is painful to have no one with whom to share innermost self and private feelings, the heartaches and joys.

Research done at the University of Michigan just before the end of the twentieth century studied just under 3,000 men and women in the United States, Finland, and Sweden. It concluded that a lack of social relationships heightens one's susceptibility to illness and death. The researchers claimed that loneliness is as significant to mortality rates as smoking, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and obesity. The sort of isolation focused on in that study was characterized by having nobody with whom to share one's private feelings, hopes, and fears. The lead researchers estimated that fully ten to twenty percent of people have close contact with others less than once a week. That percentage has probably grown rather than declined since their research was published.

Plato envisioned an ideal state in his *Republic*, and Sir Thomas Moore wrote of an ideal society he named *Utopia*. In the New Testament, God's place of belonging is called *ekklesia* and the relationship among its members is *koinonia*. Yet we hesitate to translate the former "church" and the latter "fellowship" for the simple reason that we have cheapened these English terms to mean an innocuous Sunday gathering and pot-luck dinner or my group and its criteria for membership.

In its purest and best instances, the church exists in the world now as an outpost of the kingdom of God. The church is not the fully realized kingdom of heaven, but it is an in-breaking of that kingdom and is a group

of its citizens in process of spiritual formation. Its presence in the world bears witness to the cross. It testifies to a view of reality that takes eternity more seriously than time. As a visible community of faith, it senses the call of God to bear witness to life in the midst of death, truth in the midst of lies; joy in the midst of despair and good in the midst of evil.

Against the hellish isolation of our time, the church must be a group of people in congregation (gathered-togetherness). The *ekklesia* of Christ has not only been called out of the world but has been called together for His purposes. This doesn't mean that we are always together in large groups but that we are always together in spirit. Each of us must take the risk to relate to others who share the view of the cross, eternity, and virtue that we profess. Against a cultural reluctance to make commitments, we have committed to be God's presence for one another.

So we assemble on the Lord's Day, celebrate our call from God, discern the body of Christ at the table with our fellow-believers, and affirm one another. When we do so, we must allow the Spirit of God to quicken us by His presence, to renew holy zeal in our hearts. But beyond our times of spiritual renewal en masse, we must be willing to seek and open to experience contact with one another that allows spiritual intimacy. These are burden-bearing, joy-disclosing, service-sharing experiences that cannot happen in whole-church assemblies. They are too personal. They require small-group and one-on-one settings.

This is the venue that had to be created by Alcoholics Anonymous because of the church's failure to be the church. They are settings in which men and women abandon defensiveness and lies in order to become vulnerable to one another. They open their hearts without condemnation from the rest

of the group. With the pain of self-judgment already so intense it can hardly be tolerated, they bare their insecurities, addictions, infidelities, and failures to one another as the beginning point for recovery. Without fear of envy in such a community, they celebrate their triumphs, good fortune, temptations resisted, and successes.

The term “church” is a dirty word to some people. And what a pity that is, since Christ Jesus intends for the church to bear witness to Him throughout the world.

For these people, however, church has been the address for a vindictive God, His abusive shepherds, and a joyless flock. They have been regaled over and over again by these very same people with the Four Spiritual Laws or the Five Steps to Salvation as their only hope of escaping hell if they should die tonight. “What if the hypocrites, snake-oil salespeople, and folded-faith witnesses to Jesus as ‘my personal Savior’ were the ones to die tonight?” They think to themselves. “Mightn’t the world be a happier, friendlier place without them?”

And we wonder why these people are turned off to Christianity? We wonder why they are so angry at the idea of prayer in public schools or faith-based initiatives that will get some of their tax dollars? “Well, they’re just ungodly souls who won’t hear the truth!” someone says. That may be true of some, but many of these people are the most ethically sensitive and professionally upright, family-dedicated and community-involved people you will ever meet.

These people will not hear the message of Jesus Christ about their salvation favorably until its bearer (i.e., the church) is saved first! And the church does need saving from its hypocrisies, injustices, and authoritarianism. The church must get outside itself or – perhaps, better, it must get over itself – in order belie the image

of an us-versus-them attitude of superiority and judgment. To be credible, it must become less institutional and more personal, less defensive of itself and its history and more confessional of its insufficiencies and failures, far less materialistic and self-serving and more generous and loving toward people, movements and entities it cannot control or manipulate. In order to be convincing to people who didn’t grow up inside it and learn how to turn blind eyes to its obvious defects, the church must get over its addiction to religious power and learn the healthy lifestyle of spiritual vulnerability, where His children tell the story of Christ, affirm the reality of God’s love in him, and learn how to pay attention to one another. After all, to “love the whole world” or to “love my (faceless) neighbor as myself” can be nothing more than pious profession. In the church we rub elbows with real people, notice their faults, pay attention to the hurts and needs of these imperfect people and allow God to perfect His love in us by teaching us to deal with one another in love. The church is where God reassures me that I am loved securely enough that I can take the risk of loving you. And that is His message for us all.

People who have been loved as much as Christians should know how to love one another. May it be so here – and in every holy community that has been formed around the gospel of the grace of God.

When the church is together in her corporate worship, the proclaimed (i.e., preaching Scripture) and symbolized (i.e., eating the Lord’s Supper) word challenges the bride of Christ not only to be faithful to her husband but to make her transformed nature manifest in serving those in the community. The love that exists freely as self-giving within the Trinity becomes the model for how the individuals who are one in Christ will love one another. The corporate assembly overflows into the daily life experience of all who are in that relationship. Such love blesses even the larger community around that church. The

who are in that relationship. Such love blesses even the larger community around that church.

Scriptural References:

“So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith” (Gal. 6:10). 📖

CALLED TO SERVICE



(Ephesians 2:8-10 NKJV)

Central Truth: God's grace makes us new so that we can do something significant by His power to display His glorious grace to others.

Christian young people today are leaving our churches in droves because they find church to be irrelevant at best, often contentious with non-Christians in the main, and totally lacking in concern for bigger issues of social justice, poverty, hunger, and modern slavery — estimates are that there are well over 25 million people enslaved in the world today, most of them children in horrible situations being forced to do despicable and often barbaric things. As churches squabble over internal differences, divide over denominational loyalties, and find themselves absorbed in the cult of media personalities, young people continue to leave in droves. They see few great works being done with commitment and passion that reflect the ministry of Jesus Christ.

I am absolutely convinced that this is partially the result of an impotent and non-biblical grace that has been widely taught. This "cheap grace" as Dietrich Bonhoeffer called it decades ago, is false grace. It calls

people to a quick and easy formula type of conversion that requires no repentance, no discipleship, doesn't talk about surrendering ourselves to the Cross of Christ, and does little to call people to follow Jesus as Lord.

Remember how the apostle Paul described grace:

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them (Ephesians 2:8-10 NKJV).

This great passage doesn't end on the truth that we can't earn our salvation. Instead, it goes on to remind us that grace is God's way of working His artistry in us — we are His "workmanship." God's grace makes us new so that we can do something significant by His power to display His glorious grace to others. Put bluntly, grace is not just about saving us FROM the wrath of God, but it is also about saving us FOR God's purposes in the world.

Okay, so you're not the next Mother Teresa or someone who is going to give up your warm bed to live among street people in the dead of winter. Me either! But we can try to keep our giving and caring from becoming impersonal. We can actually be on-site occasionally. Give time as well as money. Have a conversation. Show real concern.

The emerging generation of young adults is looking for us to do more than come together in insular buildings and talk about moral conduct and celebrate that we've been saved from what is bad. They are looking for us to hear God's grace call us to the Jesus lifestyle of making real differences in the world around us. This high and holy calling is what we've been remade by grace to do — God planned in

advance as our role in this world. So let's be more than reminded; let's be changed . . . let's recognize that God has great things for us to do by His powerful grace so that the world can see the church as Jesus in action.

Scriptural References:

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:8-10 NKJV). 📖

Higher Mountains...Higher Praises

CLEANSING OF THE BODY

Sylvia Washington

On Wednesday, July 11 at 12:47 P.M. Glory be to GOD! Today after saying the Hedge of Protection Prayer, I started to praise GOD for all he has done for me. I heard GOD say, "Lay down on the floor with your hands stretched out, hands and fingers pointed straight out and feet and toes pointed straight out, I want to do a cleansing of your body.

He said count to 5, I counted. I praised him more and spoke in tongues. I then heard him say count to 10, I counted to 10. He said count to 10 again, I did. He then instructed me that I could get up now. I praised him more. This prayer is awesome! It is powerful! This prayer is changing lives. Thank You Jesus!

A SECOND CHANCE

Dewey Dickinson

I need to tell you how your prayers on June 23rd and the Dedicated Prayer Schedule affected my son's life and especially my own. On July 6th my son had a court appearance before Judge Sharon Wilson.

I personally have continually been praying for her daily. The charges filed against my son are Sexual Assault of a Minor. Please keep in mind throughout this testimony I am about to give, Judge Wilson jailed her own son for contempt of court in her courtroom.

Awhile back I sent an email to Melva before (June 23rd) asking for your prayers. Mind you, we hadn't even started praying the Hedge of Protection Prayers yet.

I'd pray in silence out of my heart that the words out of my mouth would be translated by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ into the words of my heart and taken to God personally so that the enemy would never even hear my true prayers.

Every day Gloria and I prayed the Hedge of Protection - followed by Bless the Lord - followed by Shattering Strongholds on Self - followed by Shattering Strongholds on Others. So on July 5th I started on my way to Texas to be with my son for his court date. To all prayer partners I must say every word of the Hedge of Protection we say and pray, especially the paragraph that says, "we declare our times and seasons are in the hands of the Lord" is so vital to our lives. Never lose faith and continue to believe that this time and season belongs to God and God only. It will not be altered or adjusted by anyone or anything. Everything in my life has been changed because of these prayers.

It's now 8:50 A.M. the court doors are locked. I began to pray. My silent prayer was that God would have his way with everyone in the entire courthouse, on everyone entering that building, every conversation in that building, the very thoughts, actions and speech of everyone in that building that day and that God would be glorified.

It's now 9:00 A.M. the doors open, the judge comes in and we all stand. At that moment

the peace and grace of God had come all over and around me. My son said he had felt it to. I had a smile on my face. The same joy a child experiences at an amusement park. The Judge called my son's name; read the charges to him, asked if he understood them; he replied "yes". She then ordered him to pay his attorney \$150 per month he replied, "yes your honor". THEN his attorney stated to the judge and the prosecuting attorney that if they would review the statements of the Victim and the Victim's mother in the case, that it was evident to him that the Victims mother instead of my son should be the one that should be prosecuted here today. The attorney further stated that he was also going to present and recommend to the Grand Jury that the mother be thoroughly investigated.

Shortly after this, the judge told my son he could leave. She is giving my son time to think over the seriousness of his charges. Time to think about turning his life around . . . In the meantime, the court and the Grand Jury will look at his background and history; investigate the statements of the case, gather the facts and decide if this case is worth spending the time and taxpayers money. My son was given the time to straighten his life out and get his mind right by the JUDGE OF JUDGES THE ALMIGHTY GOD HIMSELF THE MIGHTY GOD WE SERVE.

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES...HE HAS PERFECTED PRAISE

Lena Williams

I witnessed this healing right before my eyes. On Monday July 9th, my 7 year old goddaughter Cailynn came over to stay with me. Cailynn was sick with a stomach virus. It had lasted for a week. It seemed she would get a little better then worse. She was unresponsive, pale, and said her stomach still hurt. I could tell she was drained. I kept offering her liquids... monitoring any signs of dehydration.

Her grandmother Vanessa had taken her to the doctor who prescribed an antibiotic for her. I prayed for her. After, I prayed the Hedge of Protection prayer. I finally got her to begin drinking a little liquid and then eat a little soup and soft food. I gave her the antibiotic...shortly after that she was not able to keep it on her stomach...it all came back out. She was so sick. She could barely lift her head.

Later she wanted to lie in my bed and watch a tape she brought with her. As I put in the tape the channel was on TBN and Pastor Benny Hinn was just getting ready to pray for everyone to receive their healing. When he said stretch forth your hand...I said "Cailynn lets stretch forth our hands baby so you can receive your healing". I put my hand on her forehead and we both stretched forth our hands as Pastor Benny prayed the short prayer. I felt the electrical energy coming from the TV set into my hands. I knew Cailynn was healed. I told her to say, "thank you Jesus for my healing". She did... and as I turned around to put the tape in she said, "I said a prayer in my mind and Jesus came into me and healed me." I said what did you pray Cailynn. "She replied... I said "Jesus please come into me and heal me". I almost leaped through the ceiling.

She was sitting up straight. Her color had come back into her face her eyes were bright. She asked me if she could have some popcorn. I told her yes... and Amen... because she was healed. I told her if you ever get sick or anything bothers you again always remember the prayer you just prayed to Jesus and He will always come and heal you. She said "yes mam." Then she asked me the question "What is salvation?" I told her love and explained it to her.

From that moment forward she watched her movie...ate her popcorn...got up sing-

ing, playing on the computer...and eating everything she could. It was amazing ...as if she was never sick. I had to slow her down.

My daughter, Kim, called and I was telling her what happened ...and that Cailynn told me she said a prayer in her mind and Jesus came and healed her. She heard me and corrected me saying "No...I said Jesus came into me and healed me."

"Out of the mouth of babes... Jesus has perfected praise." I love it. The prayer of agreement and the Hedge of Protection is producing miracles. Thanks for all of your prayers.

OH MY GOD! THEY WANT ME!
Denise Jones

July 20th I got a call from Hilda Wansley asking if I was interested in CATERING the Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Center's "ANNUAL PICNIC." She said, THE BOARD was so impressed with the catering I did the other day, they were asking for me again.

There are 180 employees working at the facility but former employees are invited to the picnic also so the total will be 250.

OH MY GOD! THEY WANT ME! The picnic will be held at the facility August 8th. I only have 2 weeks but I can do it!

GOD IS STILL IN CONTROL
Mary Simpson

July 16 - Prayer Request:

I will be having a cyst that is pressing on a nerve in my left arm removed on Friday at 7:30 A.M. The procedure will be performed by Dr. Galen Poole at Rankin Medical Center. The procedure will take approximately 30 minutes. Due to the size, the cyst cannot be done in his office. I know without a doubt, all is well.

July 20 - Praise Report:

Thanks to all of you for your prayers. All is well. The surgery was a success and I'm home and will soon be going to sleep. God is good!

PEACE LIKE A RIVER
Reported by Denise Jones

July 8 - Prayer Request:

I just received a call from our sister in Christ Jannice Horton. Jannice's daughter, Shanice Horton will be having surgery in the morning. At 7:00 A.M. Dr. Gaymes will be performing the surgery at the University Medical Center here in Jackson MS.

July 9 - Praise Report:

My son, Carlton Williams is the band director at Provine High School. He called to let me know today was the first day of Provine's Band Camp and how excited the new band members were to be there.

Now you're not going to believe this part, he also called to tell me he received a phone call asking how everything was going at camp. Saints that phone call came from one of Provine's band member's who had surgery that morning at 9:15 A.M. and making phone calls at 2:00 P.M. Saints, it was **Shanice Horton** calling and asking how well the band camp went.

I immediately got her cell phone number and talked to Shanice and her mother Jannice.

Jannice says the 3-4 hour surgery only took a little over 2 hours.

Dr. Gaymes said it was a success. It didn't appear to be dangerous. He inserted a catheter but DID NOT have to do a planned burning procedure.

The doctor told Jannice, he didn't want to do anything that would cause Shanice to have to wear a PACEMAKER.

Jannice thanks all of you for your prayers.

She also said when they took Shanice to surgery she laid down closed her eyes and went to sleep. It was your prayers that gave her peace.

AIN'T HE GOOD SAINTS! KEEP SAYING "THE HEDGE OF PROTECTION". I KNOW ITS A BIT LENGTHY BUT YOU'RE GOING TO NEED IT. SO LETS CONTINUE TO DO WHAT WE HAVE TO DO FOR EACH OTHER.

PEACE LIKE A RIVER
Reported by Jannice Horton

July 10 - Praise Report:

All is well here. My daughter, Shanice, was release from the hospital today. She is doing well except for a little upset stomach and some nausea.

Denise surprised her with a beautiful "Pink" basket, which is her favorite color and fruit for me from "McClain Ministries." Thanks guys for all you have done and especially for your prayers and faithfulness.

I see from the email that went out that Denise did her homework. She took the time to explain what the doctors said was Shanice's condition. Thanks Denise for your dedication. You did not have take the time to explain her condition, but you did and a wonderful job at that.

Thank you Sylvia for your words of encouragement and your many years of friendship.

Thank you ALL for your support and love. Prayer does change things when you have the faith to believe.

PRAISE & MORE PRAISE
Melva McClain

June and July have been exciting months for the volunteers and staff. If you thought you were extra busy – you were. So what actually happened?

- **June 2** - Conducted the 2nd session of the Entrepreneur Business Plan Workshop
- **June 9** - Teleconference to initiate the African Women's Project
- **June 12** - Began the Burkina Faso, Africa brochure; sponsorship, donor letters and CD
- **June 18** - Participated in Bible Workshop Dedicated Prayer Time for each member (Hedge of Protection Prayer)
- **June 18** - Prepared for three (3) months of designated prayer time for entire ministry
- **June 30** - Concluded & Summarized all twenty (20) chapters 'God's Power Principles' manual during Home Bible Workshop

Now on to July:

- **July 6** - From Meditation To Manifestation - New Study Manual started
- **July 9** - Foundation laid for African Women's Project; Brochure, three (3) sponsorship letters and CD completed
- **July 26** – met with Profiles (Video & Editing) to discuss Entrepreneur video vendor possibilities
- **July 28** – 3rd Quarter Teleconference conducted and concluded the 1st Business Plan Entrepreneur Training Course
- **July 31** – met with Profiles (Video & Editing) to discuss drafted proposal

Volunteers and Staff, we basically took on a new project and laid its foundation in 30 days without missing a beat with our other ministry services. WOW! I realize the pace has been incredible and I thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Bulletin Board Synergy Meeting (Entrepreneur Business Plan Workshop)



Business Plans Training Session

September 1

5:00 – 7:00 PM CDT

1050 Ridgeside Drive
Brandon, MS
(601-824-7498 - Melva)

Home Bible Workshop



Mark your calendars for the **August and September 2007** dates. Please join us and take the next step in your walk with God.

August 18th
September 15th & September 29th
5:00 P.M. CDT

The Message...

“The Covering of the Body of Christ”
Includes Nationwide Video Conferencing

FOURTH QUARTER TELECONFERENCE

Saturday, October 27, 2007

8:00 A. M. CDT
Toll Free Dial-In Number
1-888-422-7124
Participant Code: 730940



McCLAIN MINISTRIES National Bulletin Board Synergy Session

Entrepreneur Business Plans

General Synergy Session Information:

Instructor led workshops will cover a three-month period. All training material and supplies will be made available during each session. Sessions will be two (2) hour durations. Each class will not exceed twenty (20) participants. Audio Tapes will be made available to participants upon request after each session. Homework will be assigned between session dates.

Future Course Enrollment Date:

January 5, 2008

All activities are sponsored through donations to McClain Ministries and provided without charge to participants.

4th Entrepreneur National Bulletin Board Party

October 6, 2007

Location: TBD

6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. Dinner
Entrepreneurs Ministry Members

8:00 P. M- 9:00 P.M. Display Tour
General Public

Our intention is to be a liaison for those who have needs for services and those who provide services. Obviously we will not be able to meet every need in every area – initially. The goal, however, is to build a nationwide database that will eventually match every need with every service.

www.mcclainministries.org

WEBSITE OFFERINGS

(Mini Message)

www.mcclainministries.org

PRAYER FROM IMPOTENCY TO POWER!

Part II

(Rom. 8:26)

Central Truth: "To me, real prayer is simply communicating with God, inviting Him to talk to you as you talk to Him. There is more to prayer, but this is basic to true prayer."

As we continue our study of prayer we have learned through the years that the average Christian does not know how to pray. A friend of mine who has been a Christian for more than fifty years told me, "I never pray in public, and I know very little about prayer or how to pray." Because so many Christians - new and old alike - know so little about prayer, I wish to share with you in the next week or so some simple, basic truths and answer some vital questions about prayer. We will start with the first two:

1. What is Prayer?
2. Who Can Pray?
3. Why Are You to Pray?
4. To Whom Do You Pray?
5. When Should You Pray?
6. What Should Be Included in Prayer?

What Is Prayer?

Someone has said, "Prayer is a dialogue between two people who love each other - God and man." Simply put, prayer is communicating with God. Every Christian has a direct line of communication with God, available at all times. But most Christians never lift the phone off the hook and often forget the line exists until an emergency arises.

Prayer is much more than words, however. It is an expression of the heart towards God. It is an experience, a relationship, not an activity.

As a child of God you are invited to come boldly before His throne. "Since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God," Paul writes, "let us . . . then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Because the one to whom you pray is the King of kings and the Lord of lords, the Creator of heaven and earth, you come into His presence with reverence. But He is also your loving heavenly Father who cares for you and delights in having fellowship with you. Therefore, you can enter into His presence with a relaxed joyful heart, knowing God loves you more than anyone else has ever loved you or will ever love you.

To me, real prayer is simply communicating with God, inviting Him to talk to you as you talk to Him. There is more to prayer, but this is basic to true prayer.

Who can pray?

Anyone can pray. However, only those who walk in faith and obedience to Christ can expect to receive answers to their prayers. On the eve of His crucifixion, Jesus promised to those who belong to Him, "You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it."

Man instinctively prays whenever He is faced with tragedy, heartache, sorrow or danger - even if only to false gods made of wood, stone, or His own fallen imagination.

But serious danger exists in this. People always assimilate the moral character of the objects they worship. Those who worship gods of lust, for example, become morally degenerate. Those who pray to

gods of blood, gore and war, become militaristic, ruthless and sadistic. Those who bow to the god of materialism become greedy and self-centered. Prayer to anything or anyone apart from God through our Lord Jesus Christ is forbidden. God's Word declares:

Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles. Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts...

Paul writes that "anyone who comes to Him (God) must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him." By coming to Christ and worshipping Him, you are changed into His image:

We, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

This explains the scriptural emphasis on the worship of and prayer to the only true righteous, Holy and loving God.

According to the Scriptures, "There is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men..." Jesus Himself is the only way to God. He says, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Does this sound too exclusive? No. Jesus Christ came to die for all people in all lands. He promises rest for all who are weary and heavy-laden. Many people who have ignored God for a lifetime come to a difficult situation near the end of life and are too embarrassed to turn to Him in prayer. They reason, "I've ignored God all my life - it's too late now." Do not feel this way. God listens to the prayer of any truly repentant individual. He proved His love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still in our sins. There is nothing that

you or I can do that will cause God to stop loving us.

The fact still remains, however, that you cannot expect God to answer your prayers unless you come to Him in the name and authority of the Lord Jesus as your only mediator and confess your sins and receive Him as your Savior and Lord.

You must also come with a clean heart. The psalmist says, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear: Therefore, you cannot expect God to answer your prayers if there is any unconfessed known sin in your life. Just as the omission of one ingredient in a cake recipe can result in failure, so the omission of confessing any known sin can result in prayer failure.

One of the most frequent hindrances to prayer is an unforgiving spirit. Jesus said, "When you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive Him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins." In our Lord's Prayer, the words "give" and "forgive" occur in the same context: "Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors." No prayer except the prayer of confession can be answered by God unless it comes from a heart that is free of unforgiveness and bitterness. The well-worn compromise, "Well, I can forgive, but I can't forget," only defeats your prayers. What if that was God's attitude? His love has prompted a wonderful forgetfulness in which He has pledged to put all of your sins behind His back and remember them against you no more. You and I must come to God with a forgiving heart if we are to receive the Christian's legacy of power in prayer.

Those who pray in faith can pray. You must also have a believing heart if your prayers are to be answered. The same Lord who says, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me" and, "Surely I am

with you always, to the very end of the age" also says, "You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it" and, "If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer" and, "According to your faith will it be done to you."

Scriptural References:

"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express" (Romans. 8:26).📖

IN HIS PRESENCE

6:00 P.M. HOUR OF PRAYER



Please Remember Our Troops

Use this wonderful supernatural tool the Lord has blessed us **with the 6 o'clock hour of power**. This is the time to intercede for the needs of others, the concerns of the ministry, and to pray for the leadership within our community, our nation, and our world.

Bring all of your cares and burdens to the altar and encourage others to do the same.

Lives are being changed. Breakthroughs are happening in 2007.



McClain Ministries Internet Radio Station



Internet radio is a broadcasting service transmitted via the Internet.

Yes, we are **"live."** The Station is located on the Home Page of our website and although we are airing only music right now, we will be fully programmed by September with sermons, ads, community interest, etc. Here is how it works, once you click onto the link provided you will have the option of media players choose the player compatible with your computer - at the same time selecting high or low speed. High Speed is compatible with Internet Cable & DSL. Low Speed is for dial-up users. We recommend "Real Play" as your option.

<http://www.ontimeradio.com/mcclain.htm>

Because the radio signal is relayed over the Internet, it is possible to access the stations from anywhere in the world. For example; you can listen to an Australian radio station from Europe or America. This makes it a popular service for people who have interests that may not be adequately catered to by local radio stations.

Ownership of a 24 hour Internet radio station will increase our opportunity to share the uncompromised Word of God as well current topics of interest. With one click you can experience recorded as well as live programming in an instance.

The live programming will be specifically geared to our Entrepreneur program as well as meeting the needs of our community. This is a massive undertaking and will complete in its entirety, September, 2007.

McClain Ministries looks forward to serving the global Community with yet another project.

McClain Ministries Girl's School in Africa

Several months ago Oprah Winfrey built and furnished a girls' school in Africa. She also provided uniforms for all of the girls in attendance and, no doubt, paid their tuition as well. Many of us witnessed this on television and in the newspapers and thought how wonderful it was that she was able to do such a noble and selfless thing. You may have even wished that you could be such a blessing to those who are so needy. McClain Ministries would like to offer you an opportunity to make your wish a reality.

We are building a school in Burkina Faso, Africa. This territory has a population of almost 14 million people. It is comprised of villages, one of which is Tibga. The village of Tibga, our area of focus, is the home of a member of McClain Ministries who serves as a Peace Corp volunteer in the area, Theodis Lever. Theodis has learned a great deal about the people of Burkina Faso. His primary concerns about the area are the extreme poverty and their failure to see the need to educate women. Unlike the United States, an education in Burkina Faso is not free. In a country where the standard annual income is less than \$1,000, tuition averages \$65.00 per year per child.

It is our belief that this concept of not educating females stems from customs and traditions handed down from generations. It is also our belief that very often traditions can be a highly destructive deterrent to progress. It is written in the Word that "Where there is no vision, the people perish." God has given us a vision for Burkina Faso in order that his people there do not perish. If you can get a glimpse of our vision, we hope that you will join us in making it happen.

In 2008, McClain Ministries will build a girls' school in Burkina Faso, and you can be a part of it. The school will consist of 4 classrooms 2 bathrooms and an administrative office that will accommodate approximately 300 girls. The cost of building the school is estimated at \$25,000. Of course, there are other costs that we will need assistance with such as benches for the school, tuition and uniforms. We are seeking financial assistance with this comprehensive project. For donors who contribute \$1,000, we will place a plaque in the school bearing the name of that person or group. Donations to be applied toward the purchase of benches for the school will warrant a name plate bearing the donor's name being attached to each bench paid for. The combined cost of tuition and uniforms for the girls will be \$75.00. Donors for these costs will be sent a picture of the girls who are assisted by their giving. All donors will receive monthly newsletters giving updates on the progress of the school and the children.

Won't you please join us in this effort? Remember, we are blessed to be a blessing. Our children have been blessed to live in a democracy where the government takes on the responsibility of seeing that each and every one of them has an opportunity to attend school and learn - a blessing so often taken for granted. Help us to provide this opportunity to children who will not only take advantage of it, but who will use it to benefit posterity in their homeland. Soon you will receive a brochure and CD that will further share our vision.

McCLAIN MINISTRIES

AFRICAN SCHOOL PROJECT

Our goal is fourfold:

1. Build a school that includes 4 classrooms, 2 bathrooms and 1 administration office at a cost of approximately \$25,000.
2. Provide 300 Girl's Secondary School Scholarships at a cost of \$117,000
3. Supply 160 benches for the new school at a cost of \$6400
4. Supply 100 benches for existing schools at a cost of \$4000

Our total target goal for this project amounts to \$152,400.

Here is how you can help with this vital project:

School contributions: \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 other _____

Scholarships:

\$75 (1 year of secondary school including uniforms)

\$450 (6 years of secondary school)

other _____

Benches:

Bench for school \$40 (*specify no. of benches*) _____

Thank you in advance for your support!

Please send to:

**McClain Ministries
1050 Ridgeside Drive
Brandon, Ms 39042**

3RD QUARTER PRAYER MONTHS JULY – AUGUST – SEPTEMBER

“Dedicated Prayer Time”

As McClain Ministries continues to launch into the deep, there's a need to energize Our Prayer Time; so we are designating the 3rd Quarter, that is, three months as Ministry Prayer Months. McClain Ministries' has always emphasized prayer, however, for the months of July, August and September we have turned up the volume. As a result, all of you will be beneficiaries.

Here are the instructions for our designated prayer time once again:

The months of July, August and September are the months that God has laid on the heart of this ministry to pray for each other. Here is how it will work; we will start with the Covenant Prayer And Declaration . . . this prayer is done each morning **before starting your day**. Second, we will all pray the Hedge of Protection prayer **at noon** each day. And third we will post our angels around our beds **each night** and ask God to give us Divine Revelation regarding our destinies.

When you pray the "Hedge of Protection" prayer use the pronouns of "we" & "us" . . . I am so excited about the subsequent praise reports that will immediately manifest as a result of the time we assemble together this quarter. So spread the word the "Jubilee" has come!

A COVENANT PRAYER AND DECLARATION

PRAYER-HEDGE OF PROTECTION

CHRISTIAN WORD MINISTRIES-FREE PRAYER BOOKS

Many of the prayers we designate during the 3rd Quarter will come from the **FREE PRAYER BOOK** distributed by [Christian Word Ministries](http://www.christianword.org). I encourage you to check out their website and order the prayer book. I suggest you order two (2); One to keep and one to share. The book includes prayers on a number of powerful subjects. Please use the link below to place your order today:

[CHRISTIAN WORD MINISTRIES-FREE PRAYER BOOKS](http://www.christianword.org)

You can also find the entire PRAYER BOOK online and ready to print:

http://www.christianword.org/php/default.php?page_id=dp

You can also call to order your FREE PRAYER BOOK:
1- 859 - 219 - 9082

McCLAIN MINISTRIES

Deuteronomy 16:17: Every man shall give as he is able according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which he hath given thee.

This Ministry has been such a blessing to me I want to share in reaching others with a **monthly gift** of:

\$30 \$40 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

Enclosed is my ministry **additional financial donation** of: \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Home Number _____

Work Number _____

Fax Number _____

Email _____

Please send to:

**McClain Ministries
1050 Ridgeside Drive
Brandon, Ms 39042**

GLOBAL OUTREACH MAILING LIST

Fill in the information below and mail using the self addressed envelope enclosed.

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Number () _____

Fax Number _____

Email Address _____

Send To:

**McClain Ministries
1050 Ridgeside Drive
Brandon, MS 39042**

