

**1st
Edition**

April 2014



POWER OF PRAYER

James 5:16



**MAKING THE WORD
OF GOD OUR NATIVE
LANGUAGE!**

**living Branch
Ministries**

MINI SERIES

Bringing My World Into Order

NEWSLETTER



**Adjustment
Key**

If Christians are destined to reign why is this not generally reflected? Follow our ministry series to find the key to overcoming...

We have recently launched our Living Branch Ministries website and we are really excited to bring you our first monthly newsletter and pray you will be blessed by it.

It is our primary aim to bring you articles that are relevant and we hope will prove to be 'life transforming'. According to 1 Peter 2:9 we are a people chosen by God; we are a royal priesthood and the holy nation and we have been called out of darkness to be a beacon to the world! How can we bring other people to a place of victory if we ourselves are not reflecting this victorious life?



Do we Really believe in the power of prayer?

Instinctively every Christian will reply with a resounding yes! Yet we still find that prayer meetings are the least attended meetings in almost every church. Why is this? We claim to believe that prayer is not only effective but very powerful and in fact most Christians...will seek out a person they perceive to be a Godly representative to pray for their needs...*even though we have the same authority to enter his presence* [Heb 4:16]. So why is prayer such a stumbling block in the Christians daily walk?

The main problem is that the only part of our being that was born again is our spirit. Our flesh and our soul cannot pray as it is carnal and rooted in the things of this world; which Paul said in Romans is at enmity with God [Rom 8:7]. Unless we break through this barrier of the flesh and soul realm and enter the spirit realm [John 4:24] then prayer feels more like a heavy burden than a privilege. Therefore, the enemy seeks to keep us in this unproductive carnal realm, and if he is successful then he keeps us from our victories and we permit the circumstances of this world to take precedence over the Truth of God's Word. What is it that the enemy fears about prayer?

Prayer is a legal petition to **invoke the will of God** here on earth. Moreover God has covenanted to grant us our petitions!

1 John 5: 14 and 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, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

As with everything we ought to take our lead from the Word of God with Jesus Christ setting the example. If we consider his

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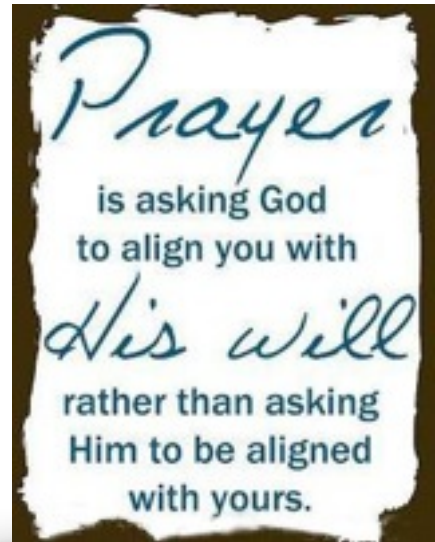


Our flesh cannot pray!

Rom 8:7[ESV]

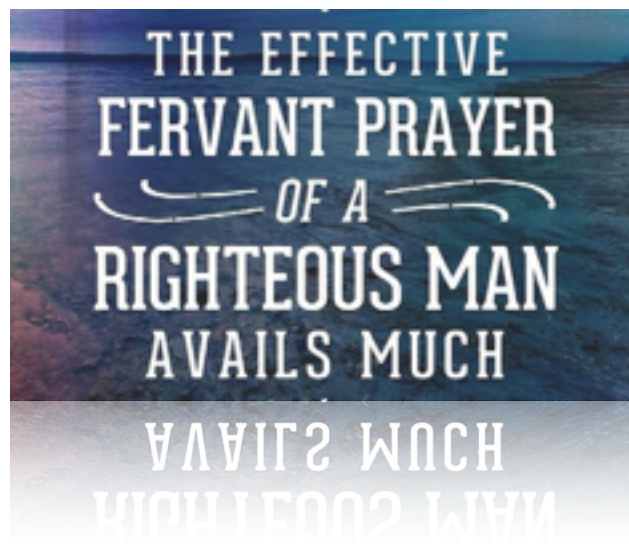
For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane then we see that Jesus also had to relinquish His will to the will of Father. In anguish of the circumstances of the day and the fate that lay before him he cried out for another way, and then in obedience he relinquished his will to the will of the father... nevertheless not my will but Thine be done! [Luke 22:42]. If we are honest then we will admit that often our will does not line up with the will of the father. We enter into prayer with our own preconceived ideas on what we deemed to be an acceptable outcome. Therefore we are reluctant to relinquish our will in fear that God will choose to answer contrary to **our** will, because usually God's will does not lineup with anything we like to do! Just like spoilt children our petitions are not really requests for what is good for us but instead are a list of demands to fulfil our selfish desires!



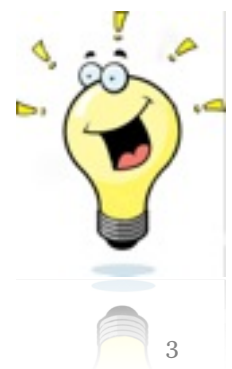
Prayer is not coercing God to line up with our thinking but is an invitation from God for us to lineup with **His** thinking so we can invoke **His** will. If we consider the protocol of the Old Testament priests to enter into the holy of holies; it was a process of self cleansing that involved sacrificing self will and shedding all that is carnal to find out what God wanted to say to them. How often do we [who know nothing] spend all of our prayer time talking without waiting to hear from God's [who knows all things], and then we wonder why we have missed it!

Some years back J Barner printed statistics from a survey on the length of time the average Christian prays in a day. The results were startling! According to that particular survey the average Christian spends just one minute per day in prayer, and even more startling Pastors were averaging only five minutes per day! Surely we cannot think that we can enter into the presence of a Holy God in just one minute? Prayer afforded the Christian; an audience with **The King**... the very least we can do is prepare appropriately for the occasion!



The permanent appointment of Jesus Christ whilst He stands in the office of our High Priest is to continually intercede in prayer for you and for me ...**no wonder the enemy fights us so fiercely for this daily discipline**

Heb 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.





Making the Word of God our Native Language!

Without detracting from the irrefutable truth of God Grace and finished work of the cross, we have a responsibility to line up our life by identifying with the Word [Rom 12:2]. Our lifestyle is important! We are admonished to abide in Him [John 15:4-8] and walk in love [Eph 5:1-2] that we might [as ambassadors of the kingdom of heaven] represent Him appropriately. Besides do you really want to carry the baggage from your past into your future? We were initially born again when we identified Christ as our Saviour. However, accepting Christ as our Saviour could be actioned with a minimal amount of knowledge!

At this point we were delivered from darkness and translated into a new kingdom, the Kingdom of Light [Col 1:12-13] and awarded a new citizenship card...our passport was stamped! [Phil 3:20]



Consider how debilitating it would be to live in a foreign country without ever learning the language? Simple tasks like ordering a meal in a restaurant, asking for directions, getting a bus, shopping in the local supermarket would be difficult and restrictive. However, if you have developed some basic language skills then you are sufficiently equipped generally to ask directions, use public transport and basically get through a routine day. **However, your limitations are immediately apparent to the natives!**

Since our 'native language' was that of the devils, and our 'native country' was the kingdom of darkness, then we need to familiarise ourselves with the language native to the country we now hold our current citizenship with – The Kingdom of Light! We have been rescued from the hands of the tyrant the bible calls the god or the prince of this world [John 14:30; John 16:11]. We do not need to familiarise ourselves 'enough to get by' – we need to turn it into our FIRST language – This is our new home; this is where we live, not the place we come to visit on holiday!



How? God said... renew your mind daily...[Rom 12:2]. We learn our new language from the Word of God!

If we only familiarise ourselves 'enough to get by' then we will always feel like a foreigner, and will risk returning to our old ways and our old lifestyles, because our foundations are weak [Psalm 11:3; Luke 6:48-49].

Consider; we are now sojourners on earth [1 Peter 2:11; 1 Chron 29:15] and we have an enemy who intends us harm pursuing after us [1 Peter 5:8]; should we not use wisdom and discernment? And when we continue to identify with him we give him legal access into our life... **Remember he is a ruthless despot and the tormentor of our souls!** Satan does not care if you happen to stumble upon the odd blessing, just as long as you never understand the principles of how God's kingdom works.

Satan knows the word of God, and when with the Word of God! If we reside in heaven, and when with the Word of God! If we native language then it **response** to every



God, remember he once he challenged Jesus it was make the Word of God our becomes our **automatic** circumstance!

We need to balance our Rights and privileges as a child of God with our responsibilities and duties as a Kingdom citizen.

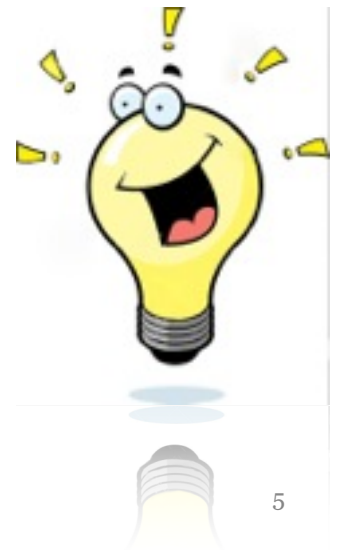
Challenge:

Will the world bear the imprint of my life on earth when I am gone ...or will it say Diane who?

...What imprint will you leave behind?

The kingdom of darkness need not play a part in the Christians life; the enemy can only harm us in areas of our life where he can find something we have in us that is in common with him! ...Remember Jesus defence?

John 14:30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in [Common with] me!



living Branch Ministries

MINI SERIES

Bringing My World Into Order

PART 1

Understanding The Battle Within us!



Root of the human problem - sin caused us to become disconnected from our source of power

We are called to walk in victory, created for greatness and empowered to be witnesses to the world. We should live life with purpose and intentionality! Our job is to manifest the Kingdom through our uniquely assigned purpose.

We, as Believers have two distinct areas in our lives that are in conflict with each other - the Spirit and the Soul. The spirit desires to do things God's way - the soul desires the worlds way. Our pride naturally causes us to respond to circumstances and people 'defensively' [Romans 7:23]. We need a new perspective in life ...re-evaluate our priorities!

KEY 1



GET

CONNECTED

We have 2 primary areas in life:

- Our VALUES [our morals, beliefs; ... our personal 'code of conduct']
- Our ATTITUDES [how we represent these views, beliefs and partialities to others].
 - The 'driving force' behind chasing ungodly values is Satan (seeking unproductive activities that never satisfy)...and the driving force behind ungodly actions/responses in our lives is Pride (stubbornness ...always having to be right, having last word, self seeking behaviours!) The Mind is our Personal Government; making decisions, choices ...it SETS THE STANDARD in our life!
 - NO WORD OR ACTION IS A RANDOM EVENT! ***We think it then we deliberate to do it!***

The mind has often been compared to a computer system and in fact is the most advanced and sophisticated system known to man ...***yet unfortunately is often under control of a technical incompetent!***

Our DNA is the **unique world changing DESTINY CODE** God programmed each of us with! It required a programmer and operates according to specific rules!

Our mind is programmed to receive and process information in a very specific way; today we have more technological information available to us than any other era.

Knowledge is increasing and education advancing ...so what is our problem?

Management of that knowledge is decreasing! Why? *Because we refuse to recognise our Creator as our source!*

By design our spirit man should be ruling over our body and soul! The Holy Spirit given us at the new birth is the enabling power [within] to overcome!

Human Design

We are ‘by design’ created in the image and likeness of God – so this is the **intended** state of our being. We have a highly complex operating system WITH OPERATING RULES! These were initially messed with in the Garden of Eden at ‘The Fall’ ...and unfortunately we continue to feed it. This is the primary reason we need to return to our Maker – to be made WHOLE [Col 2:10]

- Our DNA is our unique world changing DESTINY CODE God has programmed each of us with!



Alignment of Soul

- o There is a constant battle raging within us between doing right and reacting from natural fleshly pride! We are equipped to overcome this battle and triumph in life - but we have to choose it! When we choose unwisely then it affects every part of our being and impacts our family and others around us. We can employ these LAWS to our advantage!

Knowledge is increasing

... b u t



management of that knowledge is decreasing

- o So...Yes, there are very real consequences in the spirit (these laws work every time just as natural laws do) and then manifest in our bodies and in our lives!

***A law is a rule that consistently produces the same results when the same conditions are met!**



Story of two wolves

An old Cherokee is teaching his grandson about life:

‘There is a fight going on inside me’, he said to the boy

It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves

‘One is evil; he is anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self pity and guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority and ego’

‘The other is good – he is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith.’

‘The same fight is going on inside you – and inside every other person too’

The grandson asked ‘which one will win?’



The Cherokee simply replied ‘The one you feed!’



The outcome in life is determined by choices we make to circumstances we face each day; basically how we react to the different events that cause us grief and aim to disrupt our day!

- THE STRESSES OF LIFE



EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF STRESS!

What is Stress?

Stress is our **UNMANAGED REACTION** to disappointments, or our response to any pressure that disrupts the normal balance.

