

Touching Heaven

by K.P. Yohannan

Developing a strong habit of prayer is crucial to touching heaven and causing the hand of God to move in a mighty way.

Scripture: Genesis 32:24, 2 Chronicles 7:14, Matthew 6:6, Luke 18:1, Romans 10:14, Ephesians 6:12, Philippians 4:6-7, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, 1 Timothy 2:1-4, James 5:16

Topics: "Intercession", "Prayer"

Description

K.P. Yohannan emphasizes the importance of solitude with God as a means to confront our pride and sins, highlighting that true cleansing occurs when we are alone with Him. He urges believers to develop a strong habit of prayer, which is essential for a genuine Christian walk and for interceding on behalf of the over 2 billion unreached souls. Yohannan points out that prayer is our most powerful weapon against darkness, capable of achieving what human efforts cannot. He challenges the church to prioritize prayer over other activities, as it is accessible to everyone and can lead to significant change in the world. Ultimately, he calls for a response to God's call by committing to pray for the needs of the nations.

Transcript

We see in the Bible that one of the strongest agendas God has is to get people all alone. For example, Jacob ran 20 years or more. Finally, when God got him alone, He could make him into Israel. You see, when it is only God and you, you are more apt to face your pride and your sins. With everyone else we argue these things away and look wonderful and smile. But when we are all alone before God, we face ourselves, and the cleansing and purification will take place. We become less phony the more we are with the Lord.

I cannot tell you strongly enough that each of us must develop a very strong habit of prayer; otherwise, our Christian walk will greatly lack reality. But this is only the first step in God's agenda for each of our lives. The next step is for Him to show us the desperate faces of more than 2 billion people who are unreached with the Gospel. Each of them is created in the image of God with a soul that lives forever. Yet they are bound in the chains of sin and heading toward hell without knowing there is a name to call upon for salvation.

God searches for those people who will stand in the gap on their behalf and intercede for their souls. This means going consciously into battle against the powers of darkness for the release and freedom of people who cannot help themselves and don't have anyone else to fight for their deliverance. It is basically the

hardest, most agonizing and difficult job we can ever embrace--but the only one that guarantees absolute victory. It is amazing how easily we can get people in the Body of Christ motivated to demonstrate, to wear T-shirts, to collect signatures or to raise money for a worthy cause.

But it is the hardest thing to get them to pray for a world that is lost without Christ. Why are our views and priorities so distorted? Why are we so easily distracted from the one thing that really would get the job done? The answer is because we are up against an enemy who knows what can hurt him the most! The devil is well aware that prayer is our most powerful weapon--it defeats him every time. With it, we touch heaven and cause the hand of God to move in a mighty way. Therefore, the devil would rather see us doing every other Christian activity instead.

Prayer is the quickest shortcut to victory. What would take us 50 years of struggles to accomplish, God can do in no time at all. But how can you start, and what can you pray for? Just watch the news on TV or read the international page of a newspaper. Scribble on a piece of paper what is happening in Myanmar, Afghanistan, China and other nations. Start praying for the needs of these nations. Soon you will discover that 30 minutes, one hour or two hours will not be enough to even scratch the surface.

It is the incredible wisdom of our God to ordain prayer to be the most powerful weapon of the church. If He had chosen anything else--like preaching, singing, money or education--many of us could never participate in fighting the war. But prayer doesn't require any talent and can be done anywhere, anytime and by anyone. A housewife, a poor person, a child, a 90-year-old grandmother, an executive or a lonely believer in a nursing home all are able to change the world and help change the destiny of millions of people through prayer. If the Lord has spoken to you today, please respond by doing just one thing: "Pray!"

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