



Shiloh Messenger

November 2007

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

*“Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; You shall cry, and He will say,
‘Here I am’ (Isaiah 58:9).*

As I was seeking the LORD for the content of this month's Newsletter, the Holy Spirit began to impress on me the subject of prayer. This subject that I'm writing about is vast & so important to the Heart of God. I have discovered that the best teacher is experience. Every day I experience life & sometimes find it most difficult. We live in a world that pressures us to be competitive & strive to be the best. In a world dominated by achievers & non-achievers. We become one or the other. In an environment that always demands success, comes the fruit of man's fallen nature (selfishness, envy & pride; Gal. 5:26). Those that lag behind in the achievement department get angry & frustrated because someone else is getting all the breaks in life. It is then the enemy entices us with jealousy & we begin to reason that it's OK to lie, cheat & steal. After all only the strong survive, right? Isn't life about self preservation & am I not justified? Who needs a moral code, no body lives by them anyway. So we justify our behavior by perceiving that everyone is cheating in life. Humanity will never change & we cannot evolve into a blissful state of *nirvana* or *utopia* (*Webster definition: state of mind as a place of ideal perfection or an impractical scheme for social perfection*). The Word of God states in *Genesis 6:5*; **“Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually”**. This is why God stepped in & sent His only Son as Savior to die for sinful man. Our LORD emptied himself of His Deity & came to earth to die for our sins. His desire was for relationship to be restored & for man to function as His delegated authority. **“What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor. You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet”** (*Psalms 8:4-6*). Hey!! We need help & need to be restored to God. It has always been God's intent for us to function as son's & daughters in the Kingdom family. The greatest of all privileges is to know Him as Father God. The way that God has established in knowing Him is communicating by Prayer. I can think of nothing more lacking in the Body of Christ today, than the ministry of prayer. It seems we have been lulled into complacency by wrong mind sets. We cannot leave prayer out of our daily schedule or leave it to others. We should not be neglectful of this privilege that God has given us in intercession, communion & fellowship. We have at our disposal all the arsenals of Heaven to push back darkness, obtain deliverance, receive healing & have heavens windows open for our prosperity. I mean I could go on & on about the benefits of prayer. Some may ask why do I feel as though my prayers have hit a brass ceiling & fell to the ground? The answer is you are not allowing the ministry of the Holy Spirit to usher you into God's presence, where you can experience refreshment in drinking from a “Heavenly Fount”. Most people do not know how to create an atmosphere for this Fountain to flow. This life that we live is a life that should be infused with the power of God flowing like a fountain. I have experienced over & over the great benefit of inviting the Holy Spirit to intercede for me. In *John 16:13*; **“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come”**. Do you see how the Holy Spirit is the Divine Agent sent by the Father to help & to inform us of Heavenly things that need to be carried out here on Earth. We are often so caught up in self that we forget that God has established the prayer of intercession for others. **E.M. Bounds** has written many books on prayer. He was able to teach & write effectively on prayer because he lived it & experienced it. One of his quotes from his many books on prayer says; **“Prayer must be broad in its scope—it must plead for others. Intercession for others is the hall-mark of all true prayer. When prayer is confined to self and to the sphere of one's personal needs, it dies by reason of its littleness, narrowness and selfishness. Prayer must be broad and unselfish or it will perish. Prayer is the soul of a man stirred to plead with God for men. In addition to being interested in the eternal interests of one's own soul it must, in its very nature, be concerned for the spiritual and eternal welfare of others. One's ability to pray for self, finds its climax in the compassion its concern expresses for other's.** This praying for others finds it's fervency in knowing God & receiving His Heart for dying humanity. I do not believe that God expects less from us than from others who have entered into their prayer closets & changed the course of Divine judgment. We cannot sit passively by & let others pray while we sit on the side lines of life & have a prayer-less life. I'm convinced that when we get to heaven & rewards are given out we might be surprised at God's reward system. It might not be the fire brand preacher that preached his fiery message that gets the greatest reward. I believe it will be the one who was actively involved in the ministry of prayer. It is here that the “Intessor” stood in the gap between a Righteous God of justice & sinful man & pleaded with Him for mercy on behalf of others. Hear what the LORD say's in *Ezekiel 22:30*; **“So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one”** (*For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment; James 2:13*). So you see that we are our brothers keeper (*Gen.4:9*). There should be a burning desire that is first begun at regeneration (born again) to be pleasing to God. Then as we begin in this relationship in knowing Him, He encourages us to receive a deeper experience through the Holy Spirit baptism. It is in this immersion of the Spirit that we can experience a more effective prayer life. It is such a joy knowing that this communion with the Holy Spirit produces such intimacy that births prayer for others. So do not let the distractions of life keep you from your daily communion with our Heavenly Father. You might be surprised at the satisfaction & enjoyment of selflessness.

A Word From A Student

Hello, My Name is Joe Burgess. I am 22 years old and I am from Burlington, Wisconsin. I came to Shiloh Ministries on November 10, 2006. When I first arrived at Shiloh, I had a preconceived notion that only lifetime Christians got their prayers answered. I really thought that because of all the bad things I had done, that my prayers got to the ceiling and no higher. I was wrong. After giving myself to The Lord on November 12, 2006, I was saved and empowered to pray. I began to pray for my family to be restored. To my amazement, it began to happen. This built up my faith. It also showed me how much God really did love me. Soon after, I desired more power in my Christian life. I began to seek The Holy Spirit, and I completely yielded to Him. I was baptized in The Holy Spirit. This is when my prayer life really took off. Now, it was fun to pray and to watch what God would do. I came to the realization that God loves me so much. Colossians 4:2 says "Devote yourself to prayer being watchful, and thankful." Now there are times when God will wake me up in the middle of the night or just suddenly drop in my spirit to pray for someone I may not even know. I praise God for The Holy Spirit. When, I do not know what to pray, He prays through me. God really honors this heart felt intercession. This builds my faith and also helps those whom I am praying for. Over the time here at Shiloh, I have developed a great relationship with The Holy Spirit through devoting myself to prayer. I have confidence and boldness in my prayer life. Now, I can lay hands on the sick, and I believe God's Word, they shall be healed. I have faith to say to the mountains in my life to be cast into the sea, and according to God's Word, (Matthew 12:21-22) it will be done. The Lord has been so good to me over the past year at Shiloh Ministries. I give Him all the praise and all the glory. I am now humbled before Him and have found everlasting joy in His presence, to the praise and glory of Jesus Christ, who is my personal Lord, and Savior.



**Joe Burgess
Burlington, Wisconsin
Shiloh Graduate
November 10, 2007**

Shiloh Ministries gives the LORD honor and praise for lives that have been delivered from a life of slavery. We celebrate Kingdom Life here at Shiloh. All of our supporters make a tremendous contribution towards lives that forever are destined for eternity with God. We ask and encourage everyone to give financially to help with the cost of restoring lives. It cost approximately \$500.00 a month to house one man. The LORDS Ministry at Shiloh is free to the men who seek restoration. It is a walk of faith for our financial needs to be met every month. Would you please consider being a monthly supporter? God always speaks to those He has asked to give. We believe that His people will respond out of a heart of gratitude for what He has done & continues to do for them. Thank you, for your generosity in giving & co-laboring with us in the LORDS Ministry at Shiloh. (Shiloh Ministries is recognized by the IRS as a 501C3 Charitable Organization)

Please be in prayer with us for the following:

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**Rocky & Debbie Fondren.
Founders of Shiloh Ministries.**