

Praying for Preaching

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I. Oh, how important it is for churches to pray for preachers and preaching!

Mat 9:38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

Eph 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Eph 6:19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

Eph 6:20 For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

2Th 3:1 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have *free* course, and be glorified, even as *it is* with you:

Col 4:3 Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:

Col 4:4 That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

II. There seems to be a pattern of glorious things happening as someone was praying

Luk 3:21 ...Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened,

Luk 3:22 And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven...said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

Luk 9:29 And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered...

Act 12:5 Peter...was kept in prison: but prayer was made...of the church...for him...

Act 12:7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon *him*...

Luk 22:42 Saying...remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

Luk 22:43 And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him.

Dan 9:21 Yea, whiles I *was* speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me...

Act 10:4 ...Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.

Act 10:5 And now send men to Joppa, and call for *one* Simon, whose surname is Peter...

Act 10:9 On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:

Act 16:13 ...on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted *thither*.

Act 16:14 ...Lydia...which worshipped God, heard *us*: whose heart the Lord opened...

Act 16:25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God...

Act 16:26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken...all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

2Ch 7:1 Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven...and the glory of the LORD filled the house.

Act 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Luk 11:1 ...when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray...

Luk 11:13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

III. Prayer is an unexplainable thing with unimaginable power to accomplish things

Gen 32:24 And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

Gen 32:25 And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.

Gen 32:26 And he said, Let me go...And he said, I will not...except thou bless me.

Gen 32:28 And he said...as a prince hast thou power with God...and hast prevailed.

Gen 32:29 ...And he blessed him there.

Gen 32:30 And Jacob (*said*)...I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

2Ki 20:1 ...Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live.

2Ki 20:2 Then he (*Hezekiah*) turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD...

2Ki 20:3 ...And Hezekiah wept sore...

2Ki 20:5 ...Thus saith the LORD...I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears...

2Ki 20:6 And I will add unto thy days fifteen years...

Mat 21:22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

—Prayer is not your genie in a bottle—It has disclaimers

Joh 14:13 And whatsoever ye shall ask **in my name**, that will I do, **that the Father may be glorified in the Son.**

1Jn 5:14 ...if we ask any thing **according to his will**, he heareth us:

1Jn 5:15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

Mat 26:39 ...O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless **not as I will, but as thou wilt.**

Heb 5:7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

Heb 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

IV. There is a power of God that empowers a man to speak God's words with power

Exo 4:10 And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I *am* not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I *am* slow of speech...

Exo 4:11 And the LORD said...Who hath made man's mouth? ...have not I the LORD?

Exo 4:12 ...therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say...

Exo 5:1 And afterward Moses and Aaron...told Pharaoh...Let my people go...

Jer 1:8 Be not afraid of their faces: for I *am* with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

Jer 1:9 Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.

Jer 1:10 See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

1Th 1:5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power...

1Th 2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

V. Oh, the power of the right sermon for the right day for the people of that day!

Isa 50:4 The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to *him that is* weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.

VI. Oh, the power of preaching Christ and Him crucified with Holy Spirit power!

1Co 2:1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.

1Co 2:2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

1Co 2:3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.

1Co 2:4 And my speech and my preaching *was* not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

1Co 2:5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

VII. The preaching of the gospel of grace has the power to change lives (and the world)

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Rom 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Rom 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Rom 10:14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

Rom 10:15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Luk 24:32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

Act 8:29 Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.

Act 8:30 And Philip ran thither to *him*, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?

Act 8:31 And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him...

Act 8:34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?

Act 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

Act 8:36 And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

Act 8:37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

Act 8:38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

Act 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls.

Act 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Mat 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Mat 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Mat 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.