

# Glad Tidings Spring Convention A2

by David Ravenhill

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*David Ravenhill's sermon emphasizes the vital role of worship and prayer in deepening one's relationship with God and understanding His Word.*

**Duration:** 47:15

**Scripture:** Luke 17:7

**Topics:** "Christian Life", "Prayer", "Worship"

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## Description

David Ravenhill emphasizes the significance of prayer in the life of a believer, advocating for a structured approach that includes worship, the Word, wisdom, and warfare. He shares personal testimonies and biblical examples to illustrate how prayer can transform lives and communities, urging believers to engage in intelligent and heartfelt communication with God. Ravenhill highlights the necessity of worship as a precursor to effective prayer, encouraging congregants to focus on God's greatness before presenting their requests. He also discusses the importance of praying for wisdom and understanding, as well as the need for spiritual warfare in overcoming obstacles to faith. Ultimately, he calls for a revival of powerful prayer practices that align with God's will and purpose.

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## Transcript

where you come forward to the microphone and he says I've studied all sorts of prayers but he said many times if somebody's over in the corner sort of praying and they're muffled and they you know they're down on their knees you know it's hard to agree we need to agree in prayer and so he would teach people to come up to the microphone and many times they would take a portion of scripture maybe read it and then on the basis of that scripture they would bring it before God and so you'd have you know wonderful promises from the Bible and they wouldn't just rattle it off sort of verbatim they'd say God you promised in the last days to pour out your spirit upon all flesh and so Lord on the basis of that promise we're asking you to rend the heavens and pour out your spirit upon all flesh Lord

come and visit our community come and Lord just to you know meet with us Lord we need your presence you said Lord when your presence comes the mountains tremble at your presence and and so on and it was very intelligent praying and wonderful wonderful prayer meetings to be in and so we've got to learn again how to how to pray the first area I want to deal with and that this really is only a sort of a sort of jumpstart you so to speak in other words don't be bound by this but I find there are many many people for instance I had a businessman in my church in New Zealand who came to me one day and he said David

you know he said I struggle in the area of praise you know I said I can get maybe five minutes in prayer maybe 10 minutes and then he said I lose concentration I don't know what to

pray about anymore and so on and so I gave a little bit of this teaching he came to me a couple of weeks later he said you know I am praying now consistently 30 and 40 minutes a day and he said I find I can just fill up that time no problem whatsoever and he said my prayer life has just increased from five to ten minutes you know to 40 minutes and so the first one is worship we mentioned this the other day but Luke chapter 17 in other words when we come into the presence of God we need to spend some time just worshipping God himself not just coming with a whole sort of shopping list I mean that's the Lord's Prayer our Father which art in heaven what hallowed be your name before it's my before my will and my bread and or our bread and so on it's just magnifying the Lord for who he is in

Luke 17 we have a little story here that I've used on many times verse 7 it says which of you having a slave plowing or tending sheep will say to him when he comes in from the field come immediately and sit down to eat will you not say to him prepare something for me to eat properly clothed yourself serve me until I've eaten and drunk and afterwards you will eat and drink he does not thank the slave because he did the things which were commanded does he so you too when you've done all these things which are commanded you say we are unworthy slaves we've only done that which we ought to have done now notice here is a master which of you having a slave so he's the master and that slave is doing two things two activities he's plowing or he's tending the sheep now there's two major realms of

ministry one is evangelism that's the plowing out there passing out tracks or whatever it is plowing you know knocking on doors witnessing and so the other is tending the sheep that which pertains to the body of Christ we are his sheep and it's the you know the marrying and the burying and the counseling and the visiting and the you know befriending people and teaching them and so on so forth tending the tending the flock take heed to yourself the Bible says and to the flock over which the Holy Ghost has made you an overseer and this slave then comes in at the end of the day and he's no doubt weary and tired and exhausted and wants to sort of kick back and his master says hey before you do anything else come immediately sit down and eat oh sorry yeah when he is coming from the field says

come and sit down and eat but will he not say prepare something for me to eat properly clothe yourself and serve me until I've eaten and drunk and afterwards you will eat and drink now here he is he comes in again he's been out in the sweltering heat of you know the cold miserable rain or whatever and the first thing his master says is listen go and clothe yourself properly wash up clean up and so on come into my presence and minister to me I've got needs I need to eat I need to drink I need to partake of that which you can give me and then take care of your own needs now I think you know I'd be a little rebellious at this point I think I say listen master I mean these are your sheep and they're cantankerous I mean they broke out again today they're always fighting among themselves man

I've had a rough day you know plowing you know I did it you know give me a break I mean I've been out there serving you all day long that's your field your problems and I've been doing all of that hard work you know I mean and you're asking me now to you know give up my my own food and taking care of my own needs and spend time you know but see that's worship worship is coming in before God and ministering to him alone now those of you are married and chances are most of you are you know what it's like when you know you can be out doing the lawns and painting the house and all the other things and you know serving your wife so to speak I'm not saying she's the boss we better be careful here but but you know ultimately she just wants you darling sit here and talk you know turn off the TV a

minute you know let's let's just talk right and there's nothing like that quality time of just being there with your beloved that's worship where we forget about the sheep we forget about all the other things the ministry and we just come into the presence of God and we feed him so to speak just get down and we worship pick up a guitar or whatever you know just get down on your face and begin to magnify the Lord that's the first thing that we should do in prayer at least sometime during our prayer time my father used to tell a story I doubt if this has ever been published but he was a good friend of A.W.

Tozer and Tozer used to say to my dad he said listen Len if you're ever in Chicago just drop by the office anytime and he used the expression let your hair down meaning you know just been let's just talk as friends and my dad said he went to his office one afternoon about two o'clock in the afternoon he said Tozer was getting up off a mat he said this is sort of a threadbare little mat that he had that he used to lay on and pray and as they were talking Tozer said to my dad he said you know Len he said I came into this office this morning and he said I got down on that mat I forget what time was eight or nine o'clock or something he said I was gonna have a time of prayer and he said when you knocked at the door he said you know I haven't done a thing as far as prayer all I've done is

worship from eight or nine o'clock in the morning till two in the afternoon all I've done is worship talk about a man that knew God just got down and he was so fascinated if you like by the the majesty of God he began to contemplate his wisdom and he began to contemplate again on his the power of God and you know the handiwork of God when I consider the heavens the work of your hands you know his mind just began to you know think of God in all of his splendor and his majesty I remember Jack Hayford talking about those four and twenty elders there in in Revelation where it you know it talks about them falling down before the throne and saying holy holy holy and then they come up and they you know cry holy and then they bow down and then they come up and he said as Hayford said he said

listen that wasn't some sort of mechanical thing that these beings you know just sort of were programmed you know to just go like this all all day long he said no he said every time they would lift their face they'd see another facet if you like of God's character God's nature the manifoldness of who God is and it will cause him to bow down again and Tozer obviously had learned something about the true art of worship and if you read his books you know that he was a man that knew God why because he spent hours in the presence of God just thinking and musing and meditating on the on the greatness of God and the psalmist again did that you know when I consider the heavens not when I just look up at the heavens you know I begin to think of them and I begin to think of you know your incredible

power to make all these things I was in New Zealand just a couple of weeks ago and there was a gentleman there and I wish I'd have written down the notes but he talked about the vastness of the heavens it was absolutely amazing you know that that the very closest galaxy to us the very closest star how many multiplied millions of light years away it is just to the closest one and then he said there are literally millions and billions of galaxies I mean you know the vastness of the heavens it's unbelievable we look up a little milky way and we can't even fathom that and yet it goes on and on and on and on and on and on you know and God created all those and Isaiah says you know he calls them all by name you know not one of them is missing I mean that's the God that you and I have and

then we think God you know you able to answer my prayer it's incredible so we need to you know we need to just muse again on the vastness of God the greatness of God get it I mean not that we'll ever comprehend God we never will we can't reduce God down to you know the size of our own little brains but you know that there's so much he sits above the vault of the earth the Bible says he reduces rulers to

nothing he can speak concerning nations to pluck them up and to destroy you realize America I mean he can speak like that concern the nations God has got his storehouse the Bible talks about God's arsenal you know he doesn't have atomic weapons but he's got rain he's got sleet he's got floods he's got fire and he can use those things you know and the most advanced weaponry in the world you

know all it would take is a major hailstorm and it could just blow the whole thing apart or whatever you know cause a flood I mean you know there's all sorts of things God can use the snow you know it's part of God's weaponry according to the the Bible I mean amazing isn't it who God is but anyway we need to spend that time in in worship the Father seeks those that will worship him the Bible says and so we need to spend time the first and greatest commandment obviously is that shall worship for they go so worship I would put as number one the rest of these don't need to be prioritized necessarily but the next thing is the word the psalmist prayed open my eyes Psalm 119 verse 18 that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law in other words when we have a time a devotional time we need to

ask God speak to me and I think that the primary way that God speaks and obviously there are many many ways he can speak through dreams and visions and so on and so forth but the the primary way God speaks is through his word the entrance of your word you know your word is a light to my feet a lamp to my path it tells me right and wrong it exposes pitfalls and so on and so forth so Lord open mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law in other words the psalmist David obviously could read and we can prove conclusively from the Bible that he could see because he you know it was his sin with Bathsheba that got him into all that trouble but he's saying Lord open my eyes in a different dimension obviously I can read your word but look I need to understand the spirit behind it

you know the old hymn writer says beyond the sacred page we seek thee Lord our spirits pen for the the living wood and and so we need to spend some time Luke 24 verse 45 it says he opened their minds to understand the scriptures we need to ask God to open our minds otherwise it's just a dry historical record a lot of people read it that way it's just a you know a record of a bunch of Jews in the Old Testament that you know we have nothing in common with they didn't have mortgages they didn't have this and that the other thing and you know I mean if we read it that way it's just a history book but no the Bible says all scripture is given by inspiration of God it's profitable these things that were written of for time were written for what our instruction and then so all of those sayings

have an application to your life and to my life and as we read them we say look no what are you trying to say to me here behind this story you know there's a personal application here and so there's a past application of the Word of God there's the present there's the sort of prophetic there's different applications of the word and we need to understand those it's not just that that happened the Old Testament and it's irrelevant to me no these things that were written before time were written for my example or our instruction upon whom the ends of the age have come I have it at the back there my latest book that just came out about a month ago maybe a little more five weeks ago now and it's called they drank from the river and died in the wilderness some of you may have been put off by

the title it has nothing to do with the anti-river but as you know the river is the big the big thing these days you know river conferences all over the nation and the move of God that we're experiencing is being called the river we have songs about the river you know and I was sitting in an assembly church in Sacramento about two years ago now and a very very lively church I mean they had banners they had dances they I mean it's just vibrant with the with sort of worship and praise and everything else and just prior to going into that meeting I was sitting and I was thinking about rivers I was thinking about all the rivers in the Bible

and thought of the river you know flowed out of the Garden of Eden brought life to the surrounding area and you know the Garden of Eden really being the

first tabernacle in the Bible it was a dwelling place of God and it only had one entrance the entrance was on the east and when man sinned of course he no longer had access in the presence God he was driven out and then there was a flaming sword that corresponded to the if you like the brazen altar and and so on and but out of it again flowed a river and then the Ezekiel from the throne of God the river came forth and you know waters up to the ankles up to the loins and waters to swim in and wherever that water went it brought life and in Revelation the same thing from the throne of God there in Revelation 21 again the river and on either side of the river you know the trees brought healing to the nations and so on and so forth and so I was just musing on all the rivers in the

Bible in a very positive sense and the Holy Spirit just said to me and I say that that I'm one of those people you know I very seldom hear the voice of God that sort of clearly but the Holy Spirit said what about 1 Corinthians 10 and all of a sudden I found myself quoting 1 Corinthians 10 about the children of Israel you know where Paul says you know I don't want you to be ignorant brethren that all our fathers were under the cloud all pass through the sea and then it says and they all drank from the same spiritual rock that was following them and that rock was Christ and then the next verse says nevertheless with most of them God was not pleased they died in the wilderness and the Holy Spirit said they drank from the river died in the wilderness that's the title of the book and I

realized that the million people came out of Egypt and a million people partook of the river of God and it says that that river was Christ it wasn't a normal river in fact the only way that river was that river came into being was when Moses struck the rock and it was symbolic again of the Holy Spirit that Jesus was not glory the Spirit was not given because Jesus was not glorified Jesus had to be struck if you like Jesus had to be crucified before the Spirit of God was released you know and and so here is a supernatural river and the Bible calls it a river like the ocean depths I mean it wasn't just a little babbling brook you've got a million at least a million people some say up to three million people and then you've got all their livestock even if they only had five a piece and most

of them would have you know 30 or 50 or whatever so you put all those mouths together if you like human and animal but you've got maybe 15 30 million people or not people but bodies that needed to be quenched with thirst and you realize that's the city what the size of Los Angeles or something like that Chicago New York I mean that's a huge water supply credible water supply that came out of rock and the Bible says it was like the ocean depths you know it's a colossal thing but it all came from the rock and that rock the Bible says was Christ and so they partook of the supernatural power and provision of God and yet only two out of the million made it into the promised land and the Bible says these things were written for our instruction upon whom the end of the earth have come why they

got involved in immorality they got involved in adulteries they got involved in all sorts of things even after partaking of the river and so the river does not immunus from tests and trials and problems and so on you see a lot of people have got this idea you know if I can only go to such and such a meeting get zapped all my problems will be solved no not necessarily thank God for the river thank God for the touch of God but there's still we've got to overcome it's going to be temptations there's going to be temptations to idolatry to immorality to complaining and murmuring and and so on they enter not in what because of unbelief and yet they were surrounded by the supernatural surrounded by the supernatural day after day after day after day so you know we need to say Lord open

my eyes and I may understand your word Lord how does this apply to me 2 Corinthians 3 verse 6 it says the letter kills the spirit gives life again just the letter itself and I realize in the in a literal sense it's talking about the the letter of the law but you can also take it like just the Word of God in that sense the letter kills the spirit gives life we need to ask God for a quickening upon his word the next one is wisdom now obviously these things you know the Spirit of God maybe sometimes we'll just have a spend an hour in worship other times we may just spend time reading the Word of God as God begins to speak to us and unfold things and as we come across promises just you know it's a we just voice them up to the Lord as we're musing on a portion of scripture and we apply it you

know other times again we may find ourselves just praying for wisdom it says Proverbs 4 and verse 5 and also verse 7 with all of your getting get wisdom or acquire wisdom with all the things that you seek for wisdom the Bible says is the principal thing by wisdom the house is established by understanding the rooms are furnished I prayed for many many years Lord give me wisdom Paul says he was what a wise master builder we need wisdom how to build what goes first what goes next and so on just as you do in the natural you know you don't put the roof on before you lay the foundation you know I don't think so anyway you know there's there's a certain order if you like and I believe in the in the purpose of God there's a certain order and so we need to pray God give me wisdom and again wisdom

is the principal thing James says if any men lack wisdom what let him ask of God who gives liberally so it's not something that God is reluctant to sort of dole out to us he's liberal he's lavish we say oh give me wisdom wisdom in in my marriage wisdom with my children wisdom on the job wisdom you know we need wisdom wisdom is what you do with knowledge we can have knowledge but how do you apply that knowledge and so we need the wisdom of God the Bible talks about the the wise woman builds her house the foolish woman tears it down with her own hands we need to know how to build a house and the only way we can do that again is through wisdom Ecclesiastes 9 verse 14 talks about the poor wise man who delivered the city by his wisdom and then if you want the ladies get equal chance there 2nd

Samuel 20 verse 15 we have the wise woman who spared the entire city by throwing was it Jezebel down you know but she's she saved the city by her wisdom and so wisdom can save you know an entire city the wise man the poor wise man didn't have anything as far as money but he had wisdom and it was his wisdom that brought about the salvation of his city all right the next one is warfare now these are just various things that we can concentrate on in prayer and sometimes if you're beginning and you have not developed a real prayer life then just write them down there's nothing you know unspiritual about opening your eyes and looking and say well I'm gonna spend a little bit time musing on this until we maybe learn to be led a little bit more clearly by the Spirit of God but there's nothing

wrong we're just saying listen I need to pray about this area that area and so on and the more we pray and the more it becomes a habit pattern in our life then the more you know we can lay aside if you like these elementary principles as Hebrews was would call them but the whole area of warfare Ephesians 6 of course it says we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers and we've got to learn how to wage a good warfare there are principalities and powers I believe in if you like in territorial spurts because the Bible talks about principalities a principality is a geographical area that has a prince over it I was raised born in England raised in England and Ireland but what they call today the UK United Kingdom and the UK is made up of England Ireland

Scotland and Wales and Wales technically is called the Principality of Wales that's its proper title and the prince of that principality is Prince Charles he is his rightful title is Prince Charles Prince of Wales you see

there was a time when that Principality that geographical area had a prince not a king but a prince that governed it now obviously it's just a figurehead but Prince Charles is the one that carries that title he doesn't have any real authority anymore but in the spiritual realm there are principalities and over those principalities there are prince powers if you like that govern and under them if you like lesser demonic strongholds but they're the ones that sort of govern and they you know work there under the authority of Satan and dominate certain areas for instance in

Argentina many many years ago my brother worked with a man who broke through I suppose if there was one man that could be attributed with the present-day move of God in Argentina it was a man by the name of Edward Miller and Edward Miller back in the 50s was a missionary down in South America there in Argentina and Argentina was a very very dark nation again bound really by Catholicism and witchcraft and nothing happening in the natural very very little and God spoke to him he said there will never be a move of God until the principality over this nation is bound and he said there is a prince that governs and rules if you like over the same Peron of course was a president at that particular time and Peron his wife Eva Peron they made the movie about her was into witchcraft and all sorts

of things you know but God told him to pray and along with some other intercessors he prayed I think was eight hours a day for six months or six months or eight eight months six hours a day something like that anyway God says listen if people can work eight hours a day you can pray eight hours a day and he began to pray and he put aside all these other activities as a missionary and began to concentrate in prayer and at the end of that period of time in a prayer meeting there was a real just a sovereign breakthrough there was visitations angels came to the Bible school where they were at and prophetic words were given as to where God was going to move in Argentina and so on and it was a very powerful powerful move of the Spirit of God my brother went down there in the 60s and sort of the

tail end of some of that and he said there were literally times in meetings where after two or three songs the Spirit of God would just descend and he said people were to end up on their faces before God for hours I mean three four hours and he said when they got up there were literally pools on the floor from tears where God would do such a deep work of repentance I mean not sort of the major sins those hopefully were dealt with but attitudinal stuff God sort of fine-tuning different things and they would be just weeping in the presence of God you know major thing but why because all of a sudden there was an open heaven over that area and and so we've got to learn how to wage a good warfare we wrestle not against flesh and blood it's not flesh and blood it's principalities and powers

it's spiritual wickedness in high places obviously in this region and I know many of you have got Catholic backgrounds and I'm not trying to say anything in one sense but Catholicism is a is is full of witchcraft I say that because if I said to you this morning before coming here that I was in communication with my dead father you would immediately shoot me wouldn't you you know you say necromancing is wrong you know you shouldn't be involved in necromancing and yet in the Catholic faith you pray to the Saints now we call them Saints and it seems to then you know sort of clear the air that we can you know we don't think of it but listen we're praying to the dead these are these are ordinary people that you know have been bestowed by the Catholic Church with sainthood sort of thing but

they're the people and it's necromancing it opens you up to the spiritual dimension you know and and so we've got to realize that you know when there's a concentration if you like of people that are worshipping Saints and they're in communion with the dead and so on it establishes something in the heavens and and so we're battling and you know what that's about battling in this area you know every pastor battles it why

because it's such a stronghold and you feel it you feel the resistance and and so we've got to learn somehow how to take authority over that you know the the whole matriarchal system if you like of Mary and and praying to Mary and the veneration of Mary and so on and so forth you know all of that brings in you know a heaviness into into an area and so we've got to have

wisdom how we deal with it but we've got to wage a warfare Revelation talks about there was war in heaven you know Michael and the angels and so on God is a God of war he's mighty in battle we've got to learn to lift up the gates praise is a tremendous way of doing that the high praises of God in our mouth what a sharp two-edged sword in our hand to execute vengeance on kings to bind kings and nobles with fetters of iron there's something about warfare praise warfare now you know we can do it but the Bible says whatsoever is not a faith is sin and so you know it's not just going through the semantics it's not just going through actions there's got to be faith behind it you see by faith the walls of Jericho came down not by marching see now we have a lot of Jericho marches but the walls

never come down yeah but it's by faith the walls of Jericho came down and so there's got to be faith in what we're doing when we're declaring songs about the blood and so on there's gotta be faith and you know the and and there's a there's a whole realm there that I really don't know if we know a great deal about but I think there can be prayer meetings sometimes where we honestly get into declaring things and and lifting up the name of Jesus as a sort of a weapon of war the high praises and and so there's many ways obviously through fasting is one of the ways the disciples struggled trying to cast some demons out and what did Jesus say you know basically you know they came rejoicing in fact that they were casting demons out one day and then the next day they sort of come back said boy we

had a rough time this morning or they went didn't see the budget all he says well you know skip lunch and you know dinner and try again basically you know this kind this kind what doesn't come out but by prayer and fasting so there's a place where fasting comes in now if that's true of trying to cast a demon out of an individual we're talking about a principality you know and so it's more than just sort of clicking our fingers and say you know I mean there's got to be that real concentrated effort and one will chase a thousand what two ten thousand so as we band together there's more power and more authority released but there's this whole realm of warfare my wife and I were in New Guinean you know that nation is literally bound with witchcraft unbelievable witchcraft that goes on there

and and it was there that I first got interested in the whole realm of spiritual warfare and so we need to ask God God give me wisdom give me understanding give me insight Lord how to how to pray and how to wrestle against this thing and don't sort of expect you know immediate sort of magical results because you know it's it's it's that persistent praying I remember in Kansas City in Kansas City they've been praying for Lord know how many years when I got there but they have three prayer meetings a day in the church and now they have a 24-hour house of prayer and one of the leaders at one stage was sort of saying God you know nothing seems to be happening we've been praying for years and then God showed him a picture of a golden chain and made up of these big links and he said every

prayer meeting God said to him it's another link in the chain and when that chain is big enough and long enough so thing I will you know sort of bind you know the principality sort of thing and so sometimes it's that persistent praying day after day after day after day after day sort of chipping away you know the Bible talks about the cup of the Amorite is not yet full there are seasons I don't fully understand all of those things you know the souls under the altar there in Revelation how long Lord how long how long I mean there's a period of time sometimes but that doesn't mean we give up you know and just say oh well God's

sovereign he'll take care of in his own time no we've got to pray and I believe that we can you know prayers like a bank account that we can invest in and then when

the time comes you know we can sort of cash it in and use it you know all right the next thing is the world and obviously we've sort of been talking about that but Matthew 6 and verse 10 pray thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth Matthew 9 verse 38 pray the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth laborers in other words if we really get into the mind of God we realize that we have a God that is not willing that any should perish you know the Bible says pray for all those who are in authority why because he would have all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth God so loved the world he gave his only begotten son and this whole area of the world we need to pray for that God is not willing again that any should perish and there's vast nations again you think of

places like India and Bangladesh and China and other places the whole sort of 1040 window the whole Islamic world and we've hardly dented these places and we've got to pray God send forth laborers and obviously you can't pray that way unless you prepare to be an answer to your own prayers you know in other words if God is saying to you well listen you know I want you to be a laborer no Lord I'm just praying you know it's my brother my sister not me or what now we've got to be willing sometimes to answer our own prayers but we've got to bring the world before God Jesus said I pray for those that will believe through through them in other words he's praying for his disciples but he's also praying that those that they reach and so as we ask God to burden us burden us for the nation where

this year obviously a crucial year who gets into the White House can have a big determining factor on the future and while I know that God is in one sense isn't concerned about the White House in that sense he said I'll build my church and that's the instrument that he uses at the other side and we have to pray for those in authority and it's going to determine maybe a lot of legislature is going to determine who gets into the Supreme Court nominations and so on and so forth and all sorts of you know judicial things that are going to spin off from it and so we need to pray God raise up your man you know raise up a man that is a man of integrity a man that's a you know is going to guide this nation the way you want it to go that we may live in peace that's what the Bible says pray for

those in authority that we may live in peace and when we live in peace and of course we can continue to do what we're doing we thank God that America with all of its sin and everything else we send out more missionaries possibly and more money to the mission field than any other nation but you know if there's an economic collapse or things are not going well and then all of that could change as well so we need to pray for our government we need to pray for those in authority over us and it's hard sometimes you know I don't find it easy praying for Clinton you know I can pray a certain way but enough said but you know to really but listen he's no different a sinner than I was he really isn't you know we get so self-righteous don't we you know listen he desire all men to be saved he needs

salvation as much as anybody he needs the grace of God as much as anybody else and we need to pray God change this man there were prophecies given I don't know how accurate they were before he became became president that the first four years he would be his own man and the last four years God would get a hold of him and change him you know I'm not there to judge those but time is running out but you know maybe though it's because we didn't pray maybe God said listen I could do no mighty works there in the White House because of what your unbelief he said that after all in his own town he said I wanted to work and I could have worked but your unbelief hindered me from working and sometimes you know we say well that obviously was a false prophecy that got the prophecy that God was going to

you know no maybe God's saying listen that was a true prophetic word but you guys never acted on it you hated that guy you know you despised him and so on and so forth and you criticize him far more than you interceded for him you know and I find myself slipping into that so easily but we've got to come and say God he needs you and the vice president needs you and all everybody else needs you you know and we need somebody back in Washington boy that hasn't been anybody in Washington since what was a famous chaplain there can't think of his name now yeah yep Peter Marshall yeah way back Halvorson too but Peter Marshall you know at least was able to deliver the word of the Lord pray they got to raise up a replacement for Billy Graham you know we need somebody Billy Graham consistently over

the years maybe not so much this White House but has been there in the White House and so there's lots that we can pray for and then works the next one I say works all these are W's and I was in a pastor's conference in New Zealand a number of years ago and I just started thinking about prayer about eight of these things just sort of you know sometimes pastors get this thing you know just W's started coming you know so I had you know wisdom and then the word and worship and warfare in the world and then works is to describe the supernatural Jesus said greater works than these will you do because I go to the Father and we need to pray for the supernatural power of God to be released again don't we I don't think we're ever going to convince many of these nations until we're able to go in

and have a sort of a Mount Carmel experience and say listen the God that answers by fire he is God yeah they're so convinced that their gods are greater and so on and so forth and there's got to be demonstration Paul says I didn't just come with words of ordinary speech but I came in demonstration of the Spirit and my dad used to say he said listen I'm tired of defending the faith I want to demonstrate it you see once you demonstrate it you don't have to defend it you can argue all day you know God doesn't heal anymore you know we're in a dispensation God doesn't heal anymore you know cripple walks in and you say okay watch this you know the guy doesn't have an argument it's gone once you demonstrate it and we've got to pray the Bible says earnestly desire spiritual gifts I had a

professor in Bible school that said that's as much a command as thou shalt not commit adultery yeah desire spiritual gifts and we've got to ask God to once again restore those things to the body of Christ the early church I mean there were words of wisdom and so on you talk about taking our cities for God you go through the New Testament the way that cities were taken for God so often was through a miracle or a word of wisdom the woman at the well you know bring your husband back I don't have one well at least you've been honest for a change you know because you've got five husbands and guy you're living with right now is not your husband what does she do runs back home listen this guy's an unbelievable he knew everything about me what happens the entire city taking your cities for God

the entire city turned out see that's when Jesus said lift up your eyes behold the fields are white now and to harvest the people coming out no doubt with their white garments on and so on nothing to do with the natural it's a look that they're white to harvest already but it's a supernatural power of God that we need to see manifest again that word of wisdom that word of knowledge it can be such a blessing but in the marketplace I was in Finland I think it was last year in January losing track of all these things but the pastor that I was with way up in the middle of Finland he was telling about these tapes a man from England called a Graham Cook and some of you may have heard of him he's written a book on the prophetic I don't know what the title is but he thrust into my hand as I got

on the train to go back to Helsinki about five or six tapes and he said that you'll enjoy these and I you know I took them home sort of put them on a shelf and then one day my wife and I were driving to Dallas from

Pensacola and we started playing these tapes I don't think I've ever been as challenged about the supernatural as what this man shared I mean he shares story after story after story amazing stories and these tapes were given I think you can still get them from Toronto they were given about four years ago if you ask for Graham Cook's ministry I think he's only ever been there once but he talks about going into a supermarket and he's approaching the deli counter he's wanting to buy some cheese or something and all of sudden as he's approaching God speaks to him and he says the

lady that's going to serve you this lady doesn't believe in me she's an atheist but last night she prayed for the very first time because she's got a daughter that she has not seen for four years they had a falling out and all she knows is her daughter went to London she doesn't know she's in drugs or prostitution she's worried and she prayed that something would happen and so he goes up and he introduces and the lady says can I help you and she's he says to her he said well before you do he said let me just share something with you said I'm a Christian he said my name is Graham Cook he said that may or may not mean anything to you but he said God spoke to me a moment ago and said told me something about you and that is that last night you prayed to God a God you don't believe in because

you've got a daughter you haven't seen for four years and she started to cry and as he was talking to her God gave him a word and he said I want you to know something he said Wednesday of this week I think it was Wednesday Wednesday of this week three o'clock or two o'clock your daughter will call you he said that lady went home rearranged her schedule made a cup of tea sat down by the telephone exactly two o'clock or three o'clock whatever it was the phone rang picked it up it was her daughter they were reconciled over the phone and then her daughter told her side of the story she was walking down the street totally oblivious to anything passed the telephone you know the old red English telephone booths and had this overwhelming desire come over her to call her mother and spontaneously

in her mind stepped in picked up the phone called her mother and her mother told her and they were reconciling he said they're both in church today because of and he tells all sorts of stories like that and you think God there is a realm that we all know so little about of you know of knowing you and hearing your voice and I mean he has amazing stories on there and those gifts of the Spirit that there in the Word of God God speaks in fact it's interesting and what time in 1 Corinthians 12 when Paul introduces the gifts here to the body of Christ he says in verse 2 you know that when you are pagans you were led astray to dumb idols however you were led therefore I make known to you that no one's speaking by the Spirit of God and notice the contrast between verse 2 and verse 3 he says your

former life you were caught up worshiping dumb idols I see we use the word dumb today in the word of being stupid no he's a dummy but the word dumb literally means unable to communicate and Paul is contrasting their former life he says you guys were into idolatry they were dumb idols they couldn't speak they couldn't declare their love they couldn't give you their wisdom their knowledge or anything else and in fact you go into the Old Testament time after time it talks about they have eyes but they can't see they have mouths but they can't speak you know and when it talks about idols invariably it talks about mouths unable to talk but it says no one's speaking by the Spirit of God in other words the God that we worship now he says in contrast to your former life is a God that speaks how

does he speak through a word of wisdom through a word of knowledge through a word of prophecy how does he communicate his power and how does he communicate his compassion and so on by healing by deliverance you see and what we have now we have a dumb God again unfortunately you know we have a God that hardly ever speak so to speak oh we get an occasional prophetic word or whatever many times

so vague and you know we don't have that you know clear word listen last night you were you know as somebody would say reading your mail and we've got to get back to that but it comes through prayer you know and not everybody has it the Bible says he gives several as he wills but at the same time I don't want to stand before God and say and find God saying to me David I had a gift for you and you

never pursued it you know I know you know basically I'm a teacher but I but I also pray for these other things you know I fasted I've wept I've done everything you know apart from standing on my head sort of thing and if that would do it I do that too but you know I want to see that I want to see people get healed again and real deliverance and real clear words and so on but we need to pray let's move on very quickly a wife is the next one some of you may be praying for that already but my wife I'm talking about family spouse just keeping the W's here together the Job 1 and verse 5 it talks about Job would rise up early in the morning he would pray for his family lest his sons and daughters had sinned and we need to pray for our families Noah prepared an ark for what the salvation of his

house it says in Hebrews now we get caught up with Noah and all these animals and so on but why did he create that ark because God warned him of impending judgment and he says listen if your family is going to escape the judgment of God you need an ark as it was in the days of what Noah so shall it be in other words by prayer we need to fashion an ark for the salvation of our family I pray for our three daughters I think on a daily basis for protection for wisdom for the right husband and so on and so forth I mean you know it's a priest in my home even though they've left the home in that sense I'm still the priest Job his kids were all married but he still got up rose up early in the morning offered the necessary sacrifice lest my sons of sin and he interceded on their behalf and so we

need to do the same thing we need to pray for our families pray for one another in that sense and then waiting very quickly just two more I wait

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