

ALL NATIONS FULL GOSPEL CHURCH
CELL MANUAL
November 10th to 16th 2008

TOPIC: PATHWAYS TO ABUNDANCE

Text: Ephesians 3:20, 21

INTRODUCTION

Christians are aware of the importance of prayer, and yet there is a constant struggle to pray. Today's text presents us with another dimension of prayer we need to remind ourselves of. God has given His children great privileges through prayer. Let today's lesson give us another reason not to be slack in prayer!

I. PRAYER, THE KEY TO ABUNDANCE

In Ephesians 3:20, we are presented with the key to supernatural abundance; prayer! The walk with God is a walk of prayer, and it appears in the verse that even our smallest request can move God to do great things. The verse says "exceedingly, more than or above your requests"! Prayer connects with supernatural abundance. The word abundantly (perissos) is the same word used in John 10:10. It means "Super-abundance, excessive, overflowing, surplus, over and more than enough, profuse, extraordinary, above"! No wonder satan is sad to see us pray, and is not happy when we decide to pray more. *Christian, you can end the drought in your life by learning to pray!*

There are two ways of releasing God's supernatural power of abundance into our lives. They are Prayer by request and prayer by thoughts or thinking

A. PRAYER BY REQUEST

This aspect of prayer is known to all. It is an expression of our desires in petition to God. In Mat. 7:7-11 (please read) Jesus is emphatic about His promise; so long as we ask, it will be given to us.

The word in the Greek implies continuous action; i.e., keep asking! Verse 11 shows us a kind hearted God, who cannot even be compared with men who are always kind to their children. By our request we move this good God to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask for.

B. PRAYER BY THOUGHT OR THINKING

Our thoughts as well as our words can activate God's supernatural abundance into our lives, this means that we should discipline our minds to think on positive things and not to dwell on the negative thoughts the devil tries to bombard our minds with. The devil's aim is to rob us of the abundant blessing that our thoughts can provoke. Prov. 21: 5 says "The thought of the diligent tend only to plenty" (Also read Prov.16:3; Ps.94:11; Ps. 139:2; Heb 4:12,13)

Our thoughts are like prayers that express our desires. The enemy wants to interfere with them to impoverish us. That is why Paul tells us in Phil 4:8 (please read) to dwell on only good thoughts.

Because our thoughts form part of our prayers, we must focus on what we want to be, where we are going, and the results we hope to achieve in life.

We should stop thinking about our hurts, failures, insignificance, inferiority, weaknesses, shame, defeats, sins and every negative thing. Rather we should think about our healing and it will activate the exceedingly abundantly above all that we can ask for.

Let us tap into the abundant life by joining in prayers this month. Tap into the abundant life by thinking positively!

Remember, we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us!