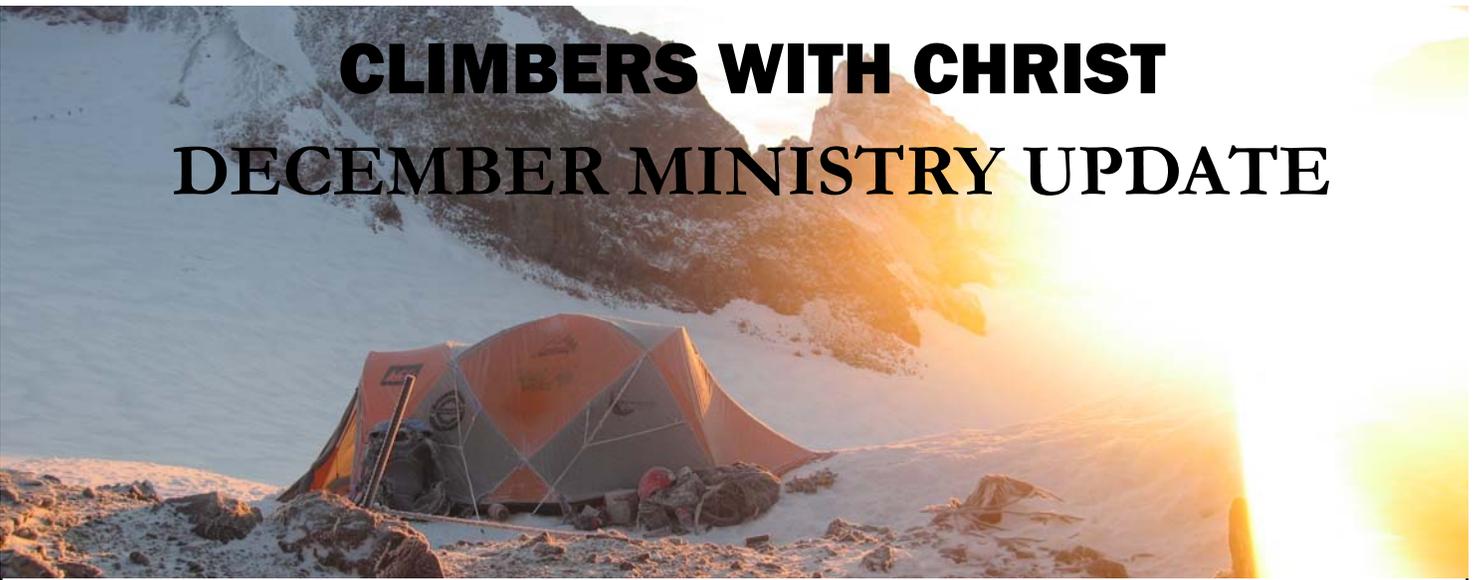


CLIMBERS WITH CHRIST

DECEMBER MINISTRY UPDATE



COL Mountain School 2015

WHY PRAY?

Over and over our Father tells us in his word to “pray”. My Father *telling* me to pray is surely enough reason to pray, especially since he created the entire universe, and is currently overseeing all of it, and holds my life, my breath, and all of my days and future in his hands. But is “obedience” *alone* the *only* reason we should pray? Many in the church today would tell me yes, and even make some theological proposal that prayer doesn't really change my circumstances - it only changes my heart. I think not. As I continue on in this journey of faith that Jesus has called me and my family to (and the rest of his followers!), I am convinced more and more of my **need** to pray. There IS power in prayer!

And no, I'm NOT talking about the Word Faith bunch or the name it claim it, blab it and grab it prayer bunch either - just simply realizing afresh (daily!), that my Father works *through* our prayers and the prayers of his people, and many times does NOT move or work *until* we actually stop and pray or gather for prayer!

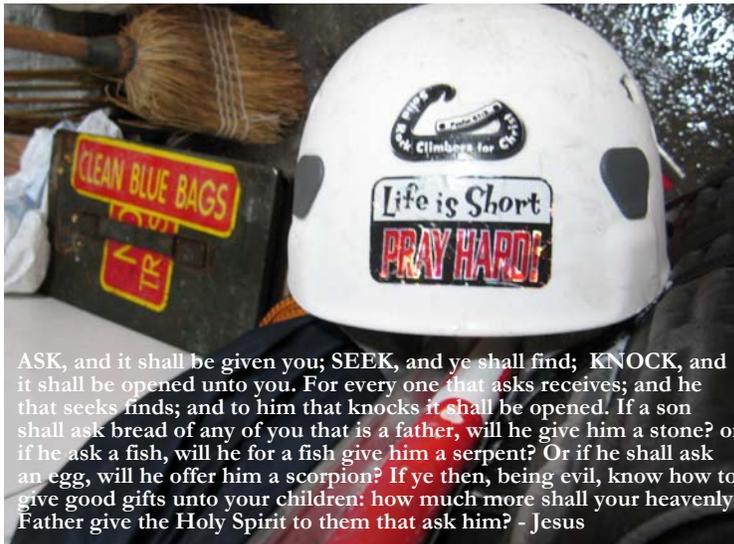
I'm pretty “over” the statements we often hear like...
“Hey, God is God. He's sovereign. He'll get his work done, with or without us. Whether we pray or not!”

25 years of following Jesus, and I continue to experience in *increasing* measure, two realities in my life - the more time I spend reading his words, the more peace, love, and joy I experience *personally*, and the more that I pray, the more I actually *see* God DO in my life and in the lives around me.

Yes, I know that *motives* and *God's will* are huge components in answered prayers, but check out again a few of these truths: “*He WILL regard the **prayer** of the destitute, and not despise their **prayer**” (Psalms 102), “*but the **prayer** of the upright is his delight... the LORD is**

*far from the wicked: but he hears the **prayer** of the righteous” (Proverbs 15), “**Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit,**” (Ephesians 6), **Pray** ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into **his** harvest.” (Matthew 9), “*when ye **pray**, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them*” (Mark 11), “**Pray** without ceasing. In every thing **give thanks...** Brethren, **pray for us**” (1 Thessalonians 5), “*I will therefore that men **pray** every where*” (1 Timothy), **pray** one for another, that ye may be healed. **The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.** Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and **he prayed** earnestly that*

*it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And **he prayed** again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit” (James 5), And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, **if we ask any thing according to his will, he hears us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him”** (1 Jn 5).*



ASK, and it shall be given you; SEEK, and ye shall find; KNOCK, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asks receives; and he that seeks finds; and to him that knocks it shall be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 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? - Jesus

ASK, SEEK, & KNOCK

Prayer is certainly most often simply my ongoing conversation with my Father throughout each and every day. This may sound a bit surprising to some, but as time goes on, more and more of my prayers are ASKING *him* to do things. Things I myself cannot do. Supernatural “stuff”! Stuff like...“Lord, change my heart, change others hearts, give me wisdom beyond my experience, give me strength and zeal when I am continually weaker and weaker. Give me courage and increase my faith to trust you for more,



stretch the oil and butter, and the gas in the tank, open doors and give me favor - opportunities to share the gospel, give me love, joy, peace, in the midst of seeming chaos and the ever increasing and overwhelming weights and complexity's of this life - do this ALL for your glory, that you *alone* will get the praise!."

Here's the best part! Jesus DOES IT! Just like he said!! Over, and over, and over, he does it - day in and day out! And most always more and beyond what I can think or imagine. AND HE USUALLY DOES NOT DO IT (or at least I don't seem to see it or recognize it) UNTIL I (we) PRAY!!! All for his glory!

MORE PRAYER PLEASE

With that being said, I'm asking for *more* prayer. COL Mountain School as solely a *physical skills* teaching endeavor, would surely go forward quite "unchallenged". We're engaged in the *spiritual* battle though. Because of our calling to preach the gospel and to teach and/or disciple future outdoor leaders as a the major thrust behind the mountain school, the battle rages. We know God has most certainly won the *war*, but many of the battles and skirmishes along the way are (or may be) won or lost depending upon *our* engaging in prayer - just as we see in The Book .

"Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might**. Put on **the whole armor** of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For **we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places**. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of **the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith**, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: **Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit**, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints. 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, For which **I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak**. (Ephesians 6)

"For though we walk in the flesh, **we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)"** (2 Corinthians 10)

38 DAYS FOR PRAYER AND PRAISE

Two of the three spots filled right away, as of last week though, one has decide not to attend at this time. Pray for a "young man from Germany" specifically. I believe that God wants to fill all three spots. How and who we know not. We are committed to the schooling for *one* Christian Outdoor Leader as much as to three. We would like to see the Lord have his way, and bring all three though. Please pray fervently.

As it *looks* at *this* point there may be about a three week "in-between

time", between the close of my four year *tent making* project in lone and the start of Mountain School in mid January. I've be given the opportunity to operate a groomer (snow-cat) at 49 North as time allows. It will be a definite step of faith financially. We're trusting the Lord will provide as he has lead to this very day.

As far as the skill sessions and weekly instruction during mountain school, I'm trusting that help for the different weeks skill seminars will materialize as needed through Chris Beadle, Floyd Christman, Larry Wilcox, Chris Hogan, and others. I praise the Lord for all of their hearts to serve - though we're *still* missing brother Bob!

Curriculum information, course itinerary, equipment list, and the registration questionnaire for the COL Mountain School 11 week Apprentice Guide Course are available for download online. Go to the Mountain School tab at: climberswithchrist.com

COL MOUNTAIN SCHOOL NEEDS

Please **pray** for God to truly have *his* way in the bringing of the following. He knows the needs before we even ask, but does desire us to still ask, seek, and knock.

- ☞ **Kristina's** knee problems. She is my wife, and the "hub" of much of all that goes on around here! Pray for God's protection over her and my family, especially in this time.
- ☞ **Courage** to go forward in faith. To fight through the doubt storms and what ifs. Outside of God and his word, everything around us and in the culture says "no way".
- ☞ **Financial provision for the "in-between time"**. Time needed for me to be here at home to invest in compiling the rest of the mountain school curriculum package, scheduling skill trainings, weekly itineraries, and scheduling the weekly work projects and the other course leaders and instructors. Also for **School Scholarships and start-up funding**. \$1000-1500.
- ☞ **Co-instructors and participants** (and their families).
- ☞ **Building materials**: 2.5" , 3.5" Nails, 2 sml windows, insulation
- ☞ **Wood stove**. Small "pot-belly" or "bread loaf" style (there's got to be one out there *somewhere!*)
- ☞ **28 gallons Propane** for water and heat in the MS apartment
- ☞ **Supplies**: Printing, AA & AAA Batteries, MSR gas, Ski Wax

CWC Winter Outdoor Evangelism

Local Ski Video Outreach/ Missions Fundraiser
(Cusick area - January)

Exploring Families Snowshoe Events
(Mount Spokane, & 49 Degrees North - January-March)

Backcountry Ski Day Outreaches and Clinics
(Kooteney Pass, 49 Degrees North - January-March)

Crazy Mountain Tour
(February - Crazy Mountains Montana)

4-day Winter Mountaineering Seminar
(March 5-8, 2015)

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for IT is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes..."

