



THE INTERNATIONAL PRAYER PROJECT

From The Order Of Jacobs Well

Getting Going

Strengthening the Relationship for Private Prayer

We start by taking a few minutes every day to go through our HOPE routine. In a little while the routine will grow to colour our normal way of thinking throughout our day.

Here are the points of the routine that we give thanks to God for. Doing the routine is to go through each point in turn, in thanksgiving.

Our Daily HOPE routine:

1. Heaven on Earth, God's kingdom.

God wants life on Earth to be like life in heaven. It is portrayed in the Garden of Eden - no physical, emotional or relationship distress, as well as a life close to God. All mankind's needs are provided for us in advance.

2. Opposite, the way we have all gone. We all, like sheep, have gone astray. The human race has turned away, (and is still turning away), from such a life of wholeness with God. We are willingly walking, like lemmings over a cliff, into an eternally godless and hopeless existence.

We are sorry that we are misleading ourselves so badly.

3. Plan, God's first step taken. Out of the depths of his love for us all, Father God has sent his Son, Jesus, to live with us and to show us what he is truly like. Through him poured a never-ending tsunami of God's blessing.

God then opened the gate for all of us to walk through, back into that wholesome kingdom of God portrayed in the Eden story, and the sacrificial death of his Son's dying instead of us allows any of us through the gate if we turn back toward him.

4. Even us, included in God's plan - every one of us if we so wish it.

Firstly, in his plan for restoring the world, God sent his Son. Secondly, when Jesus came back from the dead, he and Father God sent the Holy Spirit and now thirdly, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit together are sending each one of us.

We are the direct line between God and life on earth. We are his agents for change, equipped with that same tsunami of blessing.

Each one of us has been chosen. In turning back toward the King and life in the kingdom, we are chosen to be his Ambassadors, prayerfully waiting his prayer instructions and carrying his grace and blessings into the world on his behalf.

What an awesome place we are in!

Now, let's listen.... think through those four HOPE points each day in the quiet of his presence with a thankful heart. Then, without telling him what to do, wait a little while to sense any specific pointers to pray about. Pointers to wait for might include a significant spike in your emotions, the realising of some new aspect of the problem you might never have thought of before, an audible or nearly audible word in the back of your mind or any such prompting. Examine your pointer and look to recognise the love in it. If that proves difficult then discard the pointer and try again.

Given your finding love in it, talk it over with God to emphasise your own concern over the issue. Give thanks that, because of God's pointer, you are now praying in a prayer partnership with God himself through the risen Son, Jesus. Rest assured the solution is on the way. Your prompting is in harmony with his prompting, after all!

Practice makes perfect - so keep at it again tomorrow!

Mike Endicott



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