Ladies Prayer International Newsletter













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Plug Into The Power Of Prayer

By Carla Burton



Growing up as a missionary kid in the Philippines, I experienced "brown outs." An area of town would have its electricity shut off for a period of time so the power grid would not become overwhelmed. This almost daily occurrence could come at any time of the day or night. Many times, in the middle of service every microphone and musical instrument were rendered useless due to these brown outs. I could have one-half of my hair curled and suddenly have no way to finish. (I learned to curl front to the back instead of side-to-side, just in case.) I learned from these experiences that I needed power to accomplish anything.

How many of us simply go through the motions of prayer without being plugged into the power of power? John 15:4-5 (ESV) says it best: "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me... For apart from me you can do nothing." Jesus told us very plainly the only way we will ever produce fruit is if we stay plugged into Him. It is His power that produces anything in our lives. His power transforms us. All we must do is plug into that power.

Daniel plugged into the power of prayer daily and was delivered from lions and conspiring men. Moses plugged in and saw miracles, provision, and salvation for the children of Israel. Hannah plugged in and received the greatest desire of her heart. Elisha plugged in and saw victory on Mount Carmel. Hezekiah plugged in and received healing from an incurable disease. Jesus plugged into the power of prayer for strength to face His greatest trial. Those in the upper room plugged in and received salvation and boldness to tell others. Peter, Paul, and Silas plugged in and were set free from prison. So don't tell me there isn't power in prayer. The only question is: are you plugging In?

I am consumed with concern for the present generation. They dance and worship in the altar. They come to youth class and enjoy lessons that challenge them. But we must be careful not to lose a generation because they don't realize the power comes from plugging into prayer. We cannot allow them to be deceived into thinking shallow worship and creative lessons can ever take the place of a purposeful, passionate, plugged-in prayer life.

We must make sure we are exampling a plugged-in prayer life to those who follow in our footsteps. They need to hear our prayer rooms full of intercession, groaning, tongues, and praise. They need to see an altar call longer than the worship service, where tongues and interpretation overwhelm the atmosphere until every soul is on their face before God. We have tried to be so creative in giving them additional methods of prayer to keep them interested and active in praying. But journals, apps, walks and prayer list will never take the place of on-your-knees, intercessory prayer time with God. That is when the plugging in occurs. We touch heaven so that heaven can touch the world.

I pray that you feel the call going forth today for a plugged-in prayer life. If you are tired of trying to accomplish something without having the power to finish it, then today is the time to get plugged into the power of prayer. A dry, repetitive, uninspired prayer life is like trying to run an entire home on batteries alone. Instead, chose today to fall on your face and plug into the power of prayer.

Note: Carla Burton is a Pastor's wife to The Turning Point in Nashville, TN. She is an author, a speaker and a licensed minister with the UPCI. She is also the creator of A Passion Approach Ministry, an online Apostolic video resource center.

The Power of Prayer

by Sheri Moses



"O turn unto me; and have mercy upon me; give thy strength unto thy servant and save the son of thy handmaid" (Psalm 86:16).

James Abram Garfield was born in 1831 to Abraham and Eliza Garfield. Two years later, Abraham, age thirty-three, died while fighting a fire on their farm. Eliza, a devout follower of Christ, determined to raise her children with prayer as her secret weapon.

When James was a teenager, he left home to work on a boat on the river. One dark night, he woke for his shift and made his way to the deck. While struggling with a coil of rope, he fell over the railing and sank in the cold waters. Just as he thought he would drown, his hand felt a loose rope. He grabbed the rope and pulled himself to the railing and collapsed onto the deck. As he made his way home, James saw a light. Through the window he saw his mother on her knees, praying with her Bible open to the verse, "O turn unto me; and have mercy upon me; give thy strength unto thy servant and save the son of thy handmaid." James knew this was the prayer his mother prayed for him every day. Hearing those words, he opened the door and fell into her arms.

Eliza nursed her son back to health, and shortly afterward, he attended a church service. James gave his life to Christ and soon began preaching the gospel. After a few years, he began pursuing a political career. At age forty-nine, James Garfield became the twentieth president of the United States.

Prayer is powerful! Praying for our children is powerful! Plug into your power source.

There is no request that is too small to pray about. There is no situation that is too difficult to pray about. "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which passeth all understand, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7).

God has not called you to be a perfect parent. He has called you to be a praying parent. The greatest thing that you can do for your child is to pray for him or her. You can make a positive and lasting impact on your child through prayer.

"The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man (woman) avails much" (James 5:16).

Note: Sheri Moses and her husband, Robert, are UPCI global representatives to Russia and Estonia. They moved to the Moscow, Russia, in August 2001 with their seven-month-old son, Anthony, to begin their work.

Cassidy and the Cross

By Caronda Adams



A zygote begat a blastocyst; a blastocyst begat an embryo, and an embryo begat a teenager! Decisions empower or devour.

An incident occurred in which Cassidy, my seventeen-year-old daughter, trespassed a rule in our home, *not a felony*, something much milder on a Christian sin-scale! I scribbled a list of angry complaints. She disappointed me, and I was going to "gripe her out." However, the Invisible Force tapped me on the shoulder and suggested that I pray before delivering the soured speech. *Oh, that's a good idea,* I thought. Thankful for the reminder, I

I threw my notes away and began to follow His notes. I used index cards to write down many of her talents. Then, I made a stack of notecards naming Satan's wish list for her life. With my attitude realigned, I called her. I asked her to meet me at Memory Gardens; It was a beautiful cemetery, not a creepy one. She consented. (My family knew that I frequented this cemetery when I was writing and reading.)

paused and prayed. Through tears and transparency, God reformed my list.

She pulled up, and I was waiting on a cement bench under a tree. She joined me, and I pulled the index cards from a delicate sack.

"I listed your talents on notecards." I handed them to her one at a time. "That's a lot of beautiful gifts." Our hearts softened as we reflected on her talents.

Then, I pulled the evil cards from the thin fabric. I snatched one of her lovely cards. It said, "Voice." (She's a singer.) I replaced it with an evil card. I stole another card. The one that said, "Sensitivity." I replaced it with an evil one. With tears traveling down my cheeks, I took her beautiful gifts and replaced them with the enemy's ugly index cards. I said, "The Devil will steal the lovely and leave you with the ugly." The thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10).

Pink sprinkles of His power poured on us.

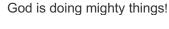
I loved this cemetery because it had a tall, tall white cross watching over the graves. I asked her if she would sing. We meandered to the tall cross. "Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee..." echoed through the air. "I am come that they might have life" (John 10:10).

The melody produced a glory that is impossible to convey on this paper. Because of prayer, Cassidy and I learned something that day which I will take to my grave.

Obedience begat a truth; the truth begat a conversation, and the conversation begat a freedom. "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only" (James 1:22). Plugging into prayer means doing what He speaks to us.

(Cassidy is the piano player and worship leader at Faith Tabernacle today. She and her husband teach the youth class where she destroys darkness with the light of truth.)

Note: Caronda and her husband, Craig Adams, pastor in Hoxie, Arkansas. She has an MA in English and a BS in Education and is a high school English teacher. Books, butterflies, and Butterfingers are a few of her favorite things.





God is opening many doors and this newsletter is now available in: English, Arabic, Chinese simplified, Chinese traditional, Czech, Dutch, Fijian, Filipino, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish, Sri Lankan, Swahili, Swedish, and Thai.

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Who we are . . . Since 1999: Ladies Prayer Intl. is made up of women worldwide, who meet on the first Monday of each month to unite in focused prayer for their children and the children of the local church and community.

Our Mission . . . We are committed to the spiritual preservation of this generation and beyond and the spiritual restoration of previous generations.

Our Need . . . Committed women who will join together on the first Monday of each month and pray focused prayer for their children.

Three Priorities of Prayer...

- The salvation of our children (Isaiah 49:25; Psalm 144:12; Isaiah 43:5-6).
- That they take ownership of the faith at an accountable age (I John 2:25-28; James 1:25).
- That they enter into the ministry of the Lord's harvest (Matthew 9:38). <u>Text L</u>