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Message from the First Lady

Sis. Ellen P. Barney



Our lives are in God's hands ~ Psalm 31:15. We are to depend on God for sustenance, protection, provision, and life. Now that daylight is longer, we are entering the season of spring, which initially calls for the celebration of Christ's resurrection! This season, especially, is a great time for us to reflect upon **His horrendous death on the cross to redeem mankind!** Without His death, there would be no resurrection! During the spring season, some individuals are working diligently to enjoy the beauty and benefits of God's vegetation and the labor we put forth for our gardens. After which, there is the season of summer, whereby we can enjoy the fruit of spring's harvest. But are not **all God's seasons beautiful,** with each giving reflection of God's majestic beauty and wonder? As believers, we, too, should joyfully embrace that our lives are in the Lord's hands, just as His seasons are.

I would like to also encourage you to take time to read this edition of Becoming Whole Women in Christ (BWWC) Newsletter. If you are interested in submitting articles, please contact BWWC ministry leaders or visit the website listed on the last page of this edition.

May we **celebrate enthusiastically** that our lives are under God's sovereignty throughout the various seasons... **Hallelujah!!**

The AMAZING POWER OF PRAYER

By Sis. Robin Holland

There have been so many books, articles, papers, etc., written about The **POWER OF PRAYER** and, I might add, many different opinions about it as well. I am sure some of them are true, and some may be questionable. My prayer is that, after reading this article, **YOU WILL BELIEVE MORE** in The **AMAZING POWER OF PRAYER** and will be a witness to the **answered prayers** in my life! Praise God!!!

As a child growing up, I was raised in the Church of God in Christ. Like many children, I really did not understand “church” for what it really was, but I had to go because my Mother made us (me and my sisters) go every Sunday when she was able to get us ready. I learned to pray (now, I lay me down to sleep, I “pray” the Lord, my soul you keep... etc.), but, as I said, I really did not fully understand prayer and what it meant...but I see NOW how ALL the prayers that were prayed for me have kept me all these years to adulthood!! I have found out that the old saying, *you will understand it better by and by*, is SO true and contains such great wisdom!!!

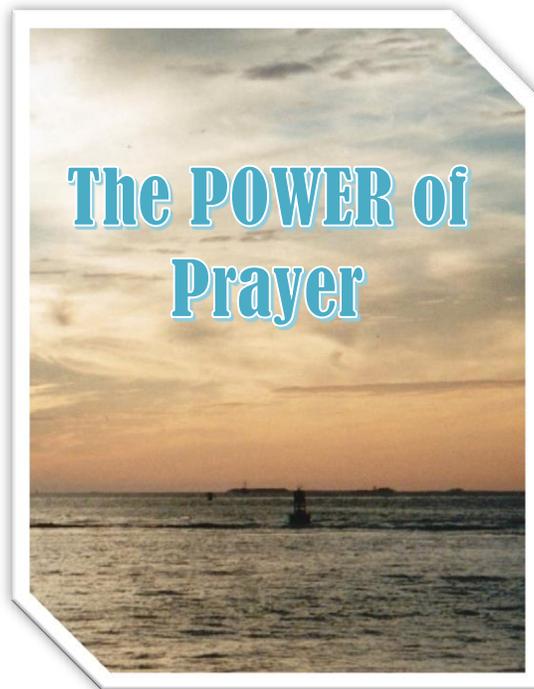
As an adult and joining New Antioch some twenty plus years ago, I have learned so much about Jesus, God, The Father, and what it means to pray and have a relationship with Him. Attending the many Bible Studies, taking classes, studying, and writing papers for classes have taught me how to have a relationship with The Lord as well as The **AMAZING POWER OF PRAYER!!!** To get to know anyone, you have to spend time with them. The same is true if YOU truly desire to have a relationship with the Lord. You MUST spend time with Him, and prayer is a MUST to build that relationship, because PRAYER is communication with God! You speak to God through prayer and you listen to Him also through prayer.

God’s Word states in Philippians 4:6-7, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” (NIV). So God is telling us to present our requests to Him through prayer. Also, in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, it states, “Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus” (NIV). Again, God is telling us to pray continually, communicate continually with Him!!!

Hebrews 11:1 states, “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see” (NIV). Hebrews 11:6 states, “And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.” So when you pray, **you must believe in your prayers**, and you must pray with the right “motives” and for the will of God to be done.

I must confess that I have not always prayed and believed what I have prayed for, but the more I pray and see my prayers answered, the more I understand The **AMAZING POWER OF PRAYER!!!** God’s answers to my prayers are not always yes; sometimes it is no, and sometimes it is wait...and the “wait” is where faith comes in -- faith to **believe** that He WILL answer, but in HIS time and not mine!!!

One of the many answered prayers (and my first test of prayer) I will always remember is, when I got saved in Louisiana while visiting my sister, she told me to pray for a church and God would “tell” me what church to attend. Well, being a “babe in Christ,” I did not understand that nor did I believe God knew what kind of church I wanted to attend. Well, after praying occasionally for a few months, New Antioch was His answer....and here I am...STILL – some twenty years later – and STILL loving my church!!! Praise God!!! Can I get a witness??



The AMAZING **POWER** OF PRAYER (cont.)

When I joined New Antioch, I brought my daughter, who was seven years old at the time. My husband did not join with us, but I would come home on Sundays after service “fired up” for the Lord and *try* to talk to him about the service. He did not want to hear it and definitely did not understand my excitement about the Word. Of course, I would get angry and not want to talk to him at all!!! I talked to my Mother about it, and I remember her words so clearly. She said “get out of his face and get in the Lord’s face!” Now, I really did not understand that...get in the Lord’s face??? What did she mean by that??? I could not “see” the Lord!!! Then she told me to pray and tell the Lord about it. Well, needless to say, I prayed and prayed and prayed some more, and almost two years to the day my daughter and I joined New Antioch, my husband, Deacon Raymond Holland, joined New Antioch also!!! Praise God...another answered prayer!!!

No, he was not a Deacon when he joined...that was the Scriptures in the Bible that state (and I’m paraphrasing here) God will give you the desires of your heart...and He will bless you above and beyond what you could EVER imagine or think!!! Praise God!!! Oh, what a blessing....another answered prayer!!! Can I get a witness here???

Many, many prayers I have prayed, am still praying, and God is STILL true to HIS WORD as mentioned in the Scriptures above and throughout the Bible. I will share a few “short” testimonies, so you can praise God along with me!!!

- ❖ Before being saved (as I now understand Salvation), when my husband and I was ready to start our family, I prayed for a daughter. God answered my prayer even before I “knowingly” accepted Him as my Savior and blessed us with a daughter!!!
- ❖ I prayed for a job, didn’t get it, upset about it... then I found out (Praise God) that the job was so overwhelming, and I was glad the Lord did not give it to me!!! Praise God!!!
- ❖ When my husband first joined the church, I started asking him to attend some evening services with me. Being a “babe in Christ,” he said I should be glad he’s going to one service a day! (No, I was not glad or satisfied...so “I got in the Lord’s face” again!!!) Eventually, he joined the choir and now RARELY misses an evening service!!! (Now, **I have missed** some evening services, so be careful what you pray for, because you just might get it!!!) Praise God!!! Another blessing and answered prayer!!! Are you a witness yet???
- ❖ I moved my Mother with me when she became sick with cancer. I worked in Towson, and I prayed that God would not let her transition while I was on the Beltway, at work, or away from her. My specific prayer was, please let me be by her side when she takes her last breath!!! MY GOD...YES, MY GOD HONORED AND ANSWERED THAT PRAYER, and I was right there at her bedside at 8:26 a.m. on April 14, 2010, when she took her last breath!!! I was on my way to work, and God stopped me from leaving the house!!! Yes, I DO BELIEVE and KNOW that GOD HEARS AND ANSWERS OUR PRAYERS when we pray with the right motives and believe in our prayers!!!
- ❖ Most of NABC KNOWS about Sister Barney’s aneurysm and HEALING from God. Well, the Sunday she publicly requested the church to pray for her healing, I began praying specifically for her healing and for the Lord to **REMOVE the aneurysm from her**!!! I spoke to Sister Barney during that next week, and I told her I have been praying and I BELIEVED and KNEW she would be healed....there was no other option.....**HEALING and REMOVAL** was my prayer!!! **HALLELUJAH!!!!** And WE ALL KNOW that **GOD HEALED SIS. BARNEY**, because we see her every Sunday in church!!! Now, would you ALL be a witness to **THE AMAZING POWER OF PRAYER**???

The **AMAZING POWER** OF PRAYER (cont.)

As I said in the beginning, my prayer is that whoever reads this article will BELIEVE MORE in The **AMAZING POWER OF PRAYER!!!** I am **STILL AMAZED** at **HOW** God answers my prayers, but I have learned to BELIEVE MORE AND MORE IN MY PRAYERS, SO I AM CAREFUL HOW I PRAY AND WHAT I PRAY FOR!!! **NOW, WHAT ABOUT YOU???????** After all, Jeremiah 32:27 (NIV) states, "I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?" and Matthew 19:26 (NIV) states, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." And Luke 1:37 (NIV) states, "For nothing is impossible with God." **HALLELUJAH!!!**

JESUS IS PATIENTLY WAITING TO BE ASKED

By Sis. Sabrina Jones

In life, I have been like a mouse following Satan's deceitful breadcrumbs, but when ensnared in his trap of sin and feeling the pressure and the weight of my sin around my neck for a time that lasted too long, I felt strangled and hopeless. The sweet taste of the buttery breadcrumbs had long passed. And now I was left with the aftertaste of rotten and fermented crust! How could I have been so foolish, so blind? How could I ever have believed that something worthy was to be gained from my rebellion to God? I was ignorant and foolish - I knew God's Word - and I knew the possible outcomes of my rebellion...but...I willfully ate the next breadcrumb and then the next.

I became bloated with guilt and sick to my stomach when I was fully aware of my sin. In and of myself, I could not vomit out or cast off my sin or stop myself from sinning. I was trapped, powerless, and held captive, fading into a mindset of hopelessness...an internal isolation that the world could not see. But, praise God, I had a "small Word" hidden in my heart..."God would never leave me or forsake me." And, I believed in my current state of sin and duplicity - God would never leave me. For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him.



Alone I could not break the yoke of disobedience on my own, even though I had tried and failed many times. So, I did what I could do in small steps. I started to feed on the Word of God. I started reading the Scriptures...while still sinning. Then I started praying and confessing my sins...while still sinning. Also, I started praising God for His faithful love towards me...while I was still sinning. Subsequently, I started sinning less!! The taste for the breadcrumbs was now fading, and my consciousness and my strength in the Lord were growing. My deliverance from this situation didn't come overnight or in a few months, but my self-discipline grew in Christ. In time, Christ broke the yoke of my disobedience and my greed and restored my mind to its rightful place - stayed on Jesus - who helped me take every thought captive and helped me to focus on the things that are true, noble, just, pure, lovely, of good report, if there is any moral

praise, then think on these things. And, I did this with fervor! While my desire for breadcrumbs became grotesque and repelled me, my hunger for the living water saved me.

JESUS IS PATIENTLY WAITING TO BE ASKED (cont.)

When I **purposefully** began to make room for Jesus in my life and **purposefully** began to spend time in the presence of the Father confessing my sins, praising Him for His faithful love and forgiveness, then my Father in Heaven acknowledged my obedience and longing. He honored me for my small sacrifices for Him. He strengthened me against Satan's increased attacks, because the enemy knew he was losing control of my thoughts and also control of my actions. Satan's arsenal of attacks could not withstand the armor of God that I put on willingly. In this battle that was no longer mine but the Lord's, I endured some hurts and pains to break the yoke.

But...oh!! How happy is my soul to now walk freely with Jesus - to have victory over those painful situations!! To be uplifted in spirit, knowing that I passed through a storm, and that Jesus was there patiently waiting for me to call on Him. God is **my rock** in a hard place! He is **the light** unto my pathway! He is **forgiving and faithful!** I am weak in and of myself, but when I recognize to whom I belong and the **DUNAMIS POWER** that dwells within me, **I know**, I can do all things through Christ Jesus who strengthens me! I claim and call on the **POWER** of the **HOLY SPIRIT** in which God has sealed me. You, too, have **DUMANIS POWER!** If you need a new way or a yoke broken, fall on your knees and call for that **POWER!** Christ Jesus is patiently waiting for you to simply ask for His help.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY IN ALL THINGS!!!

Scripture references: *Deuteronomy 31:6; 2 Chronicles 16:9; 2 Corinthians 10:5; Philippians 4:8; 2 Chronicles 20:15; Philippians 4:13.*

INSIGHT INTO TALKING AND LISTENING TO GOD

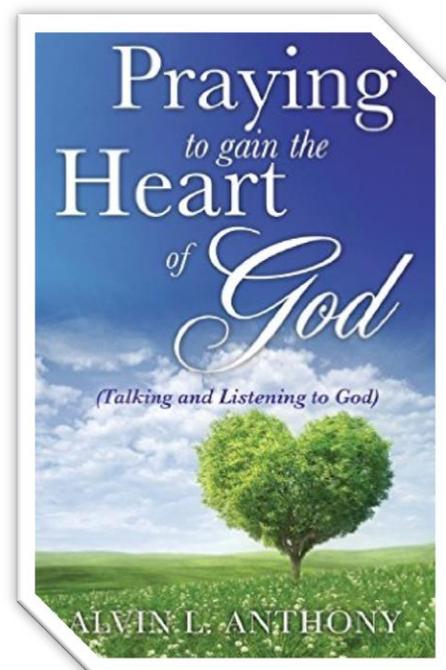
A BOOK REVIEW

By Sis. Chanel Trussell

Minister Alvin Anthony was led by the Holy Spirit to provide a compilation of prayers - one for every day of the year - in his first book entitled ***Praying to Gain the Heart of God (Talking and Listening to God)***. Each prayer is a love letter to God that ends with "To God be the GLORY!" After all, we are to give God the glory in **everything** we do. There are examples in his book of how to pray when we:

- are tempted to gossip (Day 25)
- need encouragement (Day 124)
- need a reminder to pray for others (Day 298)
- just want to give God the praise He is due (Day 79)

Prayer is vital to our walk with Christ, and you will find that we can bring anything to the Lord. He already knows our heart, so what could we possibly say that He doesn't already know? When we read the prayers contained in ***Praying to Gain the Heart of God***, we will be encouraged and edified.



INSIGHT INTO TALKING AND LISTENING TO GOD

(cont.)

Prayer does not have to be rocket science. It is simply a conversation with God. We are the ones who make it difficult when we think prayer has to be formal and follow some sort of template or format. We can start by asking God to help us to further develop our relationship and conversation with Him. Also, we can simply say, Lord, teach us how to pray. ***Praying to Gain the Heart of God*** can be found in NABCOR's Rhema Bookstore as well as on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Xulon Press, and where other books are sold. Please take the time to support Minister Anthony as he seeks to encourage and edify others with his ministry of prayers. **To God be the Glory!!**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Harvest - May 22 @ 9:15 a.m.

Pastor's and Church's Anniversary Service - August 21 @ 9:15 a.m.

Usher's Anniversary - September 25 @ 4 p.m.

NABCOR SUMMER CAMP

June 20 through August 5



Theme: "Camp Courageous: Joy in Jesus" - Nehemiah 8:10

NABCOR SUMMER CAMP

Looking for something fun, safe, and Spirit-filled for your child this summer? Bring them to NABCOR's Summer Enrichment Camp! What started off as a week-long program in the summer has blossomed into a seven-week experience in the Lord! Costs are comparable to other summer programs in the area. So sign up by visiting the table in the church lobby area or contact the church office for more information. We are looking forward to seeing your child this summer! Praise the Lord!

Ages 5—12 (9 a.m. — 4 p.m.) Before care 7 a.m. — 9 a.m. and After care 4 p.m. — 6 p.m.

All children are welcome; not just members of NABCOR.

Camp includes field trips, transportation, breakfast, snack, crafts, and daily activity supplies.

Daily activities

- Indoor Swimming
- Field Trips
- Arts & Crafts
- Outside Games
- Mathematics Enrichment
- Science Enrichment
- Reading Enrichment
- Praise & Worship
- Fun Fridays and much, much more

Field Trip locations

Camp games * Northwest Regional Park * DC Zoo * Amped Up * Skating * Players Sports Arena * Cascade Lakes

For more information, please contact the church office, 410-521-7866. Hope to see your children this summer!

New Antioch Baptist Church of Randallstown

A Church Anchored in Christ

Pastor Kenneth L. Barney, Sr., D.D.

Contact Info:

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Windsor Mill, MD 21244
(410) 521-7866

Intercessory Prayer Line:

Mon., Tues., & Thurs. 6 p.m.-8 p.m.
(410) 521-6125
(410) 521-6126

Website: www.newantiochbc.org



Director of Women's Ministry:

First Lady Ellen P. Barney

Leader/Editor/Layout:

Sister Chanel Trussell

New Antioch Baptist Church of Randallstown's Women's Ministry is designed to boost the spiritual, emotional, and physical awakening of women of all ages and life stages. We are especially committed to the salvation and progress of our youth, relationship seekers, and women who have lost their way.

To contribute articles, email:

becomingwholewomeninchrist@yahoo.com

Women's Ministries

Intercessory Prayer
Ministers' Wives' Fellowship
Women Connected in Christ Ministry
Diamonds in the Rough Ministry
D.R.I.V.E.N Ministry

S.W.E.E.T Ministry
Titus II Ministry
Walk/Run Gospel
Aerobics' Ministry
Bodies of Clay Dance Ministry
Newsletter Ministry

Card Ministry
Women's Fellowship
Comfort Ministry
Grief Support Ministry
Women's Prison Ministry

