

Shadrach Youth Ministry

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A Word from Pastor Schultze...

Putting God to Work

“For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.” – Isaiah 64:4

The assertion voiced in the title give in this chapter is but another way of declaring that God has of His own motion placed Himself under the law of prayer, and has obligated Himself to answer the prayers of men. He has ordained prayer as a means whereby He will do things through men as they pray, which He would not otherwise do. Prayer is a specific divine appointment, an ordinance of heaven, whereby God purposes to carry out His gracious designs on earth and to execute and make efficient the plan of salvation.

When we say that prayer puts God to work, it is simply to say that man has it in his power by prayer to move God to work in His own way among men, in which way He would not work if prayer was not made. Thus while prayer moves God to work, at the same time God puts prayer to work. As God has ordained prayer, and as prayer has no existence separate from men, but involves men, then logically prayer is the one force, which puts God to work in earth’s affairs through men and their prayers.

Let these fundamental truths concerning God and prayer be kept in mind in all allusions to prayer, and in all our reading of the incidents of prayer in the Scriptures.

If prayer puts God to work on earth, then, by the same token, prayerlessness rules God out of this world’s affairs, and prevents or discourages Him from working. And since prayer moves God to work in this world’s affairs, then prayerlessness excludes God from many things concerning men, and leaves man on earth a mere creature of circumstance. Hence for all practical circumstances the denial of prayer is a denial of God Himself, for God and prayer are so inseparably linked together that one can never be thought of without the other in the economy of the Kingdom of God.

‘Spirituality’ is a hot topic in our culture today, even amongst the unsaved. To open a door to witness to someone, how about asking, “Where are you in your spiritual journey?”

Retreat Activities Highlights:

Well, it would be a lie to say I didn't thoroughly enjoy the filmmaking. Nathaniel, Charles and I had way too much fun inventing our parts and how to film them, I think.

Well, as for meetings, I found Charles' sermon/exhortation the most valuable personally, and Don’s sermon on Self the most enlightening generally. 'Nuff said.

As for the personal testimony, it is almost impossible to put into words how much I value what God did through Shadrach to teach me about Christ in us, the hope of glory; the concept that it is in fact possible, if you're close enough to God, to share your mind, soul, body and even your heart with Christ. While communing with Christ, I found His profound *goodness*; after all, He is the only one who is Good.

Something that struck me was the fact that the smallest sin, the smallest incident in which a person allows himself to follow the call of Self, the crafts of the devil, he becomes a traitor against God; he commits high treason. But what really struck me was this: I was sitting in a sermon one night, and the thought flitted across my mind how much having Christ in us changed everything. In that instant, I remembered my previous searchings for Jesus and a way to follow Him adequately. I remembered referring to the Holy Spirit once as, quote, "That little spark in your heart." I thought how glad I should be that now I don't have to settle for a little Spark; I have something so much different. But then I felt Jesus speak to my heart bright and clear, "That spark was Me. I've always been there. I've always been with you." I remembered in that instant my many rebellions and spiritual treasons against God. And it hit me like a nine-pound sledgehammer: that there is not a heart so wicked, there is not a soul so vile, that Jesus will not claim it as His own, and dwell there, as it were, in the house of Judas, always whispering, always reassuring in that still, small voice, "I was there even when you were a traitor. I am here even when you stumble. And I will never, ever, leave you or forsake you. No matter how dark your hours, no matter how black your heart, I will still be there, for you are Mine."

And there was the greatest impossibility. That God in His goodness could even look upon man, much less share his mind, body, soul and heart! –Adam

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**“God is in search of a people who will trust Him with all their heart; a people who will obey Him in every minute detail; a people He can trust to come into their lives with the Kingdom of God.”**

**- Loran Helm**

((Helm, Loran W. *A Voice in the Wilderness*. Parker: Evangel, 2008)



There are so many opportunities to love and witness....One young man the other day was in a car wreck and fractured his spine, his hip and his arm. Then he got MRSA (an extensive infection that's hard to treat) and was in the hospital for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time. He mentioned how he was first mad and now just wonders why this all happened to him and why he's "being forced" to lie on his back for days and weeks. God helped me to casually ask if he went to church anywhere and he hadn't since he was very young. When I came in later he sat up and asked if he could ask me a serious personal question. "Sure, and we'll see how I can answer."

"How do you believe or have faith in something that hasn't been proved and some people say has most proof against it?"

"Do you mean how can I believe in God?"

"Well, yeah, that's what I mean."

Then followed an extensive conversation: going through the Bible and discussing things even to not dating, etc. Those are always thrilling but tremulous times for me because I just want it to be God."

### More updates on some of the older Shadrach Youth...

**Jacob Litchfield** attends Kentucky Mountain Bible College and is a missions major there. It has been wonderful for him to see the Holy Spirit move on campus this past year. This next year, he will be president of the student body. Jake sings with the choir and also with a male quartet which is traveling this summer. Jake feels a call to Asian missions, and took a mission trip to Thailand with his family in May. Last semester, he called his parents and asked them to pray about a young lady named Naomi Tessier. Now, the Lord has led for Jake to begin courting Naomi, also a missions major from the college.

**Charles Morey** is attending Cleveland Institute of Music, studying the violin. He is attending a church connected with Witness Lee's ministry (Witness Lee worked with Watchman Nee in China) where the Lord is using him to help in whatever way he can. During this time, Jesus is teaching him about experiencing Christ as life, waiting upon God, trusting and loving people. The Lord led him to a Christian house called "The Brothers' House" just in time for him to move out of the dorm, which he had to leave because of some intolerable immorality going on around him. God has helped him to find some dedicated Christians on the campus and from some churches. There are numerous regular prayer and fellowship meetings throughout the week in which the Lord is really working. He is enjoying Christ and his body in a richer way than ever. So far he is planning on pursuing violin performance as a career.

**Nichole Smith** is studying missions at Union Bible College in Westfield, Indiana. She is active on a team that has a ministry in the inner-city of Indianapolis. She helps with classes, sometimes teaches lessons, leads songs or does a craft or game. She usually rides on the bus before church to pick up some of the people that don't have a way to get to church or who otherwise wouldn't come. It has been a very good experience for her to get to know people of all backgrounds. Since she has been going there during the entire school year, she has been able to get to know some of the people more, especially some of the children. Nichole is excited what all God is doing for Victory Chapel (the church where she's attending). She also goes to God's Holiness Church, which is a newer church in that it is a home missions project to some degree. It is a work in progress. Right now, she is still praying about what she is going to do next year. Nichole doesn't really have many other activities, as school work takes up most of her time during the week.

- ◆ REPORTS DUE OCTOBER 6: Book, servanthood, witnessing. Memorized: hymn and Ps. 103:1-7.
- ◆ NEW – There will be quizzing at the summer retreat on Ps. 103! We'll have team competition.
- ◆ FALL WEEKEND – October 10-12; Creation Museum; Cincinnati, Ohio. Camp-out!! Call or email for more details.

A Serious Message from Lela McConnell, founder of Kentucky Mountain Bible College...

"I meet sad-hearted people all up and down the land who at some time in their lives have despised God's call and God's leadings...there are many I meet that have deliberately **chosen their own way** when they knew better. God had spoken definitely but they willfully refused. These are people to whom Isaiah refers in Chapter 29:13, 'Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honor me, but have removed their heart far from me.' Ezek. 33:31, 'For with their mouth they show much love, but their heart goeth after covetousness.'

"Young man, young woman, take this warning from God's Word. Keep in God's will. Don't take your own way about anything. It is the way of disappointment and of sorrow and heartache. Keep your will fully and completely on God's side. The Lord knows what is best for each one. Life is so short at the longest. There is a mighty contrast between rich, unctuous, powerful preachers, missionaries and Christian workers, and those who have compromised and stepped aside for some worldly fame or gain or social pleasure. God knows your every motive.

"Those who have fixed themselves forever out of God's will by deliberately taking their own way – how sad their lives – how dreadful their influence here – and what will the end be? Have these crossed the deadline? It may be that they are married out of God's will to someone who has not the call of God to the same field. One or the other must deny God's call in order to patch it up in the eyes of the people, but what about the Lord? How are you going to reconcile His call? Be warned by His precious Word. Are you so fixed that you can't undo the deliberate sidestep out of His divine will?

"Young people who are equally called and equally trained, when married in God's will, make happy homes and wonderfully fine and powerful Christian workers wherever their God-given calls take them. These have a rich and vital experience that makes them exceedingly useful in the service of the Lord. Their labors are fruitful. They have power with God and man. They live in harmony with themselves and with their fellow workers because they are Scripturally married and thus can keep the glory of God and the salvation of souls uppermost. I know many such young people...whose life and ministry is telling mightily for God and holiness. What happy homes! Love abounds and their children are brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. O, the physical and mental and spiritual torments of homes where the parents are out of God's will. Be warned, precious young people. Young women, it would be ten thousand times better to go alone and answer the call of God than to be unequally yoked together and fail to fulfill God's plan for your life. We have **everything to gain** and **nothing to lose** by keeping in God's will."