

PRAYER BULLETIN #203, 09APR2022

WITH THE “RIGHT” COMES “POWER TO DO HIS WILL”

*“Yet to all who did receive him,
to those who believed in his name,
he gave the right to become children of God.”*

John 1:12

REFLECTION

In original Greek, the word that has been translated as “right” is “exosia”. We correctly understand it as an entitlement – “something to which one has a just claim, or one may properly claim” – as there are “spiritual honours” that arise simply because we are part of a family with God as our Heavenly Father. But many of us tend to emphasise the ENTITLEMENT to enjoy those honours and overlook its flip-side: the “power to do something”. Becoming a child of God also leads to spiritual power.

What is this power for? Mark 3:31-34 tells us when Jesus was told that His mother and brothers were outside the house calling for Him, He looked at those seated around Him and declared: “Whoever does God’s will is my brother and sister and mother.” This declaration highlights an often-disregarded spiritual truth – the right to be children of God is also the empowerment to do the will of their Heavenly Father! The critical question for us as part of family with God then is: what is His will for us to do?

God is the One who has a plan designed for each of us to work through. Hence, there is no “one size fits all” response. Each of us will need to ascertain it directly with our Heavenly Father on our own and/or with the support of others. With relationships on earth breaking down in the absence of communication, we do need to maintain communications with our Heavenly Father. Hence, let’s be available to pray and speak openly with Him and to listen/read His Word to understand it. It is through this cycle of communication that we learn to not just know what God’s will is, but with our “right” as His children, to harness the power to do it.

PRAYER

Almighty God, I thank You for providing the right for me to be Your child. Please help me understand what this relationship means. Instill in my heart and spirit the urge and thirst to speak with You and hear You speak. Clear my mind of distractions and implant the focus to discern what Your plans are for my days ahead. And empower me to work through those plans. May Your will be fulfilled in all that I do. In Jesus’ Name, I pray, AMEN.

SUPPLICATION

- Review your communication patterns with Your Heavenly Father. How often have been you been

available to speak with Him? Have you taken time to read His Word and to listen out for His voice in your heart? Do you recognize His voice? Have you experienced His prompting and leading to do something for Him? As we consider Jesus’ work on the cross that gave us the right to be “children of God”, may this help us take decisive steps to build that rhythm of communication with Your Heavenly Father.

- As you strive to ascertain what is God’s will for your days, do you know of anyone who is trying to do the same? Would you link up with this person and offer to pray alongside? Start with your spouse or with one whom you can share openly. Your own sons and daughters may be asking similar questions. Pray as a friend. Pray as a family. May this season of LENT be a milestone in your journey, building a gathering that communicates with God as your Heavenly Father.
- When you pray for God’s will to be done in your life, you are also on the look-out for opportunities to do His will beyond yourself, your loved ones and your community of Christian brothers and sisters. Pray for fresh eyes to recognize avenues and opportunities to serve others. BRMC has a number of ministries and initiatives such as **OUTREACH & SOCIAL CONCERNS** and **PRISONS** for the low-income households, those with special needs, the elderly who are vulnerable, the homeless and the migrant workers. Consider then your involvement in these ministries.
- Finally, as we enter into the final week of LENT and EASTER, let’s pray for others in God’s family who are also seeking God’s will for themselves in spite of their anxieties and difficult living conditions. Think of our brothers and sisters in Mainland China and in Hong Kong caught in changing restricted movements and lock-downs. Think of our brothers and sisters in Ukraine as they find shelter and safety from the ravages of war. Think of our brothers and sisters in Russia as they navigate through the fall-out on their lives and livelihood from what their leaders have done. Let us pray that they will find answers from our Heavenly Father and the power to do His will.

*“Becoming part of the spirit family of God...starts with
doing the will of God now, in this physical life.”*

Larry Salyer,

retired pastor of the Church of God

**If you need any prayer or pastoral care support, kindly
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