

THE MISSION TRAIL
Guthrie, Oklahoma

Number 5265

. . . A very hearty welcome to all who are in tune with The Mission Trail of Guthrie, Oklahoma. We are indeed happy to be back with you again by way of radio over this great station XEG from Monterrey, Mexico. I hope that each of you are well and happy, and I know that you can only experience this only as you put your faith and trust in God. I would like to add that we have been praying for those who have written to us. God understands your problems and not only does he understand, but he also knows the answer, so you just keep trusting and believing his word.

Since this quarter hour is so short and from time to time there are so many things I would like to add to the message, let us go back to the one we had not long ago concerning prayer. In this connection with this I would like to speak briefly at this time on

"UNANSWERED PRAYER"

I remember a dear brother in the Lord once who was very sick. Many prayers had been offered for his recovery, yet seemingly to no avail. Indeed it looked rather discouraging to continue praying, but one day I asked him, "Would you like for us to have prayer for you?" He made a reply which I have never forgotten. It has lingered in my memory down through the years. Here it is: "What we need is not prayer but the answer!" How true this is today. If we can only find the secret to unanswered prayers, we will be in a better position to receive the answer.

So first let us take a look at this scripture in James, chapter 4 and verse 3. "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." Many prayers go unanswered and unheeded because they are asked only for selfish interests.

Do you remember the little prayer that is sometimes told about how the old gentleman prayed? "Lord bless me and my wife, my son John and his wife; us four and no more. Amen."

In this we might say he asked amiss, for he desired to restrict the blessings of God to himself only, or one might ask for something which is wholly out of the will of God. For this there is no answer.

When Christ was in great agony in the garden of Gethsemane, he prayed three times and asked the father to remove the cup of suffering and death from him, but he concluded with this final phrase: "Nevertheless not my will but thine be done." So if we exclude from our prayers all that is not the will of God, we place ourselves in a position to receive an answer!

Then suppose we eliminate this obstacle and confine our asking only to things within his will. Are we then likely to encounter difficulty in receiving the answer? Well, sometimes!

Now there is no question but what it is the will of God to heal people of bodily afflictions as well as spiritual diseases of the soul. This he can and does do without the use of modern drugs, but wait, look at this 16th verse of the 5th chapter of James. "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Evidently then, from this verse, we are made to know that many times people have concealed within their hearts hidden secrets and sins unconfessed over which God will not answer even though the request might be within His will. The proper thing to do here then is to confess and forsake such faults. Leave them far behind and lay hold upon the promises of God for your healing.

I am thinking now that someone may come up with this thought in mind even as the rich young ruler who came to Jesus for instruction: "All these things have I observed from my youth up; what lack I yet?" he said. So one may say; "I am only asking within the will of God, and I do confess my faults and continue in prayer."

Then let me add that you are not far from receiving an answer. Upon this basis of faith God can and does often deliver; however, there is one other thing I would like to mention. The apostle Paul had a particular request for which he sought the Lord three times, and so far as we know it was not granted, but he did receive the assurance that: "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness."

Now, friends, we just simply cannot put God in a corner and demand of him an answer tailored to our own satisfaction, for sometimes the answer is "yes" and, of course, we are glad when we get an answer like this, and sometimes it is "no", at other times it may be "wait".

Now, are you willing to still have faith and trust God? I hope so, for surely he does have the power to help in every time of need.

Listen to the words of this song by Lynn Carver, Arnett Carver, Manuel Mitchell, and Troy Gentry.

The song:

Here now is Frances with the Letter Exchange.

From New Mexico: Dear ones of the Mission Trail Broadcast: How are you dear ones? We thought we ought to write you a few lines this morning. The Lord has been very good to us since we last saw you. We have had some very hard battles, but the scripture tells us that we shouldn't think it strange concerning the fiery trails which are to try us. . . Your broadcast sure gives

each one an uplift. . . We have heard every broadcast and have each one down on tape which we replay frequently.

From Missouri: It was so good to hear voices again this past Friday night, and thank you so much for sending copies of the messages.

From Mississippi: Dear Brother and Sister Murphey: I have been listening to and enjoying your broadcast very much. I don't get to go to meeting very much so it's a real encouragement to me.

Thank you for the interesting letters which we have gotten from those who listen to the messages from week to week. We also do appreciate those who have helped to share the cost of this work of faith. May God's richest blessings be yours.

Now let us pray:

Our Father,

Take the message from thy word and make it effective to all of those who are in tune with the broadcast. May they find peace and comfort in thee, for we ask it in the name of Christ our Savior.

Amen

Now, for our next broadcast we plan to have a very special guest with us. This will be Brother Ostis Wilson. Many of you will remember that he spent some time in Nigeria, West Africa last year with his good wife which the Lord called home to Himself while they were there. So whatever happens, don't fail to hear the broadcast next Friday night at 11:00.

Listen now to the words of this song by Margaretta Kennedy and Dixie Hand.

The song. . .

This message is brought to you each week over XEG by The Mission Trail of Guthrie, Oklahoma. If you would like a copy of today's broadcast in type-written form, you may have one free of charge upon your written request. Ask for message number 5265. That address again is The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Until next Friday night this is your speaker, Willie Murphey, saying may God bless you and a very pleasant "Goodnight".