III. PRAYER AND DECLARATIONS

A. Pray for the missionaries.

Your prayers matter and are effective.

"And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed." Exodus 17:11

B. Prayer is to be continuous (without ceasing) and with all perseverance and supplication.

"But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun."

Exodus 17:12

C. It produces boldness.

God uses missionaries as His mouthpiece.

"Therefore thus says the LORD: "If you return, Then I will bring you back; You shall stand before Me; If you take out the precious from the vile, You shall be as My mouth. Let them return to you, But you must not return to them."

Jeremiah 15:19

WE MUST UNITE TOGETHER AND DECLARE THE GOSPEL!

DECLARE THE GOSPEL Declare The Gospel By Praying Dr. Berty Abdelmasih

INTRODUCTION

A. What is our Global Missions Focus?

Mission: Making sure that everyone in the world hears the Gospel of Jesus Christ correctly and planting New Testament churches among those who believe.

"23 So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

24 And after they had passed through Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia.

25 Now when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia.

26 From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work which they had completed.

27 Now when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles."

Acts 14:23-27

B. The theme of our 2021 Global Missions Focus is "DECLARE THE GOSPEL".

"Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand,"

I Corinthians 15:1

C. In DECLARE THE GOSPEL, we will be challenged to go declare the gospel to everyone. This seven part series features the following messages:

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July 11	Focusing On Missions
July 18	Declare The Gospel!
July 25	Declare The Gospel By Going
Aug 1	Declare The Gospel By Supporting
TODAY	Declare The Gospel By Praying
Aug 15	Declare The Gospel By Evangelizing
Aug 22	Declare The Gospel By Loving

D. TEXT: Ephesians 6:18-20

DECLARE THE GOSPEL BY PRAYING

I. WHAT IS PRAYER?

Christianity is all about relationship and not just about information.

Our God is relational God from Genesis to Revelation.

A. God created you in His own image.

"Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

Genesis 1:26

B. God's intention was to speak with the people of Israel in a personal and relational manner.

"19 Then they said to Moses, "You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die."

20 And Moses said to the people, "Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin."

Exodus 20:19-20

C. God chose to teach this experience to the elders of Israel. Relationship was God's intention and not the law.

"9 Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, 10 and they saw the God of Israel. And there was under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity." Exodus 24:9-10

In conclusion to this point: Prayer, personal or communal, is to be done in relationship with God.

II. PRAYERS IN THE EPHESIANS 6:18-20 CONTEXT

A. Prayer is a spiritual battle:

The relationship between the metaphor of the armor of God and prayer.

Literal Bible: "17 the sword of the Spirit, which is the saying of God, 18 through all prayer and supplication.

Notice the continuity of the discourse as it flows from the metaphor to practice. All the armor must be used in prayer i.e. direct relation with God.

B. Prayer must be in the Spirit. What does the word "Spirit" means in this context?

It simply means the new inner being is guided by the Spirit of God.

C. Pray as a watchman.

"6 I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; They shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the LORD, do not keep silent,

7 And give Him no rest till He establishes And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth." Isaiah 62:6-7

D. The source of God's Proclamation.

"18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—

19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." Ephesians 3:18-19