

*October 2014 Devotional* By Bob Cooper

Read: James 5:13-20

Also: Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. - Hebrews 4:16.

Almost a month ago, at the doctor's office, the doc shared a troubling circumstance he was having with his own family. He and his wife are young and have three young children. Surprisingly, it was a serious medical problem with his youngest daughter. His entire family, including the grandparents were devastated and at a point of being entirely overwhelmed. My wife and I prayed with him before we left the office that day. Just recently, at another monthly visit, the doc gave an update with more multiple problems. The problem was much bigger and way beyond the doc and his family. He admitted, his Christian faith was truly being tested and lately he was so overwhelmed that he was unable to pray. In fact, he asked me if I had ever been unable to pray when things were really tough?

My witness to him was when our personal storms come in life, we must rely on our faith deep within as we persevere through those times. Christ Jesus is with us no matter what and He understands when we are hurting and cry out in our suffering. Prayer is our urgent need as we cry out "Help me God! Help me!" Some times that is all we are able to pray because our needs are more than we can bear. A prayer of few words, of urgency and compassion straight from the heart, is the way God wants us to pray. As Christians, as my witness continued, we must realize that we are never alone. Brothers and sisters in Christ are praying for you non-stop on a daily basis. Prayer is our direct connection with God.

"Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.

*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee.*

*Isaiah 26:3.*