

## Ladies Prayer International Newsletter



United Pentecostal Church Intl August 2018

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### Deeply Rooted in Prayer

By Debbie Saiz



When our roots go deep in prayer, no matter what the storms of life bring, we can stand strong clinging to God through prayer. The stronger the roots, the stronger our life will be. God is telling us that if we will dig roots deep, He will do great things. "Thou hast planted them, yea, they have taken root: they grow, yea, they bring forth fruit" (Jeremiah 12:2).

I'm thankful for roots that went deep in teaching me the importance of prayer. I learned the importance of being rooted in prayer from the example of parents who believed in prayer. I remember as a child my dad calling for sixty hours of continuous prayer and fasting in the church. Prayer would begin at 7 a.m. Monday and end at 7 p.m.

Wednesday just as church was starting. Dad usually spent this whole time at the church. My mother always chose the hour of 10 p.m. for her hour and would take me with her. I usually spent that hour in the sanctuary or prayer room near her. She was teaching me to pray. I grew up spending many a summer Tuesday through Friday mornings at a 9 a.m. prayer meeting as a younger child and teen. I didn't always pray the whole hour, and I may have slept some, but I was learning the importance of prayer. Deep roots were being sewn deep into my life.

There is an old Malay Proverb that says, "A tree with strong roots laughs at storms. The trees with roots anchored deep in the ground will survive storm after storm and continue to grow. We are

challenged to have this same kind of deep roots in Jeremiah 17:7-8: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit" (NKJV).

David shares so much of the ups and downs in his life in Psalms. We read in Psalm 3 that he is planted by God's streams and his roots are growing deeper no matter what life throws his way. "He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper" (Psalm 1:3 NKJV).

Note: Debbie Saiz is the National Singles Director of the UPCI, Promotions Director for the SoCal UPCI Ladies Ministries, and passionate Pastor's wife at Bayside Apostolic Center in Torrance, California. She holds a B.A. Degree from University of Louisiana at Monroe and a Master Degree from Twin-Cities University.

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## I Believe in Miracles

By Vercinia Reed



"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving." (Colossians 2:6-7)

Gardening readily lends itself to spiritual application, and Jesus used it often. Since children easily absorb information during activities, gardening parables offer an excellent hands-on opportunity to share scriptures and prayers.

I used to live in a small town in a big old house with a very large backyard. Each spring I'd plant a garden. Even though I didn't like the hard, hot work involved, I loved the result of my labor: garden-fresh tomatoes, broccoli, onions, and more. Now I live in a huge city in an average-sized apartment with no yard. Instead of a garden, I have houseplants. They don't offer the same edible rewards, but I find the greenery soothing.

Several months ago, I moved all my plants to one corner. Unfortunately, they don't receive as much sunlight there, and I keep forgetting to water them. From where I sit this morning, I see leaves in varying shades of yellow and brown. Some have already dried and fallen off. It's clear they need attention fast.

A good root system, while rarely seen, spreads out in search of nourishment and to stabilize new growth above. It is also essential to survive temporary droughts, lack of sun, and storms. We seek to be rooted and grounded in Him (Ephesians 3:17) so that we can receive His nourishing "light" (John 8:12) and "living water" (John 7:37-39), experience new growth, and withstand difficult times.

"For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit." (Jeremiah 17:8) However, indoor plants can become root-bound, twining around in a fruitless effort to expand, if not repotted into a larger pot. We, too, can become bound up in our current situation, limiting the scope of our ministry if we avoid opportunities to move into bigger situations.

Rooted properly, we are enabled to grow and bear spiritual fruit, completing our seasons as allotted. "Lord, help us mature into life-encouragers who are ready with a 'word fitly spoken,' yet able to refrain from speaking when it would harm. Help us nurture the young entrusted to us as we live a life reflecting Your skillful hand. You are, indeed, the Master Gardener."

On that note, I think it's time to tend my houseplants.

Note: Vercinia Baily Reed and her husband, Brad, serve as AIMers in the United Arab Emirates where they pastor Abundant Life Church. Formerly employed as a Speech-Language Pathologist in the US, she is currently happy as a stay-at-home mom to, Jaden (aged 14), and Elias (aged 7); music ministry; and trying to submit gracefully to the spiritual pruning so often needed. Good coffee and a sense of humor are helpful, but prayer is essential.

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### From the Mailbox

This was just wonderful. (July, LPI Newsletter) Thank you, my friend. I asked God for a certain word today -- and it came right on time. Love you ever much and appreciate the work you are doing,

Debbie Sanders, Director, Today's Christian Girl, UPCI

Thank you! What a blessing this is to me reading these miracles! (July, LPI Newsletter) What an amazing God we serve! -Sue Dean, Arizona Ladies Ministries Secretary

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### From the Editor



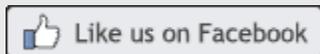
#### God is doing mighty things!

God is opening many doors and this newsletter is now available in English, Spanish, French, German, Dutch, Portuguese, Russian, Greek, Arabic, Farsi, Czech/Slovak, Chinese, Swahili, Hungarian, Tagalog, Indonesian, Romanian, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Hindi, Georgian, Japanese, Swedish, Vietnamese, Bangla, Thai and Korean.

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Who we are . . . Since 1999: Ladies Prayer Intl. is made up of women worldwide, who meet on the first Monday of each month to unite in focused prayer for their children and the children of the local church and community.

Our Mission . . . We are committed to the spiritual preservation of this generation and beyond and the spiritual restoration of previous generations.

Our Need . . . Committed women who will join together on the first Monday of each month and pray focused prayer for their children.

Three Priorities of Prayer...

- The salvation of our children (Isaiah 49:25; Psalm 144:12; Isaiah 43:5-6).
- That they take ownership of the faith at an accountable age (1 John 2:25-28; James 1:25).
- That they enter into the ministry of the Lord's harvest (Matthew 9:38).