**PRAYER M. Berrier**

Prayer has always been a mystery to me. C. S. Lewis says that when we pray, the prayer enters the “fabric of eternity.” He even seems to say that we can pray for those long gone—like Abraham. I’m not sure of that, but I am certainly not sure how prayer works. God seems to respond sometimes, but other times he does not—at least, he doesn’t respond as we want him to.

Jesus made *only* *one “*prayer request” of his disciples when he was on earth—he said, “Ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers into his field.” In other words, Jesus himself asked us to ask his Father God to provide more people willing to spread the gospel—more missionaries.

This is the job of all Christians—to win people to Christ and to nourish those who are already Christians. Lots of people in this country crowd around Jesus’ table, but very few are committed to working in his field.

I wonder what would happen if all Christians in this country would pray this prayer—for more workers in God’s field. I wonder if he would respond with many more. And what if we Christians fasted and prayed for those of other religions during their holy days? What if we would ask God to send dreams and visions to those other people of other faiths—to bring them back to himself?

My wife and I have prayed for 30 years that God would send dreams and visions to the leaders of Islam around the world—dreams and visions that they could not ignore. He can give testimony where we cannot. What if we prayed for the terrorists—Al Qaeda, Boko Haram, Hezbollah, and the others? I recently heard that some of the top members of Boko Haram had converted to Christ. I hope we aren’t the only ones praying for them!

Recently, at the college where I teach, a Muslim man spoke for our chapel services. He had had a continuous dream of falling into a lake of fire—over and over. He finally searched for a Christian minister to explain that dream to him. He was won over to Christ by that Christian. He believed in Jesus, was baptized, and his sins were washed away. (Acts 22:16) Now he speaks to Christian and Muslim audiences, telling them his experience, much like Luke explained the experience of Saul of Tarsus in Acts. Saul’s conversion to Jesus the Messiah is explained three times in the Book of Acts.

I pray that God will bring about many more conversions like this. I pray to the Lord of the harvest to send more workers into his field. Won’t you? According to Revelation, our prayers are like sweet-smelling incense to God.

I’m not sure how prayer works, but I know God does!