

January 28, 2005

Dear Believer

It is time for a new prayer focus for the City of Corpus Christi and the South Texas area. Our focus for February 2005 will be to pray asking the Lord to deal with the work of a Haughty Spirit (Prv. 16:18) in our area and to send forth a Spirit of Humility (Prv 16:19) to be manifested among us.

I want to make sure that it is plainly stated that we are not subject to these negative spiritual influences (strongholds/strongmen) unless we are choosing to believe a lie and walk contrary to the Spirit of God. Yet it is true that the influences are real and they do affect people both inside and outside the church. That is why we ask the Lord to deal with these things in us first and then also in the city and area generally.

I believe that the focus for February is quite important because there is little that puts people off more than an arrogant or haughty spirited person does. By the same token there are few things that will draw people closer than a person who is truly humble at heart.

Ministers can often become haughty and arrogant in their knowledge of the Word of God or pride of their position. This sets up a barrier between them and their flock. It is also very true that there are people that will sit in haughty judgement of the minister. They act as though God has made them the judge of the message that should be preached or the method that should be used and they demean the minister before their family and others. These examples are bad, but there is more.

I heard a friend of mine talk about an incident at a church bazaar where a particular form of haughtiness was exemplified. While looking through things that were offered for sale, my friend heard one believer say to another that they would be glad when the sale was over so that they would not have to be around all these sinners. With an attitude like that in the church is it any wonder that we are not seeing many come into the kingdom? We need to allow God to deal with our pride because it is a barrier to those who need to come to know Christ.

There is an additional problem that will be addressed as we pray concerning this month's focus. In this area uncontrolled anger is a real problem. Child abuse, spousal abuse, parent abuse, road rage, and many other things stem from a Haughty Spirit. The Macho Man attitude prevalent in this area is another expression of the same spirit. Pride and arrogance ultimately tend to be expressed in wrathful actions. This is expressed in Proverbs 21:24 "Proud and haughty scorner is his name, who dealeth in proud wrath." (KJV). I believe that if we allow God to deal with our pride and ask Him to deal with the workings of a Haughty Spirit in this area we will see a drop in violence.

Jesus said, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Matthew 11:29 (KJV) Let us exemplify him by asking God to pour out a Spirit of Humility in South Texas and then submitting ourselves to God and resisting the enemy. Pray for revival. Pray for transformation of our city. Pray for the Kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven.

Thank the Lord with us for His faithfulness to supply our needs. We are grateful to Him and to those who pray and give as He leads. God bless you.

Sincerely,
William W. Lumry, II