

AN ANSWER TO PRAYER

Many years ago at the same time when China was overrun with bandits, a missionary and his associate traveled to the nearest town to get money from their bank desperately needed for carrying on their work. They reached the bank safely, but night fell while on their return home. They were forced to camp on top of a hill. After prayer they lay down to rest with the box of money between them. They were thankful in the morning not to have been attacked.

Some months later a bandit chief was brought to the hospital for treatment. Having frequented that district, he knew the missionary and, as he spoke to him, the following conversation took place.

“A little while ago you went to a certain city and brought back a lot of money.”

“Yes.”

“And you camped at night on a little hill, and you had soldiers with you.”

“Yes, we did camp, but we had no soldiers with us.”

“Oh, but you did. We intended to rob you that night, but when we saw the soldiers we feared they would resist, so we left you alone. I know there were soldiers, for I counted them and there were 27.”

When this story was related in a meeting in England, a man called out from the back of the meeting hall, “Can you tell me the date when this happened?” “Yes,” replied the missionary. “It is very vivid in my memory,” and he gave the date. “I thought so,” said the man. “On that evening a group of us met in our church to pray especially for the missionaries in China.” Then, looking at his diary, he added, “And there were just 27 of us present in prayer.”

GOD'S PRAYER PROMISES

Day

- 1 John 15:7
- 2 I John 5:14, 15
- 3 John 16:24
- 4 Matthew 21:22
- 5 Matthew 6:6
- 6 Philippians 4:6, 7
- 7 Matthew 7:7-11
- 8 Psalms 116:1, 2
- 9 James 5:16-18
- 10 James 4:2,3
- 11 Mark 11:24
- 12 Hebrews 4:15, 16
- 13 Psalms 67:1, 2
- 14 James 1:5-8
- 15 Jeremiah 33:3
- 16 I John 3:22
- 17 I Thessalonians 5:25
- 18 Proverbs 15:8
- 19 Luke 18:1-8
- 20 John 14:13, 14
- 21 Psalms 55:22
- 22 Colossians 4:2
- 23 Romans 10:13-15
- 24 Romans 15:30
- 25 Ephesians 3:20
- 26 Ephesians 6:18
- 27 I Peter 5:7
- 28 Colossians 4:12
- 29 Matthew 9:36-38
- 30 I Thessalonians 5:17

Daily Journaling

Like a **compass out of adjustment**, all too often, our thoughts, deeds and feelings point in the wrong direction. We need to be recalibrated – to be realigned with God’s perspective.

One of the problems is that we are often living under the tyranny of an unexamined life.

In **Job 13:23**, the author states “How many are my iniquities and my sins? Make me know my transgression and my sin.” (Job 13:23 ESV)

Aside from accountability brothers willing to wound us faithfully, daily journaling gives us perhaps one of the best windows into our own iniquities and sins, so that we may turn from our sin and repent.

Think of journaling as “postgame analysis”

But how?

Yesterday, I...

Brief description (consider limiting to one page)

- People you met with
- Decisions you made
- Thoughts or feelings
- High points
- Low points
- Frustrations
- What did you pray about?
- What did you read in the Bible?

THEN ANALYSE IT! Did you make good decisions or bad? Time used wisely or wasted? Should you have done anything differently?

Highly recommended - review days past (ex. read entry from one year ago or one month ago)

- Look for sin patterns
- Look to see if daily scripture reading corresponded to what you were going through
- If so, did you listen?