



Challenging Christians to Pray

PRAYER IS THE MIGHTIEST FORCE — 2 Chronicles 7:14

Prayergram

January-February 2021



Growing 'Old' God's Way

“Old age can be the crown of one's life.”

It's no exaggeration to say that we live in a culture that worships the “energy and enthusiasm” of youth and “denigrates or ignores” the elderly because they may be too slow, too weak physically, and not all well-versed in the latest technology. The LORD never abandons people because of their age. Do not despise old age. *“Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth”* (PSALMS 71:9). There is an unspeakable vivaciousness and vitality when men and women give themselves to God regardless of their age. For example, **EDWIN MARKHAM, the great poet, at eighty wrote a poem entitled, “The Look Ahead.”** **AMELIA BAAR** was working on her 64th book at the age of eighty-two (82). God can stimulate and enhance our brain no matter what our age may be. Unlike the body, the mind does not decay with age. The LORD keeps our mind fertile till the end of the journey.

There are two (2) endangered groups in America today — the elderly and the unborn, — both face “legal death” at the hand of our government that supposed to protect all of its citizens regardless of their age. Euthanasia for the elderly, and abortion for the unborn! America, be careful, God is watching, and His silence is not consent or acquiescence; He will deal with us in his own way and time and don't ever ‘close the book’ on God! All lives are sacred to God, young and old, rich and poor, black and white, and all other shades of colors. **Currently, in America, we have devalued LIFE and no one has the right to do that because LIFE is a sacred gift from God, the Giver of life. My life comes from God; not from the government!**

“. . . I wholly followed the Lord my God,” says **CALEB** (JOSHUA 14:8). **CALEB** was a remarkable man who was faithful to God from the beginning to the end, (one of my favorite characters in the Bible). His strength was in God and He blessed him immensely. At the age of eighty-five (85), he met the greatest challenge of his life! Forty years of wilderness life had not dimmed his vision, weakened his faith, dulled his youthful zeal, nor evaporated his physical strength as he said, *“the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, . . . and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old. As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me . . .”* (JOSHUA 14:10, 11) **“Old age is no bar to the power of God.”**

When most men would look forward to an easy life in retirement to sleep away in idleness, **ABRAHAM** put on his desert sandals and strode away from Ur of the Chaldees to Canaan; at eighty. **MOSES** (with **AARON** at eighty-three) defied Pharaoh and delivered

Israel from the Egyptian bondage. **JOSHUA** at eighty-five concluded his greatest military triumph. **HUDSON TAYLOR**, at the age of seventy vigorously moving forward and starting new mission centers in Inland, China. **GEORGE MULLER** at ninety years of age was expanding the work of the orphanage in Bristol, England. I read about an **“Irish Saint”** who lived in Canada many years ago called, **“HOLY IRISH ANN.”** She lived to be one hundred years of age, full of vigor, hope, faith and with a remarkable **“prayer life.”** **She (IRISH ANN) depended on God for everything.** Who can forget **MADAME GUYON**, the celebrated **French Mystic**, was one of the greatest Christian leaders of all time. She was imprisoned from 1695 to 1703 after publishing the book **‘A Short and Very Easy Method of Prayer’.** While in prison, she lighted the entire place with the light of Jesus with her gregarious and Christ-like personality and her age didn’t stop her from advancing God’s kingdom.

When **VICTOR HUGO** was past eighty years of age, he gave expression to his Christian faith in these sublime words: **“I feel in myself the future of life. I am like a forest which has been more than once cut down. The new shoots are lovelier than ever. I am rising toward the sky. The sunshine is on my head. The earth gives me its generous sap, but Heaven lights me with its unknown worlds.”** As a rule, old men do not become infidels, and of course, there are exceptions in every age! Those who have gone farthest have seen the most, and their strength grows by forging ahead. Beloved, as we grow older, remember, heaven becomes a reality and earth seems a mirage. As **T. S. ELLIOT** wrote, **“The older I get, earth seems strange to me.”** Do you feel that way? I do.

DR. FRANK CRANE was a journalist by training, a student of human nature. Out of his fertile mind came many rules of practical living. Not long before his death **DR. CRANE** wrote precepts of old age, **“When I am old”** says the resolution, **“I will observe the following ideals (perhaps):”** **I will not try to act nor dress nor talk so as to make people think I am younger than I am. I will not pretend to be young, nor be angry when called old, nor ashamed of my age. I will not complain of being old. I will not continually remind people of my old age to secure their sympathy. I will not complain of the present and claim the past was much better. I will not talk of myself, my work, my achievements, even of my mistakes, any more than necessary. I will speak cheerfully or keep still. I will never indulge in cynicism. In a word, I shall try to adjust myself to old age, as well as to all other facts of life.”** **Kudos to DR. CRANE** for his profound and timely insight!

When you are in God’s will and purpose, no matter what age, you live for Him, speak well of His name, declare His faithfulness among this generation and beyond. There is no need for pretense, facade, camouflage, or disguising our age. In a world of fear, doubt, cynicism, doom and gloom, let us cherish every moment and cheerfully accept our age with a sense of profound **appreciation and gratitude** in our hearts for God’s innumerable blessings! **The cynical poet says, “Old age is dark,”** but the Christian begs to differ. **Now back to CALEB**, he was a grand specimen of a man who entered God’s service with all his heart and soul, and stood the test of time. As a token of his long, faithful, and remarkable service, **“JOSHUA blessed him, and gave unto CALEB the son of JEPHUNNEH HEBRON for an inheritance . . . because he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel.”** (**JOSHUA 14:13, 14**) Remember, **“God honors faithfulness and faithfulness honors God.”**

A WORD OF CAUTION:

It is God’s design that we grow old and no one can change that! Scientists and manufacturers of vitamins and cosmetics are simply wasting their time thinking they can

reverse the aging process. It is a fact in mortal life. No matter how hard we try to achieve immortality, it can never happen. GOD ALONE IS IMMORTAL!

LOVING AND MERCIFUL FATHER, I am thankful for the years thou hast given me to live and love. Please help me to grow old joyfully, exuberantly and purposefully. Help me to be firm and steadfast in my love and devotion to your truth. Don't let me go astray from your abiding presence and protection. Be my constant companion and friend as I travel along life's journey with Thee. Amen!

Beloved, regardless of your age, you are not going "downhill," but "uphill" all the way! The words of a friend of mine, CAREL NORMAN, come to mind, 'Age cannot impair or stop your spiritual ministry.'

It is Intercessor Time!

Some of the greatest 'intercessors' the world has ever known never saw a computer, Laptops, Tablets, Smart-phones, and yet they were the most powerful men and women on their knees. For example, **DAVID BRAINERD, GEORGE FOX, HENRY MARTIN, ROBERT MURRAY McCHEYNE, ZINZENDORF, JOHN WELCH, JOHN HYDE, JOHN WESLEY, GEORGE WHITEFIELD, E. M. BOUNDS, GEORGE MULLER, ABEL CLARY, IRISH ANN, MADAME GUYON, and AMY CARMICHEL,** to name just a few. We cherish the memory and prayers of all "past and present" intercessors! I know there are some within the Christian confinement who are trying their best to erase the glorious history of the Christian faith in order to appease a generation of pseudo-Christians. Imagine, speaking of 'cancelled culture!' Beloved history is on our side, and don't let anyone swindle away your heritage! Tell me, if we do not know the past, how can we build a bridge to the future?

When the world is in chaos and burning, intercessors 'step up to the plate' and put the wheels of prayer in motion. Beloved, the enemy is upon us; the storm is gathering and about to erupt. Nothing, but the prayers of God's faithful remnant in the power of the Holy Spirit, can stem the tide. What is wrong in our country, its leaders, its laws and its citizens, can be fixed only by a loving God who eagerly waits to help His children. Our intercession does not land on deaf ears—it moves God's heart.

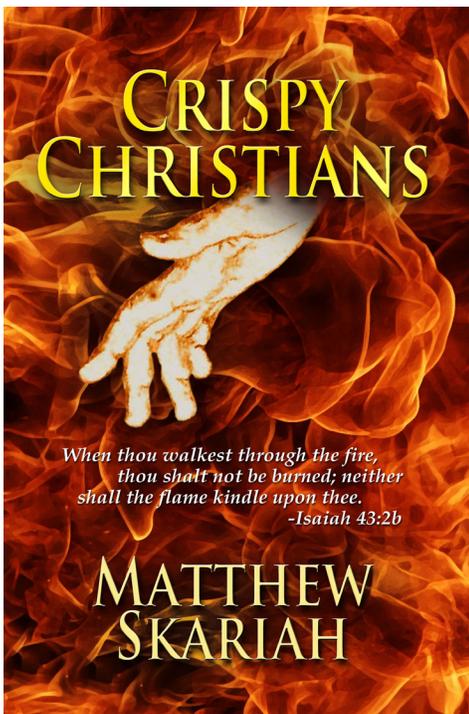
Intercession is not fluff and bluff; it is not spiritual pabulum, or overcooked pre-digested, filtered religious fast food, dished out to provide minimum satisfaction to maximum number of religious customers. Intercession is touching the heart that touches the world in love. What is the secret of intercession? Perseverance and passion of course! One should never approach intercession on the basis of easy emotionalism, fuzzy feelings, or cheap sentimentality. **"The men and women who have done the most for God in this world have been early upon their knees."** So let the 'kneeling' begin, NOW! Intercessors don't grow on trees or church pews; they grow on their knees.

Beloved, searching and perusing through the internet, looking for fancy web sites and little talk on prayer can never top one vital experience in prayer. **Am I old-fashioned, when it comes to intercession? — you better believe it! Let us not talk about "spiritual awakenings" unless we are willing to return to an old-fashioned altar of prayer that's often wet with 'tears of intercession.'** Something is everlastingly lost when 'intercession and intercessors' are pushed aside! Our decaying world needs the unselfish service of God's true intercessors NOW more than ever! Oh, it's a blessed life, the life of one who intercedes!

Today, we are being persuaded by "secular and religious leaders" to follow them on twitter; but Jesus challenges us, "Could you not watch with me one hour"? (MATTHEW 26:40)

Heart-Warming and Thought-Provoking Books

by Matthew Skariah



Who are these 'Crispy' Christians?

Crispy Christians, a special breed of people who are detached from the world and so attached to Christ.

They are in the world but not of the world and are always home-sick for heaven.

They're God-made rather than self-made.

Talk Less Pray More

Foreword by
Rev. Leonard Ravenhill and

Introduction by
Dr. Sanguine You

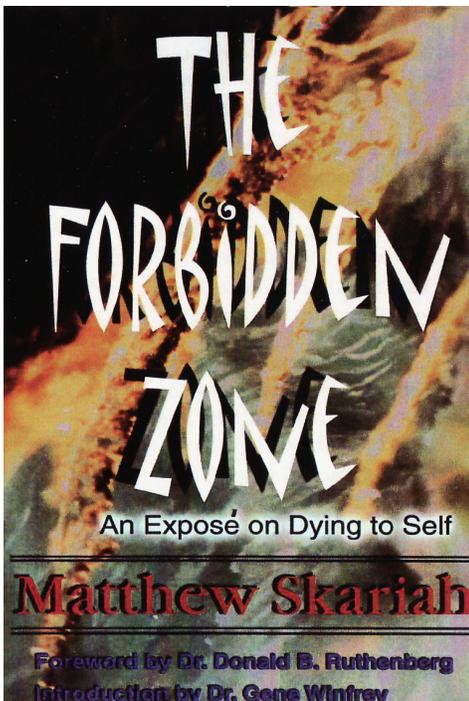
"The Substance of this book should be digested and demonstrated.

Read it and be blessed." "Matthew Skariah explains in this book the meaning and importance of prayer kindly, impressively and systematically. I must say that this book should be read by all Christians."

The Forbidden Zone

There are tons and tons of religious books out there. Why another one? To answer that question we ask, "When was the last time you read a book on dying to self?"

Of course,
you know the answer.

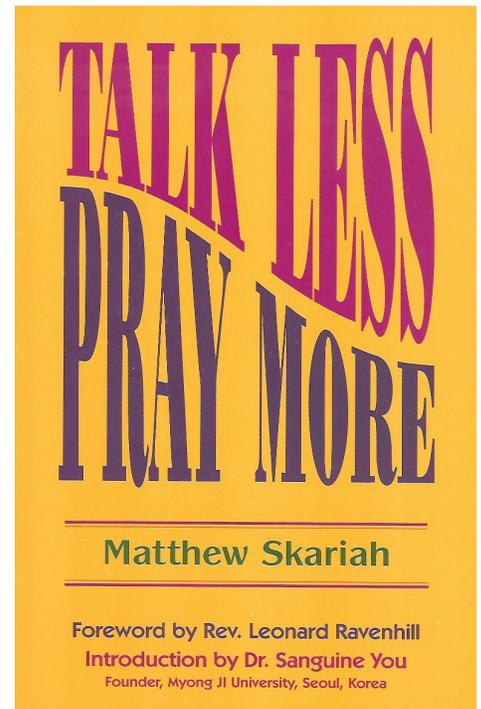


The Way I See It

The content of this book contains pieces of hope, love, and truth that remind me of my childhood. I

believe that there is power in prayer and I know that I am a product of my dad's devoted life of prayer. His prayers and teachings have guided me through the toughest of times. I hope that you will find comfort in his words of inspiration, and as you face life's joys and pains.

With Love —Annie Skariah



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