

Wall of Prayer



April 25, 2014

Dear Faithful Prayer Warrior,

There once was a first grader who could not find his shoes before it was time to leave for school. Knowing all the kids in the carpool needed to get to school on time, the mother announced that the youngster would have to wear his “Sunday” shoes that day. Incensed, the child complained, “I can’t wear those shoes to school! I’ll look like a stupid ‘game show host!’” Tossing the shoes in the car and forcing the buckle on the seat belt, off to school they headed. This was so unlike the child’s usual gentle and kind behavior. Pushing and pulling they went down the hall as the sturdy little guy dug in his heels all the way to the classroom. Exasperated, the mother quickly explained the dilemma to the welcoming teacher who said, “Don’t worry, I’ll take it from here.” As the mother retreated to the car, she stopped to enlist the help of the principal, fearing for the well being of the sweet teacher. The mother prayed all the way home, scurrying to the phone when she got there to call and check on the situation. The blinking light on the answering machine caused her to pause. Pushing the button she heard, “I wanted to let you know that everything is just fine.” The mother wept as she heard the teacher explain that she had impressed on the child that he was vital to the class, especially during Bible time. “Like John the Baptist who wore goofy clothes, you prepare the way for the Lord,” she had explained to the boy. “It’s true,” the voice assured the mother, “Your son ‘gets it.’ He understands the truths of the Bible and helps to settle down the other children. He truly prepares the way for the work of the Lord.” After school, the mother asked how the day went wearing the “Sunday” shoes. “It wasn’t so bad,” the boy replied, “I might even wear them tomorrow.”

Our prayers prepare the way for the Lord. Matthew tells us that Jesus, seeing the crowds, “had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.” This sounds just like students today: harassed (weary, distressed) and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. “Then He said to His disciples, ‘the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.’”¹ Jesus clearly instructs us to “ask” that God will send out workers into His harvest. The enemy would like us to feel ridiculous in the clothing of humility and faith as we bow in prayer before our unseen God, asking Him to prepare the way for His work to be accomplished in the lives of our teens. By His power, the workers are sent.

Believing teachers, coaches, counselors, youth ministers and students are the workers God uses to prepare the way for the Lord in our schools today. While these workers (“toilers” in Greek) may at times feel “goofy” compared to those around them, pray that they will realize how vital they are and that the Holy Spirit will equip them to gather in the Lord’s harvest. What a privilege to be chosen to work in the Lord’s field. Never give up!

In Him,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan".

Susan Admire

¹ Mathew 9:36-38

“Lord, there is no one besides Thee to help in the battle between the powerful and those who have no strength; so help us, O Lord our God, for we trust in Thee, and in Thy name have come against this multitude. O Lord, Thou art our God; let not man prevail against Thee.” 2 Chr. 14:11