

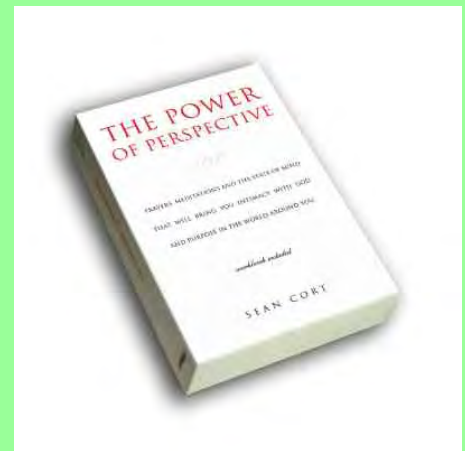
SNACK FOOD FOR THE SOUL

LIFE ENHANCING DEVOTIONALS
INSPIRED BY THE BOOK, *THE
POWER OF PERSPECTIVE*. WRITTEN BY
SEAN CORT
WEEK OF 5/3/2010

Feast on this...

THE ART OF PRAYING

When you think of art what comes to mind? This is a really fun question to answer because we can all take a moment to explore all the imaginative examples that come to mind. Some of us think of an oil painting on a canvas wonderfully framed and hung for all to admire. For others it may be a statue in a park, museum or public square. In fact your estimation of a piece of art could be something that a child created for you that you proudly display in your work area. Some may feel the child who created the art work or a loved one may be that priceless adornment. Let's not forget the joyous sounds of children laughing and playing in a park. Yes, art also has a sound.



The bible says where your heart is also lies your treasure. The fact is, your interpretation of art is where your passion and appreciation for how something is done. In architecture or engineering the "Wow" factor for you may be the fluid lines or the quiet way the mechanics operate. Many art connoisseurs pay close attention to the brush strokes and the unusual ways that brilliant and muted colors mesh together.

At a very young age I asked the Lord to give me what He loves most in people. It took several years for me to fully grasp the answer He gave me. God loves the different ways in which we express our love and appreciation for Him, each other and the gracious and wise way we express these virtues in adversity. As I matured spiritually I received a sincere love and appreciation for how people express themselves, especially in prayer. There is something to be said about what comes out of ones soul when you remove all parameters.

Prayer for most people is as private as their walk with God and their feelings on abortion and religion. With that being said does it also mean that prayer is a forgotten art form that is seldom on display for others to hear and be inspired by?

The art of prayer is starting out by just thanking God for everything He has done for us in recent memory depending on how often you pray. You should thank Him and tell Him how much you think of Him. You should tell Him how you appreciate the fact that He loves you with an unconditional love. You should thank Him for not exposing all your secret thoughts and actions for the entire world to see. You should tell Him how much you admire the example He set forth for us in Jesus and the Holy Spirit. You should thank Him for the use of your health and mental faculties, since these attributes are on a long term loan to us from Him to begin with.

We should beg His forgiveness for all the things we do that were done to Him when He walked the earth as a man such as lying, murmuring and complaining constantly. We should beg His forgiveness for the fact that we don't forgive as often as we should. We should ask Him for the ability to see our enemies as how He sees us; desperately in need of Him.

Then we should ask Him for some things that He actually will get delight from within us such as a loving and forgiving heart. We should ask Him for the ability to see, hear and speak of the good in people before we accentuate the bad. We should ask Him to give us a clean mind that is saturated with clean thoughts that generate clean words, actions, habits and character that please Him. Then we should start telling Him once again how wonderful we truly think He is and how worthless our lives and everything we know would be without Him.

Then we can start praying on the behalf of some of the other people in our life who are also in need of the same things. Now the art form of prayer starts to achieve radiance and symmetry. This is when the angels stop and take note in awe as your praise, worship and prayer pushes past theirs and is immediately ushered into the throne room to the Master's feet. This is when you show the savior of the entire universe in front of company the good manners and upbringing that His child truly has developed. Now you have Daddy's attention!

Now we can start asking Him for some and all of the things we need from Him that can also benefit us; as if He didn't already know this. You see, once we approach a piece of priceless artwork we pause a moment to ensure that we handle it properly, if we are allowed to touch it. Our prayers are such with God. We need to make sure that we frame our lives and our precious gift of prayer to Him in the way we want Him to receive it. God has given you a majestic gift that is inextricably intertwined in Him, His Son and the Holy Spirit. So I ask you; does your treasure in earthen vessels far exceed your treasure in the art form of prayer?

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

We are proud to announce the launch of our Power of Perspective Journey Workshop and Seminar Series. Sean Cort, Author and Perspective Coach has packaged these intimate life enhancement illustrations in two and four-

hour workshops.

Starting in next week's Snack Food you will be able to preview excerpts from these workshops as well as book Sean to speak as a part of your next event.

Have an indescribably blessed week!

Sean