



On Your Mark!

Connecting in prayer at the AVC

"Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (Hebrews 12:1)

Jan-Mar 2007

Prayer groups at the AVC

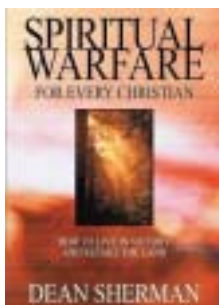
1st & 3rd *Sundays*, 6:00–7:30pm—
Unveiled (Auditorium) 404-388-0518

Every *Sunday*, 10:00–10:20am—
"20:20" (Prayer Room) 404-388-0518

1st *Sundays*, 9:00–10:00am—
Prayer for Lost Family & Friends (Prayer Room) 404-388-0518

2nd *Sundays*, 8:30–10:00am—
Prophetic Roundtable (Youth Room) 404-388-0518

3rd *Sundays*, 9:00–10:00am—
Prayer for Missions (Prayer Room) 404-388-0518



Spiritual Warfare classes are offered every Monday night through Feb 5th, from 7:30–9:00pm

Prayer groups in the community

2nd & 4th *Fridays*, 7:30–9:00pm—
Derderian Prayer Group (Roswell) 404-667-2042

Every *Tuesday*, 7:30–9:00pm—
Men's Dias Prayer Group (Roswell) 404-660-7841

Finding God's Purpose

By Susan Derderian (susander@bellsouth.net)

Today we often hear people speaking of one's purpose. Be it finding one's purpose, fulfilling one's purpose, or financing one's purpose. It is evident everywhere. And yet, have we taken the time to seek God, His purpose, His Word, His truth and not seek what self-help books and TV talk shows believe and teach us??

According to Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary, the word purpose means, "That which a person sets before himself as an object to be reached or accomplished; the end or aim to which the view is directed in any plan, measure or exertion. We believe the Supreme Being created intelligent beings for some benevolent and glorious purpose, and if so, how glorious and benevolent must be his purpose in the plan of redemption." From this definition we understand that purpose is something set before a person that he / she desires to attain and that God has a divine purpose for our individual redemption. Two separate, yet linked definitions.

Scripture clearly tells us in Jeremiah 29:11 that God has plans for each of our lives, plans for a hope and a future and not for calamity. He continues in verses 12 & 13 to encourage us to call upon Him, to pray to Him, to seek Him with all of our heart and then, He will listen to us and we will find Him. If we seek God for direction, He will reveal His purpose for our individual lives. This is confirmed to us through Proverbs 16:9 which tells us that "*The mind of man plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.*"

We can rest in the knowledge that God does indeed have a great plan for each of our lives. He will direct our paths and lead us according to His desire. He simply asks us to seek Him, pray to Him, to desire Him and He will do the rest. He does not desire to see any of His children to stumble, but rather to live in His glorious presence (Jude 24-25).

In order to live in His glorious presence we must come to faith in God's son, Jesus Christ. In 1 Timothy 2:3, Paul teaches that God ". . . desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." By believing in Jesus we will be saved and we will know the truth which will free us to live and to love in God's presence. This does not mean that we will not suffer again or be tempted to sin. It does mean that when we accept Jesus we have access to the Father and are back in relationship with Him, He provides a way out from our temptations, our soul is saved from eternal devastation, and a joy unbeknown to us before will consume our hearts and our lives.

In concluding, I would like to offer the words of Julian of Norwich from *I Promise You a Crown* devotional book. "Then turn from lesser pursuits! Turn from all your small, poisoning darkneses to face the endless Light! . . . And the more we walk in the Light, the more we will hunger for our soul's true and only food - the food that is from heaven. Until we come to ache with a longing, the lover's hunger for the Beloved. We become desperate in our need to love . . . He is in us, here present, embracing us and enclosing us in himself, never to leave us, nearer than we can say in failing human words. Yet our soul will never cease from mourning, from this journey of seeking and longing, until that day when we emerge fully into Light and behold Him fully . . . and feel His embrace, with our face pressed against the face of our Lord." (P 148-9)

Susan Derderian attends the Atlanta Vineyard Church and is active in the counseling and prayer ministries. She is a Christian Counselor by profession, who works specifically with Children & Adolescents.

"Many Ways to Pray"

Monday nights

in March & April

(7:30 - 9:00pm)

Teaching, Discussion,
Prayer

Come grow with others as
together we become a house of
prayer for all nations!

Kingdom Prayer Classes

"Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests" (Ephesians 6:18)

What will your prayer



commitment be in 2007?

Prophetic Roundtable

2nd Sunday of every month, 8:30—10:00am, Youth Room
January 14th, February 11th, March 11th, May 13th, June 10th, July 8th

Join us on each of these dates for "Prophetic Evangelism" – a 6 month DVD course in culturally relevant evangelism focusing on hearing God's heart for others

Teacher: Doug Addison from InLight Connection, author of "Prophecy, Dreams, and Evangelism"
Doug comes highly recommended by Steve Sjogren, John Paul Jackson, and other Vineyard congregations (he formerly served as a Vineyard church planter & pastor)

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams." (Acts 2:17)

A Little Inspiration . . .

"Someone has said that when we work,
we work,
but when we pray,
God works."

Bill Hybels

