Day 3: Moving "mountains" with & for friends abroad.

Scripture Reading: Mark 11:20-24; Luke 18:1-8; John 9:1-3

Ever felt like you were praying for God to move a mountain, but it does not budge? Prayer reaches so much farther and often does so much more than we realize or even give it credit for. Prayer does this because it is two-way communication between humanity and the God who created and rules over everything. Why do we discount it so much? Sometimes we doubt God will do anything because the issue is prolonged (e. g. answers/resolutions do not come quickly). Other times we forget to pray because there are other things demanding our attention and prayers. Consistency in approaching God about a particular need may be necessary if we are to see answered prayers.

Prayer does not move God to do things he has no intention of doing. It does however put us in the correct mindset and posture to receive what we ask in prayer, while activating what God has already decided he would do in each situation or in a particular moment in time.

Often disciples of Jesus do not consistently pray for situations and circumstances that are close to them unless there is a dire need. Consequently, disciples fail to consistently lift other's needs in prayer, especially if they are far from them like those in impoverished groups/countries.

It is easy to feel as though we are powerless to help in a significant way. The needs feel...mountainous. Nevertheless, God can, does, and will move through our (consistent) prayers. Where and when we cannot provide anything else, we can pray. The result will be significant temporally and eternally.

Let's pray for Rev. Jacob Guot (Africa Sunrise Communities/Rising Hope Church, Bor S. Africa), Rev. Peter John (Pakistan Gospel Ministries), Timothy Bontha (evangelist and servant-India), and Pastor Wilfred Kerosi (Kenya S. Africa), along with others you know in similar situations. Let us also find ways to keep remembering to pray for them.

A Prayer Primer You Might Use: Almighty God, you who calls me to prayer and who rewards those who diligently and humbly seek your face. I confess that there are so many things to pray for that it becomes easy to forget those furthest from me, even though their needs and struggles greatly exceed my own...

(Prayer and worship)

After prayer and reflection, sing a song of thanks to God for the privilege of praying for servants abroad and those they serve.

<u>Benediction</u>: Almighty God, cause your good gifts to flow in and through my life and ministry, today and every day, in your name I pray. Amen.