

Finding God's Stride by Ps Larry Elliott

Part 2 – Digging Your Ditches

Psalm 138:1-2 NKJV "I will praise You with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing praises to You. I will **worship** toward Your holy temple, and praise Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth; for You have magnified Your word above all Your name.

Worship: Hebrew (Shachah) - to pay homage, prostrate or reverence

👉 A pit dug into the ground for the purpose of trapping someone or something.

Digging Ditches is being DOERS of the Word, not just hearers.

James 1:22 NKJV "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

Firstly it means RESPOND to what God is revealing to you, that's simple obedience:

- Each day
- In a moment
- For A season
- To do with a circumstance

That "Word" He has given you and confirmed to you.

- ✅ God always moves when we move in response to His Word!
- ✅ Every God intervention has a God side and a man side!

Secondly it's being "Faithful" with what He has already entrusted to you, continuing and "finishing what you started"

No attack or plan of the devil can disrupt the plans of God when we remain FAITHFUL!

Psalm 138:3-4 NKJV In the day when I cried out, You answered me, and made me bold with strength in my soul. All the kings of the earth shall praise You, O LORD, when they hear the words of Your mouth.

- ♥ We start with prayer and then we move from there and SPEAK, tell others what His Word says (that's loving people).

John 14:12-14 NKJV "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it."

Prayer does not equip us for greater works, Prayer is the greater work.

Jesus taught that Prayer:

- Is the work of redemption working in me and through me
- Creates Heaven's Culture on Earth, by releasing the power of God
- Is the way fruit remains firm

- 👊 Prayer is the battle, and it makes no difference who or where you are, when you Pray in Jesus name it's a knockout PUNCH every time!



PRAYER is taking our responsibility and digging ditches.

[Reinhard Bonnke testimony, why is he began in ministry]

Don't allow the thought, "I am of no use where I am," you can always be the difference maker.

Wherever God has placed you and whatever your circumstances, your prayers will work.

Psalm 138:5-6 NKJV Yes, they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD. Though the LORD is on high, yet He regards the lowly; but the proud He knows from afar.

🔒 Don't just pray and do nothing, understand the times you find yourself in and trust God to be led by the Spirit

Connection / Low Signal

If prayer is to be effective, it needs to be accurate and so it must be an act of the spirit, not of the flesh.

Jude 1:20 AMPC "But you, beloved, build yourselves up [founded] on your most holy faith [make progress, rise like an edifice higher and higher], praying in the Holy Spirit;"

Live and Flow in the realm of the Holy Spirit.

Then you will experience the peace and joy that come through obeying God's Word.

When you obey God, He will help you overcome the pain and enjoy your life more.

You cannot accomplish spiritual growth through carnal actions.

Neither can the flesh sustain what the spirit begins.

As advanced as our phones have become, those who use the call feature will still, from time to time, experience the problem of a weak or low signal. Whenever I'm on a phone call that begins to lose signal strength, the person on the other line will, more often than not, start to talk louder so that I can hear them. But because of the poor phone connection, their unclear communication just goes from being gibberish to being loud gibberish. In moments like those, I explain to the caller, "You don't have to yell. The volume is fine. The problem is the connection." As a person will try to make up with volume what lacks in connection.

The problem is not the volume. It's the connection.

As believers we try to make up in emotion and hype what is lacking in connection during prayer.

The connection is always there, but we allow the flesh or emotions to disrupt what would otherwise be a moment of powerful prayer.

It's not by power nor might, but by the Spirit.

Many believers exhaust themselves in prayer, not realizing it's found in the connection with the Spirit.

The key then is to lower the emotional, carnal volume and just listen to the spirit.

Let the Spirit guide you as you surrender to Him.



Stop trusting your ability to connect with God, Trust the Holy Spirit your Helper to connect with you and help you pray effectively.

Psalm 138:7-8 NKJV Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me; You will stretch out Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your right hand will save me. The LORD will perfect that which concerns me; Your mercy, O LORD, endures forever; Do not forsake the works of Your hands."

We are living in TROUBLED TIMES:

We are fighting crime, violence, corruption, poverty, racism and prejudice!

BUT we are born to topple all the giants in our way!

We will not recover ALL ON OUR OWN, we will recover together as we work in unity!

We do the above and

Then we LOVE PEOPLE - you dig your ditches by KEEPING LOVE ALIVE!

Receive the Fathers love for you, right now! (Joseph today)

We have to do our part for this recovery process to happen in our personal lives as well as in our nation!

We have to pray and do more! We have to pray and act!

1 Corinthians 13:8 TPT "Love never stops loving. It extends beyond the gift of prophecy, which eventually fades away. It is more enduring than tongues, which will one day fall silent. Love remains long after words of knowledge are forgotten."

Love starts at home, in your marriage, family and personal life.

Ask ~ what can I do for my spouse, children, brother, sister, and friend?

Maybe it's to get up before them and make the coffee, tidy the room, wash the car. So many marriages and relationships could be saved or renewed if we each took initiative to serve one another. It seems that everyone today wants to be "free" and Jesus has indeed set us free. But He never intended for us to use that freedom selfishly. He wants us to serve our spouses, families and community in love.

Words are wonderful, but ACTIONS, speak clearly about what's really going on in our HEARTS.

I urge you to put actions behind your love. Ask God to show you how you can serve someone else today.

Keep Peace ALIVE

Be at peace. Don't allow yourself to be agitated or emotionally riled up. Relax. Surrender. Trust.

John 14:27 TPT "I leave the gift of peace with you—my peace. Not the kind of fragile peace given by the world, but my perfect peace. Don't yield to fear or be troubled in your hearts—instead, be courageous!"

In Israel, Jews greet each other with the words "shalom, shalom". Unlike the English word peace, "shalom" does not just mean peace of mind. It means **wholeness** for your entire being — spirit,



soul and body. It means having a sense of completeness, soundness; including prosperity, health, safety and total well-being.

When Jesus spoke to His disciples in John 14:27, He did not use the English word "peace". He would have used the Hebrew word "shalom", saying, "Shalom I leave with you, My shalom I give to you..."

"Leave" here actually means "bequeath", the way someone would LEAVE YOU AN INHERITANCE.

I GUARANTEE the disciples were excited when they heard that Jesus was leaving HIS SHALOM as their INHERITANCE ...don't give up on it... He was literally saying stay united with Me and My PEACE which includes wholeness and everything else you need to be BLESSED ON EARTH.

He was saying My SHALOM, PEACE, will empower you in the most difficult situation and keep you WELL in all the things you face daily.

Keep HOPE ALIVE

Romans 5:2 NKJV "through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

Here's the question: Are you expecting the best promises for your life?

Good things begin to happen to you when you rejoice in the hope of experiencing God's Glory.

Romans 5:5 TPT "And this hope is not a disappointing fantasy, because we can now experience the endless love of God cascading into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who lives in us!"

The Bible is full of hope-filled promises, and the greatest is: you have the HOLY SPIRIT IN YOU AS THE GUARANTEE, you have unlimited access to God's presence.

He wants to heal us, supply our needs, and do even more.

Here's the question: Are you expectant?

Good things begin to happen to you when you are intentional to "rejoice" in the hope of experiencing God's favour on a regular basis.

Even if you don't see those things in your life now, you can start to rejoice and put your hope in God, knowing He is for you.

Everything that is promised in the Bible is for us.

So rejoice in the hope of experiencing God's glory right now and He will make incredible things happen in your life.

2 Kings 3:17-18 NKJV For thus says the LORD: 'You shall not see wind, nor shall you see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, so that you, your cattle, and your animals may drink.' And this is a simple matter in the sight of the LORD; He will also deliver the Moabites into your hand."

