



# Where Eagles Dare

## Pray Without Ceasing

By Al Collins

I've read several books in the last month, but a teaching from an 8 year old boy's experience is one that I'd like to focus on in this study.

"The Boy Who Came Back From Heaven" is a New York Times Bestseller, about a boy, Alex Malarkey, involved in a car accident in 2004 that was in heaven for about 2 months while in a coma. He continues to see, hear and go in the spirit since he miraculously came out of his coma.

While in heaven Alex spoke with Father God, Jesus and angels. He also has seen satan and demons.

Although some people may say that Alex's ability to still see, hear, experience and go in the spirit was because this near-death accident somehow triggered this possibility, I have to say that although this was the catalyst for Alex... it's not the only way to open spiritual doors!

After reading this book, I have sadness in me. Although I'm happy for Alex's awareness, I'm persuaded to join Alex in his thinking that people will focus on Alex, rather than on God and what is available to every person, just as it is for Alex.

This book was written by Alex and his Dad and published 6 years after the accident. Although thousands of people were involved in Alex's life and recovery process, including his family, there's no mention of anyone seeking his spiritual abilities.

At one point, years after the accident, Alex does try to teach his father how to see an angel that wants to talk to him, but his "nervous" father

isn't able to see the angel, although he eventually for the first time hears a message in his spirit that he writes down.

Alex's father admits in the book that he's more handicapped than his quadriplegic son. I agree with his assessment, and say to him, "So if you know you have this handicap, why not strive to fix this situation? Why not ask your son Alex, to ask God, how to do the same as Alex can do?" (Alex says he's always in communication with God and heaven).

I pray that as Alex grows older (he's 15 now), that he steers people to develop their own spirituality and destiny with and for God, rather than being enamored with just him and his heaven stories.

One huge teaching point that Alex makes that I want to bring out, is when his father had a problem and he asked Alex to pray for him that day. Quote, "Alex looked at me with a penetrating gaze and said, "Daddy, I'm always in prayer because part of my brain, through the Holy Spirit, is in constant communication with Heaven. My mouth is for talking to people." End quote from book.

The father was reminded of [1 Thessalonians 5:17](#) that says, "[Pray without ceasing](#)", although Alex's dad "always thought it meant we should pray a lot".

Many years ago I read about hermits and monks of old that interpreted this verse as this father did, and so they would say the "Jesus Prayer" ("Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, the sinner") over and over, repeatedly day after day, year after year in an effort to fulfill this scripture command.

I have to admit that I tried to copy the hermits teaching myself many years ago to fulfill this scripture... but it didn't work... (I couldn't grasp how to do it while I was sleeping!)

It's not a flesh thing or as Alex puts it, "My mouth is for talking to people." (In other words... the mouth is not for talking to God). Whoa... did Alex blow anyone away with that one? (Alex is 10 years old when he says this matter of fact statement!)

We can't expect or force a spiritual concept to fit a physical concept!



A sermon on "Pray Without Ceasing" was delivered on March 10th, 1872, by C. H. Spurgeon. To distil his long-winded, theological, definition as a physical activity into one quoted phrase, he says, "'Pray without ceasing,' is, if I read it aright, a most sweet and precious permit to the believer to pour out his heart at all times before the Lord".

10 year old Alex teaches us the spiritual reality that the great "Prince of Preachers" Spurgeon never grasped!

It's not a physical process!

To give an example that we can relate to, just like we breathe without ceasing and without thinking about it, (although we can think about and adjust it) so also is prayer without ceasing, only on a spiritual plane!

Of course we can pray with thinking, with audible words, at specific times, at specific places (prayer closet), with others, for others or for specific reasons, but all of this kind of prayer is not the definition of **1 Thessalonians 5:17**.

I searched on the internet to see if anyone had the same answer as Alex... sadly I gave up looking as all I could find was about the same definition that Spurgeon had 140 years ago... that it's a "proper heart attitude" or it's a "mental outlook of joyful thanksgiving" or it's "when the Lord lays a burden on our hearts". Not!!

So now that Alex has taught us what praying without ceasing is, how do we accomplish this?

Alex didn't teach that part other than his spiritual senses were opened when he was spiritually in heaven during his coma and praying without ceasing was also apparently activated in his brain or at least he got in-sync with the Holy Spirit and his ability to recognize it was activated.

Certainly we don't need to go through the same process as Alex did, so when I asked God He told me that we are linked to Him like a cord. He's giving us wisdom, knowledge, dreams, visions, ideas, prophecies, power 24/7 and a portion of our brain through the Holy Spirit, as Alex said, is communicating back even if we don't mentally know it, even while asleep! Another way to look at it is a portion of our brain is permanently switched on to the spiritual realm like a cell phone! Ask the Holy Spirit to assist us in overcoming all spiritual handicaps and to allow us to tune into our praying without ceasing!

**Let's insure that we daily allow the Holy Spirit to work through us to accomplish Father's will on earth as it is in heaven!**