

# Men of Prayer People of Power

Pastor Mark Lehmann

*“Smart men walked on the moon, daring men walked on the ocean floor, but wise men walk with God.”*

— Leonard Ravenhill

*“Tell me what time you spend alone with God... and I’ll tell you how spiritual you are.”*

— Leonard Ravenhill

*“The greatest miracle that God can do today is to take an unholy man out of an unholy world and make him man holy, then put him back into that unholy world and keep him holy in it.”*

— Leonard Ravenhill

*“The true church lives and moves and has it’s being in prayer.”*

— Leonard Ravenhill

<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord’s followers. So he went to the high priest. <sup>2</sup> He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains. <sup>3</sup> As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?” <sup>5</sup> “Who are you, lord?” Saul asked. And the voice replied, “I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!” <sup>6</sup> Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.” <sup>7</sup> The men with Saul stood speechless, for they heard the sound of someone’s voice but saw no one! <sup>8</sup> Saul picked himself up off the ground, but when he opened his eyes he was blind. So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus. <sup>9</sup> He remained there blind for three days and did not eat or drink.)

**Acts 9:1-9 NLT**

- A Believers Life

<sup>10</sup> Now there was a believer in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, calling, “Ananias!”

### Acts 9:10 NLT

- Demands a Believer's Response

<sup>10</sup> "Yes, Lord!" he replied.

### Acts 9:10b NLT

- Hears and Follows God's Mission

<sup>11</sup> The Lord said, "Go over to Straight Street, to the house of Judas. When you get there, ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying to me right now. <sup>12</sup> I have shown him a vision of a man named Ananias coming in and laying hands on him so he can see again."

### Acts 9:11-12 NLT

- Trusts God and Overcomes Doubt and Fear

<sup>13</sup> "But Lord," exclaimed Ananias, "I've heard many people talk about the terrible things this man has done to the believers in Jerusalem! <sup>14</sup> And he is authorized by the leading priests to arrest everyone who calls upon your name." <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said, "Go, for Saul is my chosen instrument to take my message to the Gentiles and to kings, as well as to the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup> And I will show him how much he must suffer for my name's sake."

### Acts 9:13-16 NLT

*"Five minutes into eternity and we will wish that we had sacrificed more, wept more, grieved more, believed more, loved more, prayed more and given more."*

— Leonard Ravenhill

*"Five minutes after you die, you'll know how you should have lived."*

— Leonard Ravenhill

<sup>17</sup> So Ananias went and found Saul. He laid his hands on him and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has sent me so that you might regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup> Instantly something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he got up and was baptized. <sup>19</sup> Afterward he ate some food and regained his strength.

### Acts 9:17-19 NLT

- Overcomes Fear
- Steps Out in Faith
- Walks in Obedience and Proclaims God's Power

*"Don't feel sorry for or fear for your kids because the world they are going to grow up in is not what it used to be. God created them and called them for the exact moment in time that they're in. Their life wasn't a coincidence or an accident. Raise them up to know the power they walk in as children of God. Train them up in the authority of His Word. Teach them to walk in faith knowing that God is in control. Empower them to know they can change the world. Don't teach them to be fearful and disheartened by the state of the world but hopeful that they can do something about it. Every person in all of history has been placed in the time that they were in because of God's sovereign plan. He knew Daniel could handle the lion's den. He knew David could handle Goliath. He knew Esther could handle Haman. He knew Peter could handle persecution. He knows that your child can handle whatever challenge they face in their life. He created them specifically for it! Don't be scared for your children, but be honored that God chose you to parent the generation that is facing the biggest challenges of our lifetime. Rise up to the challenge. Raise Daniels, Davids, Esthers, and Peters! God isn't scratching His head wondering what He's going to do with this mess of a world. He has an army He's raising up to drive back the darkness and make Him known all over the earth. Don't let your fear steal the greatness God placed in them. I know it's hard to imagine them as anything besides our sweet little babies, and we just want to protect them from anything that could ever be hard on them, but they were born for such a time as this."*

— Alex Cravens