

Homily II

I have pleaded in prayer for you

✓ TEXT: Luke 22:31, 32 NLT

✓ Reading the Word:

“Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat. But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail. So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen your brothers.”

✓ When you hear your name twice, back to back—you better listen

✓ Especially if Jesus is saying your name

✓ Somewhere in the night season of prayer, or the early morning hour—Jesus had Simon and each one of his disciples come before him

✓ Each one needing prayer—but especially Simon

✓ Like the story of Job, Satan was asking, may I give these guys a real shaking?

✓ Much like at wheat harvest when the grain is separated in the head?

✓ Satan was looking to mess with Jesus’ disciples—making them each a head-case

✓ And Jesus says to them—I have been pray’in for you—each of you

✓ But Simon Peter, especially you—you carry influence Simon and I know the road is going to be rough

✓ So I’ve been pleading, interceding for you before the Father

✓ But here’s the thing—Satan wants to mess with their head, shake them up really good

✓ Jesus however goes in prayer and works much deeper

✓ Reminds me of some heavy equipment that moved into my neighborhood this week

✓ They hauled in this bulldozer—mighty powerful thing

✓ But they also brought in an earth mover—monster piece

✓ To work not even a third of an acre—going really deep

✓ Doing soil compaction

✓ Jesus’ praying for us goes like these guys and digs deep into our soul and prays over all the areas of our lives

✓ He knows the sifter is coming—so he digs deep and is the Lifter, who moves heaven and earth to pray blessings over us

- ✓ Satan deals with surface stuff—Jesus goes down to the real tuff stuff in his prayers for us
 - a. Have a mouth like Peter’s that get going before thinking?
 - b. Have doubts like Thomas that put up walls before even starting to believe?
 - c. Have sticky fingers like Judas that has him all but thinking Jesus must be blind, not seeing what he is doing with the money sack?
- ✓ Jesus certainly feels each disciples need as he prays
- ✓ Each needs saving under His blood and His perfect body
- ✓ The New Living Translation says, “Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat. But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon (along with the rest)
- ✓ Jesus has them all on his prayer list
- ✓ Jesus, today, has you and me on his prayer list
- ✓ And when he prays—he gets real personal, real specific
- ✓ His prayers are what your prayers and mine should become
- ✓ He is partnering with his Father
- ✓ He is entering into each life and asking for—
 - a. More faith
 - b. More patience
 - c. More persistence
 - d. More courage
 - e. More victory
- ✓ He will not stop short of asking for each of to be saved in his kingdom
- ✓ He is serious about his relationship with you succeeding
- ✓ Can you hear him praying for you?
- ✓ Pause with me and imagine it with these words

Somebody’s pray’in, I can feel it
 Mighty hand are guiding me
 Lord, I believe, cause somebody’s pray’in for me

Somebody’s pray’in for me
 To believe what I cannot see

Angel’s are watch’in, I can feel it
 There’s many miles ahead till I get home,
 Lord, I believe, cause somebody’s pray’in for me

Angel’s are watch’in over me
 So keep me safe before Your throne

I’ve walked barren wilderness,
 and I’ve been through the darkest caverans

where my pillow was a stone,
 where no light had ever shone,

