

REFLECTOR

VOL. 53, No. 11

"Holding Forth the Word of Life"

November 2007

JGHM'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Meeting # 96, October 8, 2007
Completing twenty-four years of Ministry.
[Story on Page Twelve]



L-R Joyce Warpoole (2001), Sue Bell (1984), Sue Henry (1984), Dr. Henry (1984), Murray Mathis (1984), Jean Beasley (1999). Not pictured: Susanne Adams (1987), Archie King (1993), Jeannette Rolater (2006) See p9.

Thanksgiving Proclamation

It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord.

We know that by His divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world. May we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people?

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved

these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God who made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and with one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday in November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.

Abraham Lincoln, 1863

NOTE: SURELY GOD IS ATTEMPTING TO GET AMERICA'S ATTENTION TODAY. LET'S NOT GIVE UP ON OUR NATION, BUT LET'S PRAY FOR A SPIRITUAL AWAKENING.

PRESCRIPTION FOR A CHANGED LIFE

"Give thanks unto the Lord, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the people. Sing unto Him, sing praises unto Him, talk ye of His wondrous works."

1 Chronicles 16:8-9

Directions: Apply daily--morning, noon, & night.

Perspectives

“Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving.”
Psalm 147:7

It is appropriate to study thanksgiving in November--the month set aside in our nation to designate a Thanksgiving Day. We need to be reminded of things we already have learned, but have either forgotten or ignored.

Although thanksgiving is included in the prayer seminar as one of the five elements of prayer—**Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Seeking for self (petition) and for others (intercession)**—I have not written as much about it as I have some of the others. Since several have written expressing appreciation for past studies on thanksgiving, I know that this emphasis strikes a chord.

You will remember that a serious student of the Bible is always wise to ask for the Holy Spirit’s help when he wants to learn. After all, He is our Teacher in all things spiritual. The truth is that God already knows our heart’s desire, but His way is for His children to own up to their desires verbally. In fact, He wants us to learn to pray to the point that we order our lives around prayer and pray about everything.

Examine yourself. When was the last time that you had a really thankful heart to the point of ecstatic exhilaration? We must cultivate the attitude of gratitude. George Herbert’s prayer might very well be the model that you and I need to use in asking for God’s help: “Thou Who has given me so much, give me one thing more—A thankful heart.” As we learn the secret of practicing the presence of God in our prayer lives, the matter of thanksgiving will go a long way to bringing about this mind set.

Review. Many Christians use praise and thanksgiving interchangeably. However, there are different meanings for the words. When we reflect upon God’s greatness, we give praise. Praise relates to God’s character, who He is. When we reflect upon God’s goodness, we give

thanks. Thanksgiving relates to God’s deeds. Through praise and worship, we seek His face for fellowship and intimacy. Through thanksgiving, we express gratitude for what His hand has wrought in our lives. The psalmist said, “*Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits*” (**Psalm 103:2**). Thanksgiving is humbly acknowledging His work on our behalf and expressing gratitude for all He has bestowed upon us. As you enter your private place of prayer, fill some of those moments with sincere expressions of thanks to God.

Thanksgiving has always been appropriate. To express thankfulness, the children of Israel were instructed to make a wave offering to the Lord (**Leviticus 7:28-30**). God told the people of Israel to bring their fellowship offerings personally, with their own hands. They were to take time and effort to express thanks to God and not take His blessings for granted. You and I need to do the same. You are the only one that can express your thankfulness to God and to others.

Remember to thank God for His gifts of life, food, health, work, friends. One incident from the life of Israel is striking and illustrative of the need to be broad in thankfulness. After carefully accounting for all their men, the officers discovered that not one soldier had been lost in battle. At once they thanked God (**Numbers 31:48-50**). After going through tough times, we should be quick to thank God for delivering us and protecting us from severe loss.

Certain Levites were appointed to give continual praise and thanks to God (**1 Chronicles 9:33**). Praise and thanksgiving should be a regular part of our routine, not reserved only for celebrations. Praise God and give thanks to Him continually, and you will find that you won’t get into the rut of taking His blessings for granted.

Practical ideas. This study of thanksgiving in prayer will include practical ideas that can be used in thanksgiving. Paul admonished the Corinthian believers to “*pray with understanding*” (**1 Corinthians 14:15**). While

praying from the heart in genuine sincerity is basic to all approaches, the more we understand the Biblical teachings regarding all elements of prayer, the more our praying will not only be satisfying to ourselves, but to God as well. Do you agree? Giving thanks is the will of God and is evidence of being Spirit-filled or Spirit-controlled.

Pray thankfully—gratefully expressing appreciation for the privilege of prayer. What a wonder it is that you and I, through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, can come directly into the Throne Room in the presence of our Heavenly Father (**Hebrews 4:16; Hebrews 10:19**). **Pray thoughtfully**—with full realization that at the moment you begin to pray both Jesus and the Holy Spirit have joined you (**Romans 8:26-27**).

We need to be careful to be definite in returning thanks. We come to God with specific petitions, but when we return thanks our thanksgiving is indefinite and general. It is important to take time to correct this weakness by meditating on blessings we have received from the hand of God. Sometime ago, as I browsed at a book sale in a mall in Sioux City, Iowa, I found an autobiography of E. Stanley Jones, the great missionary statesman who served in India, and bought it for one dollar. It is intriguing to follow his thoughts written late in his life. One thing that he advised was to thank God for normal things pointing out that it is a spiritual mistake to take them for granted.

In the New Testament, no sin offering is imposed upon the Gospel. Rather, thank offerings are what God is looking for from believers today. The Lord Jesus Christ became our sin offering; in return, we bring our thank offerings. We must give thanks! This is God's will for us. In **1 Thessalonians 5:16-19**, the Word of God commands believers to do the following: v 16. *Rejoice evermore.* v 17. *Pray without ceasing.*

v 18. ***In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*** v 19. *Quench not the Spirit.*

Not only is it right and proper, believers who do not give thanks are out of God's will! Incidentally, note the "in" — which is different

than "for". The commandment is not to give thanks for everything that happens, but in the midst of whatever is happening. We are encouraged to thank God for what He has done. Why is this necessary?

Thanksgiving does not change God; it changes us. Circumstances may not be altered by our thanksgiving, but our attitudes will be. We are saved by faith and we must walk by faith! Thanksgiving unleashes the power of the Word of God in our lives as we walk by faith. When we begin to recount what God has done with a heart of thanksgiving, it doesn't take very long to get faith moving. The difference is that thanksgiving helps us focus on the Problem-Solver, not just the problem. Once we begin to practice thanksgiving in the face of the realities of life, we will begin to see God's hand in life. The facts may be the same, but we won't be the same!

The story of Jonah illustrates the principle of thanksgiving. When he was in the belly of the great fish, he thanked God in the midst of his situation. It is difficult for us to praise God in those kinds of circumstances. If you are willing to thank God in circumstances you cannot control and you cannot understand, you will soon see a difference in your life.

A major emphasis in the prayer seminar is to help believers understand that we are to "walk in the Spirit, not the flesh." The primary verse amplified is **Ephesians 5:18** which commands us to be "Spirit-filled" as a part of our life-style. It is the will of God (v 17) for us to be Spirit-filled and not to be drunk with wine (v 18). Keep reading in that portion of the Scripture and you will see that we fulfill the will of God by speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Then we are told that thanksgiving is a manifestation of being filled with the Spirit (**Ephesians 5:20**). The entire passage is noteworthy: "*Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father*

in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Ephesians 5:17-20).

If you and I are not careful, to be thankful for EVERYTHING may lead us to be thankful FOR NOTHING. It is important to be specific! When I was putting the material together on thanksgiving, I listed sixteen items that came to my mind as examples (*Prayer Seminar Workbook, p. 54*):

- a. My creation
- b. Privilege of being alive in God’s beautiful world
- c. Forgiveness of sin
- d. New life in Christ
- e. God’s constant presence
- f. God’s patience
- g. Health and strength: mental/physical/emotional
- h. Abounding material gifts
- i. Privilege of prayer and answers
- j. Victories in life through God’s power
- k. God’s leadership
- l. God’s discipline
- m. Home: strength, security and love
- n. Blessed fellowship of a local church
- o. Christian friends
- p. Glorious hope of everlasting life in heaven.

Another suggestion in the *Prayer Seminar Workbook (p 55)*, is to use the letters of the alphabet to express thanksgiving on occasion.

A = air; B = body, C = clothes, D = dwelling, E = education, F = food, G = government, H = health, I = inventions; J = job, K = kin-folks, L = language, M = medicine, N = nature, O = opportunitites, P = parents, Q = quiet times, R - rest, S = salvation, T = today, U = universe, V = victories, W = water, X = unknown blessings from God, Y = yesterday, Z = Zion, our blessed home.

It is not enough to say “Thanks for the blessings, Lord.” Thank Him for all things, even for the little thanks God does for us. When our grandson, Jamey, was five years old, Sue drove up to Lebanon to bring him to our house for a visit. It was a beautiful spring day and the two of them discussed the beauty of the day. At one point, they drove by some flowers that were usually striking. Jamey said, “Nana, we need to thank God for making them so pretty.”

A study in the Psalms

It is obvious that no believer is likely to be a thankful person who does not develop a biblical perspective of thanksgiving and its role in his life as a Christian. Do you mark your Bible as you read? One way to understand the importance of thanksgiving is to take time to go through the Psalms and underline the words thankful, thanks, and thanksgiving. One of my favorite reminders is **Psalm 118:1**: “*Oh give thanks to the Lord for He is good.*” In fact, it is in the psalms that we learn that our very entrance into the Throne Room must be through thanksgiving: “*Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving*” (**Psalm 95:2a**) and “*Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good, His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations*” (**Psalm 100:4-5a**).

Keep in mind, however, that neither thanksgiving nor praise changes God. He will never be any greater than He is already. Matthew Henry put it well when he said that we cannot add to God’s perfections. These two exercises change us.

I heard of a missionary whose service appeared unfruitful with little response to any effort he made on the mission field. He faithfully persisted, but eventually became so discouraged that he decided that he needed to return home. One day as he was visiting another missionary, he saw a plaque on the wall with this message: “**TRY THANKSGIVING!**” The Holy Spirit enlightened his understanding that his life and ministry did not reflect thanksgiving and that he should begin immediately to do so. Not only did his outlook change, but his ministry became fruitful.

Basic areas of life

It is a spiritual mistake to take normal things in your life for granted. Without thinking this area through, it is likely that most Christians will do that very thing. One way to approach thanksgiving is to thank God for His blessings in the basic areas of life (physical, material, spiritual, and people) by choosing one blessing

out of each category and then tell Him why you are thankful. Remember that the basic direction of thanksgiving is to express gratitude for what His hand has provided.

Physical. Have you ever thanked God for your eyes, ears, hands, feet, legs, digestive system? How about your health? A couple of years ago, prior to our leaving for Israel, I developed what appeared to be a cold or allergy. I could hardly complete a conversation without a siege of coughing that resulted in losing my breath. Awful! A physician prescribed a strong antibiotic since I was to be out of the country—which I took faithfully—but to no avail. Upon returning, a series of X-rays revealed an “infiltrate” in the middle lobe of my right lung. I had never heard such talk, but found out that it simply meant that there was something there that should not be there. By this time, I was placed on the third different antibiotic that cleared up the problem which was diagnosed as bacterial pneumonia. I had never thanked God for a clear middle lobe of my right lung! But I have done so many times since and have told Him why I am grateful! I can talk on the telephone without coughing. Why not choose one physical blessing and **TELL HIM WHY YOU ARE THANKFUL!**

Dr. A. B. Masilamani told of his experience with the late E. Stanley Jones, one of the best-known evangelical missionaries of the twentieth century. This godly man shared Christ with great power and clarity throughout much of India. One day Dr. Masilamani and Dr. Jones were traveling together. He was surprised to see tears in Dr. Jones’ eyes and asked him, “Why are you crying?” “Thanksgiving,” said Dr. Jones. “You see these legs have carried me up and down the mountains of India for many years, and these hands have been more than faithful in accomplishing what I wanted them to do.” Then he thoughtfully patted his knee and complimented it for having worked so well. Thoughtfully, he said, “Before long I will be receiving a new body and be leaving this old friend behind.” Little by little, Dr. Jones thanked God for his entire body, one limb at a time.

Most of us never thank God for our eyes, our limbs, and ability to function until we have undergone a tragic loss that causes us to appreciate what we had before. The example of E. Stanley Jones is a powerful message that we should be found “always giving thanks for all things” (**Ephesians 5:20**).

Material. Food, shelter, and clothing! Often we take the basics of life (what we eat, where we live, what we wear) for granted. House. Car. Shoes. A few years ago, Sue and I went to our grandson Beau’s baseball game and cheered his team to victory. A cold front had settled over Murfreesboro and we had not sat through the first inning until we were cold. Both of us had brought some extra clothing, but it was still cold. As I sat there, my heart expressed thanksgiving for basic clothing to keep out the cold. As we have traveled around the world and have seen conditions far beyond description, we are keenly aware of what it means to live in the U.S.A. (United States of Abundance). Remember that it is possible every day to choose one material blessing and **TELL HIM WHY YOU ARE THANKFUL!**

Have you ever thanked God for your shoes? Having grown up in the bend of the river in a rural area in Tennessee as the nation was coming through the Great Depression, we could afford only one pair of shoes during the cold months (in summer, we went barefoot). When a hole was worn in a shoe, we learned to put cardboard in the shoe! I’m thankful for my shoes and that God has provided so that I no longer need to do this.

Spiritual. Those of us who know Christ as Savior and Lord have so many spiritual blessings for which we can be thankful: salvation. prayer. love. joy. peace, a heart that desires God and a local church where the Word of God is preached and where worship strengthens us. As the Holy Spirit instructs us through the Word, we are blessed. Every day, we can choose one spiritual blessing and **TELL HIM WHY WE ARE THANKFUL!**

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT

**PRAYER CALENDAR
NOVEMBER 2007**

"I will give myself to prayer..."
Psalm 109:4b



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1
ACTS 1-4 (PapuaN Guinea 5.6M)

Wayne & Edie Aardsma (IL)
Burnace Abrams (OH)
Joseph W. Adams (OH)
Mae Adams (NC)
Marie Adams (VA)
Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)
Rosalee Adams (VA)
Wayne & Jennie Agee (VA)
Norma Ailes (FL)
Tommy & Pat Apple (NC)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2
ACTS 5-7 (Paraguay 6.5M)

Leonor Avila (MD)
Lon & Denise Anderkin (FL)
Milcie Arnold (VA)
Solomon & Kriskna Arrington (MD)
Kenneth Banks (NC)
Carolyn Barkley (NY)
Steven & Marie Basilici (NC)
Stan & Emily Baskin (TN)
John & Joan Bateman (PA)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3
ACTS 8-9 (Peru 28.3M)

Carter Mylam Baynes (NC)
Jean Beasley (TN)
Tommy & Sue Bell (TN)
Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN)
Johnny & Juanita Bernard (FL)
Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL)
Bethesda Ministries
Jerry & Joan Crain (SC)
Dorothy Spickard Biddle (TN)
Stephen & Joyce Bishop (VA)
Everett & Deborah Boston (MD)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4
Bob & Jewel Bouchard (KY)
William & Debbie Bowden (MD)
Gordon & Chloe Ann Bowyer (VA)
Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)
Emilee & Kimberlee Bradshaw (VA)
Nancy Bretz (PA)
Von M. Bridges (TX)

Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)
Shirley Brown (VA)
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5

ACTS 10-12 (Philippines 89.5M)
Jack & Arretta Bruce (KY)
Freddie & Yvonne Brunson (DE)
Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)
Janice Bugg (TN)
Alvin & Berthena Bullard (FL)
Ruby Burger (TN)
Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)
Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)
Lew & Mary Campbell (ID)
Joreatha Capers (FL)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6
ACTS 13-15 (Pitcairn Is 43)

Ron & Julia Carlin (AL)
David & Martha Cecil (VA)
Merry J Chandler (MD)
Mary Clarke (VA)
Margarie Coffee (VA)
Jim & Kathy Connolly (VA)
Ted & Terry Cooper (SC)
Foster & Georgia Covington (VA)
Terry & Sonja Craig (TN)
Joel & Paula Critz (HI)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7
ACTS 16-18 (Poland 38.5M)

Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC)
Bill & Beverly Curtis (PA)
Lin & Barbara Custalow (VA)
Ida J. Davis (GA)
John & Margaret Davis (VA)
Mark and Charmaine Davis (VA)
Lelia Dean (FL)
Robert & Virginia DeBoer (NE)
Harold & Tama Decker (NY)
Nick & Wilma DeGroot (IL)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8
ACTS 19-20 (South Africa 44M)

Delmarva Evangelistic Church (MD)
Ruth Chamberlain, Pastor
Mary J. Dugans (LA)
Walt Edwards (NC)
Paul & Joyce Eggleston (VA)
Lynn Elkins (TN)
Evalena Enoch (VA)
Gene & Shirley Farley (CA)
Lynne Farrow (NJ)
Larry & Cara Fields (VA)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9
ACTS 21-23 (South Africa 44M)

June Fisher (TN)
Josephine Fitzgerald (AL)
Claire & Mary Ann Fredstrom (NE)
Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA)
Raymond & Estelle Gabbard (KY)
Frank & Pauline Garrett (NJ)
Carole B. Garvin (PA)
Frank & Doris Geiger (HI)
Robert & Sara George (GA)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10
ACTS 24-26 (South Africa 44M)

Frances Glass (AL)
Gloucester Co. Community Church
Bruce Sofia, Pastor (NJ)
Ronald & Maryann Gold (CO)
Odether Gray (GA)
Eddie & Georgianna Green (NC)
Linda Gregory (NJ)
Sue Hamm (KY)
Uel & Hazel Hartless (VA)
Jim & Joyce Hengoe (FL/CT)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11
SOUTH AFRICA (44M)

Bruce & Gina Henry (VA)
Doug Henry (TN)
J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA)
Jacqueline Henry (VA)
Mark Henry (TN)
Melody Henry (VA)
Roger Henry (OH)
Sean Henry (KS)
Susan & Jamey Henry (TN)
Jerry & Sandra Hodges (VA)
Joanna Holland (VA)
John & Glenda Holland (VA)
Jayson & Marylynn Hooker (VA)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12
ACTS 27-28 (South Africa 44M)

Russ & Dorothy Hornbaker (MI)
Mike & Sonya Hosick (VA)
Sam & Linda Hough (VA)
Lamar & Cindy Sue Houser (MD)
Bonnie Houston (TN)
Coy Hunsucker (NC)
Joyce Hunt (TN)
Wilbert & Almaretta Hupp (PA)
Ed Hurlow (IN)

H. J. & Paula Hutchins (MS)
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13
ROMANS 1-3 (South Africa 44M)

Oliver & Janie Jackson (NY)
Louis & May Jenkins (DC)
Vernelle Jenkins (MD)
Paul & Suzanne Jennings (TN)
Jonathan & Julie Jobe (NC)
Peter & Millicent John (NY)
Dan & Jayne Johnson (KY)
Jim & Penny Johnson (KY)
Tara Johnson (KY)

Wilbur & Gwendolyn Johnson (AZ)
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14
ROMANS 4-5 (South Africa 44M)

James Jones (FL)
Paul & Deanna Jones (KY)
W I & Eloise Jones (SC)
Howard & Suzie Kauffmann (GA)
Harper & Shelia Keebaugh (PA)
Joyce Kelley (OR)
Kerby Knob Baptist Church (KY)
Bruce Kirby, Pastor

Alice Kern (NJ)
 Archie & Mary King (TN)
 Kenneth & Bonnie Kirby (PA)
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15
ROMANS 6-8 (South Africa 44M)
 Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN)
 Sherry Klutz (WA)
 Quentin & Mary Knauer (OH)
 Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY)
 Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI)
 Korean Branch:
 Dr. Shin Kwang Suk
 Craig & Molly Lampe (AZ)
 Phil & Loetta Landers (OK)
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16
ROMANS 9-11 (South Africa 44M)
 Charles & Cynthia Larson (MI)
 Bob Lawrence (MD)
 Kevin & Kay Layne (NC)
 Kehaunani L. S. Lee (HI)
 Raymond & Janet Lemay (VT)
 Rose Lewis (MD)
 Vincent & Mary Lobisco (MI/FL)
 Kevin & Stacy Logsdon (KY)
 Ray & Bobbie Long (WV)
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17
ROMANS 12-16 (Kenya 36.9M)
 Kenneth & Debra Magee (SC)
 Manship Chapel (DE)
 Bud & Wilma Marcum (KY)
 Larry & Sue Mason (VA)
 Dan & Meribeth Martin (VA)
 Reginald & Gloria Martin (OH)
 Bill & Mirlle Matheny (VA)
 Deborah Mathias (NY)
 Murray & Loretta Mathis (TN)
 Bill & Shirley Maybin (SC)
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18
 Greg & Anna McElwaine (KY)
 Sid & Jane McLaughlin (AL)
 Jim & Lin McLean (TN)
 John & Egberta McSween (Trinidad)
 Leonard & Martha Meador (VA)
 Don & Barbara Meduna (CO)
 Memorial Christian Church (VA)
 Ken & Betsy Miedema (MI)
 Terry & Sandra Metzgar (VA)
 Lewis & Martha Miller (IN)
 Lowry & Marjorie Miller (VA)
 Mike & Cherylann Miller (CO)
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19
1 COR 1-6 (Kenya 36.9M)
 Earl & Marvel Mills (VA)
 Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC)
 Katherine Morgan (VA)
 New Harvest Ministries (MD)
 Marcus Johnson, Pastor
 Chet & Betty Nichols (WA)
 Craton & Helen Noyes (KY)
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20
1 COR 7-10 (Kenya 36.9M)
 Ann Palumbo (NJ)

Jim & Barb Peterson (MI)
 Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA)
 Luther & Leslie Poellnitz (MD)
 Ben Poplin (VA)
 Ayers & Nina Porter (TN)
 Marshall & Lois Powell (KY)
 Brandon Jeanne, Maggie Pribble (VA)
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21
1 COR 11-14 (Kenya 36.9M)
 Phyllis Reed (NH)
 Mike & Joyce Riley (KY)
 Cynthia Roach (VA)
 Windi & Caleb Roach (OK)
 John & Sandra Roberts (FL)
 Dudley & Isabel Robotham (NY)
 David & Cathie Rocke (IA)
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22
1 COR 16-18 (Kenya 36.9M)
 Clark & Marie Rogers (VA)
 Fred & Jeannette Rolater (TN)
 Bob & Shirley Rose (MI)
 Sandra Rumore (VA)
 John Saint (PA)
 Don & Marie Satterwhite (MD)
 David & Betty Schaum (NY)
 Tyler & Rebecca Scarlett (VA)
 Dwayne Schmaltz (WI)
 Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA)
 Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA)
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23
2 Corinthians 1-5 (Kenya 36.9M)
 Philip & Wendy Schrank (WI)
 John & Peggy Seibert (AL)
 Dennis & Monica Shannon (OH)
 Shenandoah Valley Baptist Ch (VA)
 Eric Farel, Pastor
 Nellie F. Shepard (CT)
 Sam & Lola Simpson (NY)
 Mary Skiles (KS)
 Doris Snyder (FL/OH)
 John & Helen Sourlis (MD)
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24
2 Corinthians 6-9 (Kenya 36.9M)
 LeRoy & Suk Hi Standifer (WA)
 Marion J. Stansell (TX)
 Tim & Pam Steger (ID)
 Carol Snow Stewart (CT)
 Gary/Leta Fern Stillwagon (GA)
 Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA)
 Johnny & Rose M. Street (AR)
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25
 Bob & Sandy Swain (VA)
 Tabernacle Baptist Church (DC)
 William Stroman, Pastor
 Brian & Janice Tarraferro (TX)
 Ron & Mazie Taylor (VA)
 Stephanie Taylor (GA)
 Temple of Praise (TX)
 Gilbert Perez, Pastor
 Mona Henry Thomas (VA)
 Mildred V. Thompson (GA)

Paula Tipton (TN)
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26
2 Cor 10-13 (DR Congo 66.8M)
 William & Katie Toney (NC)
 Virginia Trask (VA)
 Carrol & Ouida Troutman (KY)
 Clay & Lisa Troutman (KY)
 Kelly & Janice Troutman (KY)
 Malcom Troutman (KY)
 Marshall & Mary Troutman (KY)
 Tommy & Frances Turpin (VA)
 Sara Underwood (TN)
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Galatians 1-6 (DR Congo 66.8M)
 Patrick & Patricia Vaden (TN)
 Harris & Jane Verkaik (MI/FL)
 George & Jeanette Vernarchik (NY)
 Sam & Rita Verghese (NJ)
 Tommy Waddell (TN)
 Horace & Becky Ward (NC)
 Michael & Sandra Ward (IN)
 Beau Ware (VA)
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28
Ephesians 1-6 (DR Congo 66.8M)
 Kay Warmerdam (TX)
 Don & Joyce Warpoole (TN)
 Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY)
 Alan & Shirley Whitmore (TN)
 Allan & Judy Whitmore (VA)
 George & Virginia Whitner (FL)
 Paul & Diane Wieland (PA)
 Edward Williams (NC)
 Julie L. Wilson (PA)
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29
Philippians 1-4 (DR Congo 66.8M)
 Tim & Merry Gregory (Thailand)
 Mulamba Placide Kituta (Congo)
 Stephen Latong (Nigeria)
 Leslie & Tabitha Motalane (South Africa)
 Adam & Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela)
 Andrew J. Sakari (Kenya)
 Martin & Anne Shikuku (Kenya)
 Onesimus Sule (Nigeria)
 Cliff & Marcia Vincent (Zambia)
 Silas & Alice Yashim (Nigeria)
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30
Colossians 1-4 (DR Congo 66.8M)
 Adrian Waters (MD)
 Roy & Eva Winebarger (VA)
 Dot Winfield (MD)
 Amos Wipf (GA)
 The Word Church (NJ)
 Buz Offenbacher, Pastor
 Deron & Lakeshia Wood (MD)
 Greg & Lori Worley (GA)
 Todd & Stephanie Wright (KY)
 Lili Wykle (VA)
 Robin & Deborah Yohee (PA)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE

Nehemiah said, “*The joy of the Lord is my strength*” (**Nehemiah 8:10**). What a spiritual blessing we have in the fruit of the Spirit—”love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control” (**Galatians 5:22-23**). These are things that money cannot buy, but God gives them freely to those who allow the Holy Spirit to sit in the driver’s seat of their lives.

People. What would life be like without loved ones around us who accept us for what we are and provide the safety and security emotionally which make it possible for us to be fruitful? Parents, spouses, siblings, children, and other relatives add so much to our lives. We can be thankful for love and friendship and for the capacity to respond. It is possible to choose a person each day and TELL HIM WHY YOU ARE THANKFUL for that person!

Through a song

One way to express thanksgiving is through a song (**Psalms 95:1-3, 6-7**). Paul directed us to sing with thankfulness in our hearts to God and included ancient songs in some of his epistles (**Colossians 3:15-17, Ephesians 1:3-14, Philippians 2:6-11**). Singing has always been a means of prayer for the people of God, a means by which they especially offer thanksgiving and praise to Him. The only New Testament reference to “the word of Christ” is when Paul admonished the Colossians, “*Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God*” (**Colossians 3:16**). The word of Christ is of such nature that when it dwells within, it seeks expression through singing. Singing “with thankfulness” means to acknowledge properly the gifts that God has given to the singer. We are to engage in “*giving thanks through Him to God the Father*” (**Colossians 3:17**). Our Lord is described as gathering up the thanks (and we could include praise) of His people and presenting it to the

Father (**Hebrews 7:25, 12:24, 13:15; 1 Peter 2:5**).

Now, try this! Finally, CAN YOU PRAY FIVE MINUTES WITHOUT ASKING GOD TO DO SOMETHING? Why don’t you try it? Paul makes it clear that supplication, which simply means to make a prayer request for ourselves or others asking Him to meet our needs, must be preceded by thanksgiving (**Philippians 4:6-7**). It is interesting to note that he always thanked God first before he interceded for the people who were receiving the letter he was writing. “*First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all*” (**Romans 1:8**); “*I cease not to give thanks for you*” (**Ephesians 1:16**); “*I thank God upon every remembrance of you*” (**Philippians 1:3**); “*we give thanks to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you*” (**Colossians 1:3**); “*we give thanks to God always for you all*” (**1 Thessalonians 1:2**); “*I thank God ... as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers day and night*” (**2 Timothy 1:3**).

In arranging my daily time with God, I have learned to begin by acknowledging that I am coming into His presence (**Isaiah 40:31, Psalm 46:10, James 4:8**). Affirming His presence makes a tremendous difference. I then read the chapters set aside for the day (which are provided in the *Doorkeeper Prayer Calendar*). It is out of the Word that I begin to pray with focus on adoration and worship. What I see in the Word triggers my spontaneous praise and worship. If there is any sin which has not been confessed, it is impossible to worship. Therefore confession and cleansing are basics. Then I make it a practice to move into thanksgiving. One principle to follow routinely is not to make one request until some thanks has been uttered. If you will try this for one week, you will experience a great change. We are often so caught up with requests related to what we think we need that we fail to give God credit for what He is doing in our lives. We need to practice giving God the recognition He so rightly deserves and thanksgiving is the element of prayer which enables us to do this. PUT EFFORT INTO THANKSGIVING until

giving thanks becomes a basic part of your prayer life and your everyday living.

We have ample cause for thankfulness in the fact that the Lord Jesus Christ loved us enough to give Himself for us. A farmer was once found kneeling at a soldier's grave near Nashville. Someone came to him and said: "Why do you pay so much attention to this grave? Was your son buried here?" "No," he replied. "During the war my family were all sick and I knew not how to leave them. I was drafted. One of my neighbors came over and said: 'I will go for you; I have no family.' He went off. He was wounded at Chickamauga. He was carried to the hospital, and there died. And, sir, I have come a great many miles that I might write over his grave these words, 'He died for me.'" Every day, we need to remember Him and "By Him, then, let us offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips which give thanks to His name" (**Hebrews 13:15**).

When Paul asked the Philippians to include thanksgiving in all their prayers and supplications, he said the result will be that the **peace of God** would "keep" their hearts and minds (**Philippians 4:6-7**). The Greek word he used, translated "keep" in the King James Version, is *phrourein*, a military word for *standing on guard*. Paul described this peace as surpassing all human thought.

William Barclay points out that this means the peace of God is so precious that man's mind, with all its skill and all its knowledge and all its understanding, can never contrive it, find it, or produce it. This peace is utterly beyond man's ability to obtain by himself. It can never be of man's contriving; it is only of God's giving. The way to this kind of peace is to take ourselves and all of life, including its difficulties, and place them trustingly and thankfully into the hands of God. So what may be interpreted as naivete by onlookers is really the peace of God standing guard.

Do you experience that peace in your life? Is thanksgiving prominent in your prayer life and in your day-to-day living? If not, don't waste time in regret! Let's do it! Make much of thanksgiving. Let's deliberately keep a regular

and inviolable place for thanksgiving in daily praying, regardless of our mood or circumstance. Keep your memory in good repair and you will never run out of substantive thanksgiving! We will never come to an end of thanksgiving, for God "*daily loads us with benefits!*" (**Psalm 68:19**). Remember "Daily" does not mean "every now and then;" "loadeth" does not mean a little, it means a lot!

Prayers needed

God has been faithful to the prayer seminar ministry since its inception. Year by year, we have reported accomplishments that only could be explained by His doings. Your prayers have contributed to the blessings He has bestowed. Doors have been opened because you prayed. Prayer opens closed doors. Paul knew this and asked the Colossians to "*continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; meanwhile praying, also for us, that God would open to us a door for the Word, to speak the mystery of God*" (**Colossians 4:2-3**). Continue to pray for open doors for the prayer seminar ministry and pray with thanksgiving for what He has done. I firmly believe that the accomplishments of yesterday are only a preparation for an even more productive future. But we must ask God to stir up His people to want the instruction.

Following Paul's example, I ask you to pray that once the doors are opened "*that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the Gospel*" (**Ephesians 6:19**).

May this be our daily action: "*I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord*" (**Psalm 116:17**). That will make a difference!

Yours in Calvary love,

J. Gordon Henry



Jeannette Rolater
JGHM
Board member
since 2006.

Becoming humble

The importance and spiritual benefits of thanksgiving in our prayer life cannot be overemphasized. The Bible tells us that God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble (**James 4:6**). But the question is, How do you become humble? Simply, it is done by being truly thankful! The Word of God presents a good rule to follow. Be careful (worried) for nothing (**Philippians 4:6**), be prayerful in all things (**1 Thessalonians 5:18**), and be thankful for anything. It was the sin of thanklessness that caused the ancient world to plunge into the terrible depths of sexual depravity (**Romans 1:21**). In the Old Testament a special group of priests was appointed to do nothing else but praise and thank the Lord (**2 Chronicles 31:2**).

There are two specific things we are to thank God for as we pray. First, we are to thank Him for His work in Creation. David reminds us concerning this area of thanksgiving in **Psalms 100**. Later, John, the beloved apostle, tells us we will thank God for His Creation throughout all eternity: "You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created" (**Revelation 4:11**). Second, we are to thank Him for His work in redemption. John also informs us that our second song in heaven will feature thanksgiving for God's work in redemption: "And they sang a new song, saying, 'You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by your blood'" (**Revelation 5:9**).

THANKSGIVING SCRIPTURES FOR YOUR DEVOTIONS

Psalm 7:17
Psalm 68:19
Psalm 95:2
Psalm 100:4
Psalm 103:1-3
Psalm 107:1
Psalm 118:28
Psalm 136:1
1 Corinthians 15:57



NOTES from my BIBLE

Note 1116. Is the extent of ingratitude 90%? Jesus asked: "Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?" **Luke 17:17**

Note 1117. A good way to show gratitude for your salvation is to share the gospel with as many people as possible.

Note 1118. If you are not praying for your children, no one else is.

Note 1119. Intercession is focusing the power of God on a person or a situation.

Note 1120. Thanksgiving does not change God; it changes us.

DOORKEEPER REPORT

"We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers"

1 Thessalonians 1:2

September 21-October 22, 2007

Regular	38	\$4,158.00
Africa	72	6,895.00
Total	110	\$11,053.00



Welcome, New Doorkeepers!

Wayne & Jennie Agee (VA)
 New Harvest Ministries (MD),
 Marcus Johnson, Pastor
 Sandra Rumore (VA)
 Adrian & Leslie Waters (MD)
 Deron & Lakeshia Wood (MD)

"Laborers together with God"
1 Corinthians 3:9

GOD IS ABLE! GOD IS WILLING! GOD IS WAITING FOR HIS CHILDREN TO CALL ON HIM AND ASK FOR HIS HAND TO MOVE!

Growing your prayer life

Sunday Bwanhot

Seventh in a series

PRACTICAL STEPS TO GROWING YOUR PRAYERLIFE

7. Have Prayer List

It is true that the Holy Spirit is the One that helps us in our praying as “We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us...” (**Romans 8:26**). Certainly the Holy Spirit brings urgent and instant issues to our minds and burdens us to lift them up in prayer. On the other hand are the already established prayer needs that God Himself has commanded us to pray about - praying for our nations, political and spiritual leaders, saints, sinners, protection from temptation, etc. Our leaders in our churches or fellowship groups also charge us from time to time to pray on some particular issues. We sometimes make promises to pray for people who share their needs with us. If you do not organize your prayer life, the Holy Spirit will not do it for you. You will most likely fail to pray for the things God and others have asked you to pray about.

You can begin by preparing a weekly and monthly prayer list. An example follows:

Mondays: Missionaries. List several names of missionaries you will be praying for. **Tuesdays: Tasks.** Your job(s), school, witnessing, Bible Study, and other assignments. **Wednesdays: Workers.** List out Christian workers, colleagues at your work place. **Thursdays: Thanksgiving.** Thank God for who He is, what He has done and what He will do. **Fridays: Family/Friends.** List your immediate and extended family, other families and friends **Saturdays: Sinners.** List out lost people you know and pray for their salvation. **Sundays: Saints.** List believers to pray for, including ministers, and propagation of the Gospel.

For your Monthly Prayer List. Choose three nations, one or two unreached people groups, one or two states in your country pray for daily. If you are waiting for the Holy Spirit to tell you what to pray for, He might be talking to you now to take this approach in addition to His other promptings. There must be a beginning.

A world vision

International seminars are scheduled for **South Africa** (43,997,828), **Kenya** (36,913,721) and the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** (65,751,512) **November 8-30**—three nations with a combined population of 146,666,306. The **budget is \$13,100** (actually the amount reflects three trips combined into one). **As of Monday, October 22, we have received \$7,960 from sixty-nine Doorkeepers.** Our goal is 100 contributors. **PRAY** for the needed funds to come.

The need is great and the hour is late. No gift is too large or too small as the Lord leads. **D.R. Congo is Nation #50 for the prayer seminar ministry.**

We are grateful for the financial support that you have given. On behalf of your brothers and sisters who will receive a workbook, food, and lodging (as needed), thank you.

Decisions determine destiny

Continued from page twelve

altar and aisles were filled with people Recommitting themselves, many weeping. The pastor, at the close of the invitation, asked me when I could return for a prayer seminar. My answer was, “I don’t know because my schedule is full with the duties of the college presidency and other commitments.” He said, “Let the college get them another president; you need to be on the road conducting prayer seminars” –an idea that I had not entertained previously. Through Pastor Gerdes, the Lord planted the seed that developed into a full-blown prayer seminar ministry.

On Monday, October 8, 2007, the 96th meeting of the JGHM Board of Directors convened in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, where we lived for nineteen years. There are four board meetings a year; therefore, this board meeting was special in that we have completed twenty-four years as a ministry. Making the decision to provide a prayer seminar ministry for believers around the world in 1983 has resulted in thousands upon thousands in the United States and fifty other nations participating in 1,296 prayer seminars.

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Reflector
ISSN 0885-8538
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



L-R Martin, Dr. Henry, Andrew (Kenya)

PRAY FOR A MIGHTY MOVING OF GOD
DURING THE PRAYER SEMINARS
IN SOUTH AFRICA, KENYA, AND THE DEMO-
CRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO NOV. 8-30.

Decisions determine destiny

When our pastor, Jim Hooten, invited me to conduct a prayer conference at Madison Baptist Church (NJ), in August 1980, I accepted. I had written material to prepare prayer warriors to pray in a 24-hour prayer chapel ministry in our church in Virginia and still had the mimeograph stencils for those studies. I shared with the pastor that the materials could easily be duplicated. WFME, a Christian radio station, in South Orange NJ, invited me to lead their morning Prayer Time from 10:00-10:30 during the month of August. I invited people in northern Jersey and the Greater New York City area to join us for the October 5-8 Madison prayer conference. Out of these two events came numerous invitations from churches in the Northeast to conduct prayer conferences. The prayer seminar ministry came into being and it was not long until a prayer seminar was scheduled many weekends.

During the week days, I did my work as the Northeastern Bible College president and on the weekends conducted prayer seminars and other ministry in churches. I shared in the Northeastern Reflector, our monthly publication, that my greatest joy was sharing the prayer seminars.

Pastor Roland Gerdes and the missions committee at Sunbury Bible Church, Sunbury PA, invited me to be the keynote speaker for their annual missionary conference March 20-23, 1983. My assignment was to speak on Sunday morning and then to return on Wednesday night for the conclusion bringing Northeastern students to sing and to interface with their youth. The Holy Spirit moved mightily during the Sunday morning service. We arrived on Wednesday for the fellowship meal prior to the service. Several missionaries shared that the people had been talking about Sunday morning's service. One missionary said, "If you had given an invitation, a large number would have come forward."

The Holy Spirit did His work bringing the Word alive. When I gave the invitation, the

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