

REFLECTOR

VOL. 53, No. 7

"Holding Forth the Word of Life"

July 2007

Motivating factors for evangelism

Paul said two things in **2 Corinthians 5** that clearly explain his motivation and the concern that drove him to turn his life completely to the Lord Jesus Christ. Let's prayerfully look at them and think about their implication for our lives.

I. V 11 - "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men . . ." Could it be that those words have never been read by many preachers, pastors, deacons, Sunday school teachers, parents, and God's children in general? Billy Graham has often mentioned that just one second in hell would make us so different in the urgency we would give to the matter of reaching out. I agree unequivocally.

Two memorable experiences

In early October 1959, I was preaching a revival meeting in Liberty Baptist Church, Garrard County, Kentucky. Two memorable things will forever be etched into my mind. In those days, the revival meetings were always two weeks. The arrival of our second child was imminent. Sue and I promised that if our baby came before the revival was over, we would bring him/her to one of the services. Surely enough, Mark Alan arrived on October 8 and on the last Saturday night of the revival, he attended his first church service at Liberty.

The other memorable thing from that revival was the unusual burden displayed by **Pastor Aubrey Eckenroth** for the unsaved people in his community. The pastor was quite wealthy, drove a Cadillac, and his family owned several big buildings in downtown Louisville. His eyes, however, were not on things of this earth. He wanted us to visit every lost person in his home to present personally the gospel and to urge him to attend the services. As a result, there were

unsaved people present to hear the gospel in every service. After I preached a sermon, I gave an invitation to come to Christ. As an invitation hymn was sung, a number came to Christ. Pastor Eckenroth, before closing the invitation, stood before the congregation weeping freely. He always explained, "knowing the terror of God, we persuade men." He would then say, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (**Hebrews 10:31**).

As a twenty-four year old pastor-evangelist, this made an indelible impression on my mind and heart. Over the years, when waiting for sinners to come to Christ during an invitation period, I could see a Kentucky pastor weeping and explaining to the people the reason that he was extending the invitation.

No sense of urgency

Today, many churches do not have two-week revival services and do not reap the benefit of extended sowing and reaping in their vineyards. Rather, if they venture to schedule a "revival meeting," no more than four days are set aside (usually Sunday through Wednesday). There is no sense of urgency. There is no meaningful period of invitation. Many do not even sing hymns of invitation substituting a worship chorus. The unsaved come, hear, and go away lost.

During my tenure at Liberty Baptist College (now Liberty University), we often attended

CONTINUED ON PAGE TEN

Perspective

During the time in 1977 when God was in the process of changing my views about various aspects related to the Christian life--the place of a daily time in the Word, the role of the Holy Spirit in my life, that "Spirit-filled" really means "Spirit-controlled," and about prayer--a small booklet came across my desk entitled **The Seven Wonders of Prayer**, written by Armin Gesswein. Through his explanation of the very first wonder -- **WORSHIP** -- I saw something that I had never seen before. Prayer is not bringing God down to earth to get in on what I am up to at all. Prayer is an act whereby a believer moves into the very presence of God in the Throne Room (**Hebrews 4:16, Hebrews 10:19, Revelation 4:1-2**).

I felt grateful to **Armin Gesswein**, but had no idea who he was. Five years later, I would not only find out, but I would meet him personally. On Monday, March 15, 1982, I was sitting at my desk in the President's Office at Northeastern Bible College (NJ) when a telephone call came from a local pastor telling me of the availability of a guest speaker in his church to speak in chapel provided it would be the next day. His name? **Armin Gesswein**. Although a faculty member was scheduled to speak, he graciously forfeited his time so we could hear the great man of God.

Our friendship grew year by year. Until God called Armin home on March 10, 2002 at the age of ninety-three in his seventieth year of ministry, we often carried on correspondence.

In tribute to his life and ministry, I have used Armin's messages in our paper. Although this message is longer than usual, I encourage you to read and study it. May the Holy Spirit use his writing to rekindle your own sense of wonder about prayer and inspire you to give yourself to prayer.

Armin Gesswein believed that prayer is the work that must come before all other work and could not understand why pastors and other church leaders did not see this great truth in their own ministries.

The Seven Wonders of Prayer

Armin R. Gesswein

I. Prayer Is WORSHIP

By prayer we enter into God's holy temple, and penetrate at once to the throne of His grace. Prayer is not only the shortest distance to God's mighty throne; it is the only way in. To think that this supreme wonder could take place so suddenly with one bold blood-bought step! There we see the Lord Jesus, ever ready to pray for us, and ready to give us of His own praying, by His Spirit. Glorious discovery: He is only a prayer away! The veil of sense and space that hides Him within His temple-universe is suddenly removed as we pray. We enter silently into His temple, and lo, suddenly, we are before His throne. Priests, before our great High Priest. There, too, we are suddenly in the presence of angels and archangels, and with all the company of Heaven we worship and adore Him. Only there do we discover the wonder of worship, that worship is before work, and that all His works are done in the spirit of worship. There are many churchgoers, but few worshipers, because there are few pray-ers.

Scripture

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name:" (**Psalms 100:4**).

"And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever" (**Revelation 5:13**). "God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth" (**John 4:24**).

SENTENCE SERMON: *Prayer opens Heaven even now. Therefore, let us pray!*

II. Prayer is WAITING on God

Only those who wait on Him can wait for Him. Theirs is the patience of the saints. His patience becomes theirs. Only those who wait

on Him can wait on others. In the end they also experience being waited on by others.

In prayer we learn to wait. There we cease from our feverish haste and restlessness, for we are before Him. We also enter into His rest, where we cease from our own works. "Prayer is wonderful relaxation. it rests me," writes a missionary.

We also listen, for there He speaks, and all the earth is silent before Him.

In prayer we learn to hear Him speak first, and then we speak; He works, and then we work. All proceeds from Him: words and works—and, in worship. There we learn that God only blesses that which comes from Himself.

Prayer brings out God's personality to the full, and also mine. A minister said, "My personality is zero until I pray."

Prayer puts me in the place where God can do it all. It is His one way of keeping our lives on a constant miracle basis. Therefore, let us pray!

Scripture

"Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you" (**James 4:8**). "Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him.... Those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth." (**Psalms 37:7,9**). "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (**Isaiah 40:31**).

SENTENCE SERMON: *The Lord works for those that wait for Him.*

III. Prayer is WALKING with God

Prayer is communion and fellowship, and our walk is one of communion with the Lord. Fellowship seems to be a form of prayer, when the Lord Jesus is in the midst. In prayer we talk with God, walk with God, and work with God. It is as we walk with God that we also learn to work with God. There, in His way, His works appear.

The "promised land" is, in a real sense, the land of promises. It is as we pray that we inherit

the promises, and that God fulfills them. The promises of God are shaped, one by one, for our praying. There we learn to take off our shoes and worship, for we are on holy ground. After we have learned to kneel long on His promises, we will learn to live by them and for them. They become our home. By prayer we enter into every word of God. It likewise enters into us, and we live by every word of God. It is thus that we advance in that land; on our knees. Knee-action, then foot-work, is the way.

We are no farther along with God than we are on our knees. Also, we are no taller spiritually than we are in prayer. "What the church needs," it was said, "is a man so tall that he can reach Heaven on his knees."

If we are too busy to pray, we are not only too busy, but barren. Whatever else we may be doing, we certainly are not doing the works of God.

"We will never be much for God unless we are much with God," writes a minister.

Everything that the Lord Jesus did was easy, except prayer. Usually He spoke but a word, and it was done: whether preaching, teaching, healing, casting out demons, calling disciples, stilling the storm, feeding five thousand miraculously, or raising Lazarus from the dead. But, one thing was *work*, even sweat, tears, and agony; that was His praying. It was the one great work out of which all His works came; the great ministry in the ministry, out of which all ministry was born.

The labor of prayer also is clearly brought out by the strong words used in the New Testament: Seeking; knocking; supplication; importunity; intercession; giving ourselves continually to prayer; continual coming; effectual fervent prayer; strong crying and tears; etc.

Christ was too busy to have time to pray; therefore He *took* time for it. And we must do the same, or we shall never pray in these days. Many have taken Christ as Savior who have not yet taken Him as Example. This is very serious. The New Testament writers were as much in dead earnest when they took Christ as their Example as they were in taking Him as their Redeemer.

Scripture

“Created . . . unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them” (**Ephesians 2:10**). Christ hath left us an example, that we should “follow His steps” (**I Peter 2:21**). “Grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ” (**Ephesians 4:15**). “If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin” (**1 John 1:7**).

SENTENCE SERMON: *The Christian life is a life of Christ, and the life of Christ is largely a life of prayer.*

IV. Prayer is WORK

All of God’s works are wrought by prayer. Prayer works, “changes things,” because through it God works. By prayer we enter into His works. Prayer not only works, but it is work, real work—both for Him in Heaven, and for us on earth. If we do not learn to pray, we shall not amount to a thing for God. For it is the one work where we behold God doing His work. There, we become workers together with God. Like Christ, and with Him, it is in prayer that we must put in the real man-hours of labor. All else is easy, when we learn to labor in prayer. Christ labored in prayer to the point of sweat, tears, and agony.

Prayer is our main ministry in the ministry, even as it was His. Yes, it is right now His one supreme ministry, for He “ever liveth to make intercession” for us (**Hebrews 7:25**).

Our generation has yet to see prayer as a ministry, and to take God at His Word on this subject.

It is *while* we pray that God works, if we can but see Him—not merely before, or after prayer. Our idea is, “Let us pray, and then get on with the work.” But prayer *is our real work*. We so often think of prayer as a prefix or a suffix to an otherwise busy round. But God’s works are wrought as we pray, and *while* we pray.

It brings a revolution to any minister of Christ, once he believes God’s Word on this point.

His works are done through prayer, for He always works out from His throne by intercession. It is not only His intercession, but ours, too: for, by His Spirit, He not only prays for us, but in us. He gives us of His own great praying—and that is the truest praying.

We are not just to imitate His praying, but to enter into it, receive it, and have it enter into us. That is how we enter into His works, become “labourers together with God,” and learn to cease from our own works. We learn in this way to work *with* Him, instead of *for* Him. Sons, and no longer slaves.

Then, after we have prayed, we walk with the Lord Jesus into the works He has wrought in answer to prayer. Prayer is our real work.

Working is drudgery. Even working *for* the Lord is dreary. But working *with* Him is delight.

In His Kingdom, it is those to whom He ministers who minister. The conquered conquer, and the followers of Christ lead others.

When we work *with* God—as we do in prayer—we shall see the works of God.

Scripture

“In every thing by prayer and supplication . . . let your requests be made known unto God” (**Philippians 4:6**). “Workers together with Him” (**II Corinthians 6:1**). “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure” (**Philippians 2:13**). “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (**James 5:16**).

SENTENCE SERMON: *With God, prayer is not everything, but everything is by prayer.*

V. Prayer is WARFARE

Then only do we engage the enemy—Satan and his forces—when we pray. There it is the battle is fought, and the real victory won.

Christian work only succumbs to the enemy; it does not engage him or overcome his power unless we pray.

It is really only in the place of prayer that we wrestle against principalities, against powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world, and against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Unless we learn to pray, we never do battle for God, or become Christ's soldiers. The entire armor is shaped for prayer. That is the real battleground.

Unless we learn to pray and wrestle there, we shall get into the wrong battle and lose—the hot battle of words and the clash of personalities.

The Lord had 120 "knockers," but He shut them all up to pray in the Upper Room. He taught them to do all their knocking in prayer. Then He never had the problem of "knocking" in His Church!

There, in that Upper room in Jerusalem, He made them soldiers. There He mobilized them, and there He also trained them for His warfare.

All through the Acts they march, after that, on their knees! In almost every chapter they are praying. The new power they have in the Spirit is like military power. For they witness and win souls not only from sin, but from the bondage of the Devil, and that right in the very strongholds of heathenism. With witnessing goes warfare. It is a constant battle for souls.

The victories won by prayer,
By prayer must still be held;
The foe retreats but only when
By prayer he is compelled.

Scripture

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God. . . praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit" (**Ephesians 6: 12, 13, 18**). "Men ought always to pray, and not to faint" (**Luke 18:1**). "Ask, and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (**Luke 11:9**). "Whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth, shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (**Matthew 16:19**).

SENTENCE SERMON: *The battle is won in prayer; in witnessing we simply take the spoils.*

VI. Prayer Fulfills THE WILL of God

"Does prayer change the will of God?" asks a Christian. It seems a knotty question. No, it does not. Actually, it is only by prayer, and in answer to prayer, that God's will is done on earth, as it is in Heaven. This is another way of saying that so often because we do not pray—the will of man, or of the flesh, or of Satan, is being done. That is just the trouble, and the crux of the matter.

This is just where the Bible comes in. A chaplain was kneeling in prayer with a group, as one by one they prayed, "Lord, if it be Thy will . . ." He suggested that they all rise from their knees, take their Bibles, and find out what God's will was in the matter; and then go to prayer, praying that His will, revealed in His Word, be done.

This is the point where we must watch closely. The point of *reason* is that prayer changes God's will; the point of Scripture is that prayer realizes God's will as revealed in God's Word.

Reason can also argue very subtly in the opposite direction: "God is sovereign. He is God, you know, and He will do this thing whether we pray about it or not." Nothing is closer to reason, at times, than this; yet, nothing is further from Scripture. *For God will not do apart from prayer what He has promised to do in answer to prayer, and it is my Christian responsibility to search the Scriptures and find out just what that is.*

It has well been said, "When God is about to do a work, He always starts by getting His people to prayer."

It is only as we pray that we get what God can do.

Nothing lies outside the circle of prayer except what lies outside the orbit of God's will.

Scripture

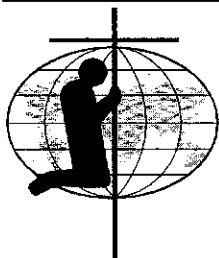
"Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth" (**Luke 11:2**). "If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (**John 15:7**). "Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not"

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT

DOORKEEPER PRAYER CALENDAR

JULY 2007

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



Basic principles

"Ask [and keep on asking]..."

Matthew 7:7

1. Be specific (James 4:2b)
2. With right motive to glorify God, not self (James 4:3)
3. Pray for laborers (Luke 10:2)

SUNDAY, JULY 1

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

MONDAY, JULY 2

PROVERBS 1-4 (Gabon 1.4M)
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)

TUESDAY, JULY 3

PROVERBS 5-9 (Gambia 1.6M)
(Ecuador 11.5M)
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)
Stephen & Joyce Bishop (VA)

Everett & Deborah Boston (MD)
WEDNESDAY, JULY 4
PROVERBS 10-13 (Gaza 1.4M)
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)

THURSDAY, JULY 5

PROVERBS 14-17 (Georgia 4.7M)
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)

FRIDAY, JULY 6

PROVERBS 18-21 (Germany 82.4M)
Ron & Julia Carlin (AL)
David & Martha Cecil (VA)
Merry J Chandler (MD)
Mary Clark (VA)
Margarie Coffee (VA)
Jim & Kathy Connolly (VA)
Ted & Terry Cooper (SC)
Foster & Georgia Covington (VA)
Terry & Sonja Craig (TN)

SATURDAY, JULY 7

PROVERBS 22-24 (Ghana 22.4M)
Joel & Paula Criz (HI)
Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC)
Bill & Beverly Curtis (PA)
Lin & Barbara Custalow (VA)
Ida J. Davis (GA)
John & Margaret Davis (VA)
Mark & Charmaine Davis (VA)
Lelia Dean (FL)
Robert & Virginia DeBoer (NE)
Harold & Tama Decker (NY)
Nick & Wilma DeGroot (IL)

SUNDAY, JULY 8

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)

MONDAY, JULY 9

PROVERBS 25-29 (Gibraltar 27,928)

July 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)

TUESDAY, JULY 10

PROVERBS 30-31 (Greece 10.7M)
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)
Tim & Merry Gregory (VA)
Sue Hamm (KY)
Uel & Hazel Hartless (VA)
Jim & Joyce Hengoe (FL/CT)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

ECCLES 1-6 (Greenland 56,361)
Bruce & Gina Henry (VA)
Doug Henry (TN)
J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA)
Jacqueline Henry (VA)
Mark Henry (TN)
Melody Henry (VA)
Roger Henry (OH)
Susan & Jamey Henry (TN)
Joanna Holland (VA)
John & Glenda Holland (VA)
Jayson & Marylynn Hooker (VA)

THURSDAY, JULY 12

ECCLES 7-12 (Grenada 89,703)
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 & Almarretta Hupp (PA)
Ed Hurlow (IN)
H. J. & Paula Hutchins (MS)

FRIDAY, JULY 13

SONG OF SOLOMON (Grenada 89,703)

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)

SATURDAY, JULY 14

ISAIAH 1-4 (Guadeloupe 452,776)

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)

SUNDAY, JULY 15

Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN)
 Sherry Klutz (WA)
 Quentin & Mary Knauer (OH)
 Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY)
 Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI)
 Korcan Branch:

Dr. Shin Kwang Suk
 Craig & Molly Lampe (AZ)
 Phil & Loetta Landers (OK)

MONDAY, JULY 16

ISAIAH 5-7 (Guam 171,019)
 Charles & Cynthia Larson (MI)
 Bob Lawrence (MD)
 Kevin & Kay Layne (NC)
 Kehaunani L. S. Lee (HI)
 Raymond & Janet Lemay (VT)
 Vincent & Mary Lobisco (MI/FL)
 Kevin & Stacy Logsdon (KY)
 Ray & Bobbie Long (WV)

TUESDAY, JULY 17

ISAIAH 8-12 (Guatemala 12.3M)
 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)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

ISAIAH 13-16 (Guernsey 65,409)
 Sid & Jane McLaughlin (AL)
 Jim & Lin McLean (TN)
 Leonard & Martha Meador (VA)
 Don & Barbara Meduna (CO)
 Memorial Christian Church (VA)
 Ken & Betsy Miedema (MI)
 Lewis & Martha Miller (IN)
 Lowry & Marjorie Miller (VA)
 Mike & Cheryllann Miller (CO)

THURSDAY, JULY 19

ISAIAH 17-20 (Guinea 9.7M)
 Earl & Marvel Mills (VA)
 Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC)
 Katherine Morgan (VA)
 Chet & Betty Nichols (VA)
 Craton & Helen Noyes (KY)

FRIDAY, JULY 20**ISAIAH 21-23 (Guinea-Bissau 1.5M)**

Tom & 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)

SATURDAY, JULY 21**ISAIAH 24-27 (Guyana 767,245)**

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)

SUNDAY, JULY 22

Clark & Marie Rogers (VA)
 Fred & Jeannette Rolater (TN)
 Bob & Shirley Rose (MI)
 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)

MONDAY, JULY 23**ISAIAH 28-30 (Holy Sea 932)**

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)

TUESDAY, JULY 24**ISAIAH 31-35 (Honduras 7.3M)**

LeRoy & Suk Hi Standifer (WA)
 Marion J. Stansell (TX)
 Tim & Pam Steger (ID)
 Gordon & Carol Stewart (AZ)
 Gary/Leta Fern Stillwagon (GA)
 Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA)
 Johnny & Rose M. Street (AR)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25**ISAIAH 36-39 (Hong Kong 6.9M)**

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 Percz, Pastor
 Mona Henry Thomas (VA)
 Mildred V. Thompson (GA)
 Paula Tipton (TN)

THURSDAY, JULY 26**ISAIAH 40-43 (Hungary 10M)**

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)

FRIDAY, JULY 27**ISAIAH 44-48 (Iceland 299,388)**

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)

SATURDAY, JULY 28**ISAIAH 49-51 (India 1.1b)**

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 & Virginia Williams (NC)
 Julie L. Wilson (PA)

SUNDAY, JULY 29**ISAIAH 52-57 (Indonesia 245.5M)**

Mulamba Placide Kituta (Congo)
 Stephen Latong (Nigeria)
 Leslie & Tabitha Motsafane (South Africa)
 Adam & Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela)
 Andrew J. Sakari (Kenya)
 Martin & Anne Shikuku (Kenya)
 Onesimus Sule (Nigeria)
 Silas & Alice Yashim (Nigeria)

MONDAY, JULY 30**ISAIAH 58-62 (Iran 68.7M578)**

Roy & Eva Winebarger (VA)
 Dot Winfield (MD)
 Amos Wipf (GA)
 The Word Church (NJ)
 Buz Offenbacher, Pastor
 Greg & Lori Worley (GA)
 Todd & Stephanie Wright (KY)
 Lili Wykle (VA)
 Robin & Deborah Yohe (PA)

TUESDAY, JULY 31**ISAIAH 63-62 (Iraq 26.8M)**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE

Jeremiah 33:3). "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure" (**Philippians 2:13**).

SENTENCE SERMON: *In the Bible God reveals His will, in prayer He fulfills it.*

VII. Prayer is the School Where God Teaches Us His WORD

Someone has said, "the promises are the molds into which we pour our prayers." D. L. Moody said, "Tarry at a promise, and God will meet you there." When the answer comes, it comes by the way of the promise, and fulfills it.

The promises, then, are the very size and shape our prayers should take; and they are also the size our answers should have.

How far along are we with Christ? How large is our development? Our growth? Our stature? Our Christian maturity? This is shown by our prayer life. For our real discipleship is in the *school of prayer*. Likewise, most all of our dealings and disciplines of the Lord are registered there. We are no further along with Christ than we are in our praying. Prayer, for the Christian, is a life. We should speak of the *prayer life*. That is the exact measure of our spiritual growth. It is the exact level of our power. Satan need not attack our power; only our praying.

Our spiritual stature is revealed by the kind of praying we do, and by the kind of answers we receive. A leading Christian lady once asked a young minister: "You speak of getting answers to your prayers in a new way. I would like to know what kind of answers you are getting." That was a well-pointed question.

Our prayers should grow with our Christian life, and we should likewise have larger answers. In Acts 9, for example, while Paul was receiving the answer to prayer for his soul's salvation, Peter was receiving mighty answers which resulted in spiritual awakening in whole communities. Something like that was the young preacher's experience, just mentioned: he not only experienced the fullness of God's Spirit in his own heart, but was rejoicing in a spirit of revival in his congregation.

Another way we know of our progress is by the kind of tests and trials we are given. Every failure arises from some failure in prayer, in our Christian life. Spurgeon once said, "The best evidence that we are in God's will is the Devil's growl!"

In this school—which is our life—the Lord Jesus teaches us *prayer and faith*. These always go together, in every lesson. Question: Am I in the kindergarten? First grade? Or, how far? Many Christians do not advance. Some never mature. A great many remain babes, carnal.

Then, too, if we fail (in a test), we must take the examination over. We must learn to pray. We must learn that lesson, or we do not advance in the Christian life. The lesson is largely a prayer-faith lesson. It does no good to run away from it, or to resign. We must face it, and go through! We shall have to meet that same lesson and learn it, though we flee to the uttermost parts of the earth. And, it might be even worse there.

As they went on, the disciples began to learn that the Lord Jesus' great secret was in prayer. They also discovered that He was in dead earnest about the fact that His big prayer secret must become theirs; and that—by His promises, His precepts, His parables, and, above all, His own tremendous practice—He was passing it on to them.

By the time our Lord was ready to depart for Heaven, whatever His disciples had not learned as yet, they really did know how to pray. The secret had become theirs. Now He could depart, for He had gotten them so well schooled in prayer and faith that they would fully trust His Word, and He could therefore trust them. They graduated. It was their "commencement." From then on they advanced, chapter by chapter through Acts, on their knees.

Everything was by prayer. The main reason for this is that their entire life and ours is to be on a constant miracle basis. It is His one way of getting right into everything, and doing it, by having us proceed "in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving." Then He is All in all, and gets all the glory.

Scripture

"Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1). "These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brethren" (Acts 1:14). "In every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Philippians 4:6).

SENTENCE SERMON: *If we are to be like Christ, we must search the Scriptures to learn what Christ is like.*

J. Gordon Henry

Growing your prayer life

Sunday Bwanhot

Third in a series.

PRACTICAL STEPS TO GROWING YOUR PRAYER LIFE

3. Prayer--not a spiritual gift but a Command!

We have defined prayer as fellowship or communion with God. God desires it; we will be insane without it and our lives will just be plain purposeless. All through Scriptures, God calls on His people to pray. Just a few examples will suffice for now: "If My people shall humble themselves and pray..." (2 Chronicles 7:14); "Call to Me and I will answer..." (Jeremiah 33:3); "Devote yourselves to prayer ..." (Colossians 4:2); "Pray continually" (1 Thessalonians 5:17); "Watch and pray so that you do not fall into temptation..." (Matthew 21:41); "I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer." (1 Timothy 2:8). Unlike spiritual gifts, which are assigned differently to individuals as the Holy Spirit chooses to give them, prayer is a basic foundational premise for every believer. We are all commanded to pray.

God gives you twenty-four hours a day and commands you to use part of that time to pray. When you choose to use the time for something else He did not command you to do, what excuse can you give to God? If we are not obeying God, then we are not following Him. Sounds too hard? Sometimes that is how the truth sounds and certainly now.

Follow Jesus to the garden and tarry in prayer. Job, fatigue, etc are not excuses. Ask Peter! Obeying His command is what prayer is and about.

"Teaching and preaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 28:31)

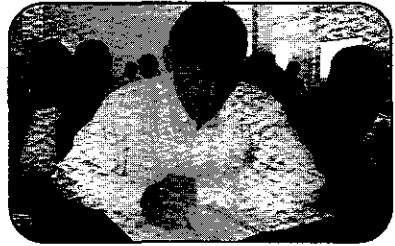
January-June 2007

Prayer Seminars	31
Evangelism Clinics	10
Sermons	8
Miles traveled	34,053

Ten states: AL, FL, GA, HI, KY, ME, MN, NC, PA, SC

Four nations: Canada, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela

Ecuador-Peru 2007



Ecuador--Serious Note-taking



Peruvian pastors discussing workbook



Rev. Joses, Dr. Henry,
Ted Cooper (SC Coordinator),
& Israel (my new Spanish interpreter)

God's provision

Last month, the study in **Perspectives** highlighted God's provision for His children. In every way, He has provided for all our needs. In a sense, you are God's provision. His plan has always been to use people in His work. In fact, He has no other plan.

Are you available? If you are, tell Him. Christ alone can save the world, but He cannot save the world alone.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

special evangelistic services at Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Virginia. Dr. Jerry Falwell was masterful in extending an invitation for salvation. Scores responded. He asked that the ushers close the doors and urged lost men, women, boys, and girls to come to the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. His wife, Macel, played the piano as the congregation sang, "It's harvesttime, harvesttime! The grain is falling, the Savior's calling. O do not wait, it's growing late, the fields are white. It's harvesttime." Hundreds came to Christ.

II. V 14 --"For the love of Christ constraineth [i.e., urges, compels, drives] me." Simply, love cannot let the sinner alone anymore than light can let darkness alone! This is why Christ, in love, has commissioned every Christian to be about the business of witnessing bringing all persons everywhere face to face with His yearning love (**Acts 1:8**). Love cannot be indifferent to the spiritual welfare of a sinner.

"Let us alone"

Most lost people want to be left alone in their sins. They do not have a desire to have their consciences aroused anymore than did those demons when Jesus was in Gadara described in **Mark 5:7**. This "let us alone" is surely the cry of the lost of all ages. Satan wants the lost to be left alone. He fills their time and lives with so much to crowd out Christ. Lost people will seldom attend church services until the miracle of Christ's compelling love confronts them and draws them there.

The moment that the pressure of Christ's love begins to bear on a sinner, the issue will be drawn. The lost person then must choose to either crown or crucify Him. The need of the hour is for those who have Christ's love to reach out to people. Sooner or later, each of us will have to face the fact that some persons will not hear of Christ's love if we don't tell them.

The most effective way

We are to go into the highways and hedges and compel them to come. Love is the most effective way to carry out this mandate.

**NOTES
from my
BIBLE**



Note 1096. Prayer connects us with the power. Much prayer, much power; some prayer, some power; no prayer, no power;

Note 1097. When we tap into God's eternal power, our resources are unlimited.

Note 1098. The tragedy of our day is not unanswered prayer, but unoffered prayer.

Note 1099. Prayerlessness does not mean that a person never prays; rather, it means that he is not praying like he should be praying.

Note 1100. The only way to learn to pray is to pray.

DOORKEEPER REPORT

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

1 Thessalonians 1:2

May 23-June 22, 2007

Regular	45	\$2,516.00
Ecuador/Peru	8	693.00
Total	53	\$3,209.00



THANK YOU, DOORKEEPERS!

More Than Enough

Although we exceeded our set Ecuador-Peru budget by around \$500 (travel/lodging/honoraum for interpreter), your gifts were more than enough to meet the need. Thank you!

**JGHM IS A FAITH MINISTRY
SUPPORTED BY THE GIFTS OF
OUR FRIENDS!**

God at work in West Kenya

Greetings my Brother Henry,

I am very fine in the Lord Jesus Christ. My family is also growing up very well and the church. May I just say that your **Reflector** magazine has increasingly been a great blessing and inspirational source to me every month. Some find me just after sharing the same scripture to my family during our daily family altar or after preaching it to my congregation or just before I deliver it to my people but already laid on my heart by the Holy Spirit. Thank you.

The May edition has indeed increased and brought full direction to my prayer life. I have been thinking of what and how to do with my congregation towards turning it into a prayer army since the first time I met you at the East Africa Bible Institute. After going through this edition, I now have an open direction for the way forward. "The sad reality is that many churches and pastors have yet..."

My prayer is that more churches will awaken. It is a bit easier to make a personal decision as Joshua (24:15) than it is to make it for a whole congregation; but since I am the mandated leader for the Glory Baptist family to shepherd them under Christ. I chose to agree with the urge of the Holy Spirit that. "We chose to become one of the praying churches around the globe." In fact my 2008 church's theme will be "MAKING PRAYER A PRIORITY." Therefore, I feel led by the Spirit of God to make the same theme the theme for your Eldoret 2007 prayer seminar of Nov. 18-21.

We had very successful Kenya Baptist Convention elections on leadership. I was proposed in education and training committee and Andrew in evangelism department. Pray that we shall be good servants (Col. 3:23-24). The one day prayer seminar in my city at Zion cathedral church was very successful dealing with the subject only (what is prayer and the sin of prayerlessness I was moved to see changed lives in the evening confessing that prayer will be their life priority. Praise God. I left them with a capitalized conclusion "THAT PRAYER IS THE WORK

THAT MUST COME BEFORE ALL OTHER WORK." Nineteen committed Christians attended fully. I managed to photocopy only one manual for the pastor and invited others to our (Nov. 18-21) as per the will of God. Now pray for me during 11th-13 June at Lumakanda Baptist church.

Finally, I wish you God's blessing, His favor, mercies and grace (**Eph. 2:11-13**) during your prayer seminar in Ecuador, Peru and Baltimore in June. How was the Canada mission? Prayer remains the message.

In Christ's love and service,
Pastor Martin Shikuku
Eldoret, West Kenya

NOTE: My students at the East Africa Bible Institute (May 2006) continue to report how the prayer seminar impacted their lives and ministries. A number have been conducting their own prayer seminars in Nairobi, in West Kenya, and in the Congo.

In preparation for our November 2007 visit to South Africa, Kenya, and Congo, there are specific prayer needs. Pray that the Lord will guide the coordinators in Kenya and Congo as they make preparation for my visit for the very first time. Pray that the new Swahili translation will be ready and that a new French translation can be completed since Congo is French. As usual, pray for Leslie Motsalane (director, JGHM--Southern Africa Branch) as he makes preparation for the seminars in South Africa. Around the world, the prayer seminar is being taught regularly and we are grateful to the Lord for using so many.

"Finally, brethren, pray for us that the Word of the Lord may have free course."

2 Thessalonians 3:1

July

16-17 Beacon University--IOM
Brunswick, GA

26 Southern Cross Ministry

Aug 4 Sue Henry, Thailand

August

16-31 Trinidad & Tabago

Reflector

ISSN 0885-8538

J. Gordon Henry Ministries

1127 Lakeview Drive

Lynchburg, Virginia 24502-8807

(434) 239-8837 E-mail: jghm84@aol.com

www.jgordonhenryministries.org



NOT ONLY IS THE PRAYER SEMINAR WORK-
BOOK A WELCOMED TREASURE TO
THE PARTICIPANTS, SO IS THE PRAYER
SEMINAR CERTIFICATE.

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LYNCHBURG VA
PERMIT #857

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Ministering to the ministers

Ecuador-Peru May 31-June 15



Although there were prayer seminars in several churches during the sixteen days, the main emphasis of **Ecuador-Peru 2007** was ministering to the ministers. Pastors from across Ecuador came to Quayaquil. Pastors from northern Peru gathered in the chapel at the new camp on the Pan-American Highway north of Piura. Pastors from southern Peru journeyed to the Airport Church in Lima.

We have never taught so many pastors anywhere in the world or had any better reception. The unction of the Holy Spirit fell upon each session. During the extended sessions, I covered basic areas in depth to provide a refresher course for God's pastors: the Word of God, Spirit-filled, Prayer, Witnessing, and Stewardship. Each thing that I taught was anchored in the Word of God. I cautioned the pastors not only to listen to what was being presented, but to be sure that it was supported by God's written Word.

Many pastors assured me that they were going to ground their own people in the truths that were covered. We were able to provide additional Spanish workbooks to facilitate their sharing. As I reflected upon the opportunity that God provided to touch so many lives through at least 150 pastors, I had a feeling of joy. I do not believe that a minute was wasted—an extraordinary experience in my life for which I will be eternally grateful. Knowing that many of you commissioned me to go in your place was a constant thought that caused me to pray over and over—God use the prayer seminar as never before to make a difference. I firmly believe that He answered that prayer. Thank you for giving to the Lord to make the time in Ecuador-Peru possible and fruitful.