

REFLECTOR

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“Holding Forth the Word of Life”

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The sleeping giant

“And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand” (**Romans 13:11-12a**).

A small boy was playing at his father’s knee as he read the evening newspaper. A clock malfunctioned and struck thirteen times. The lad observed to his father: “It has never been this late before.” Anyone who uses the Bible to discern the times must conclude that “it has never been this late before.”

The sleeping giant. In the parable of the bridesmaids (**Matthew 25:1-13**), Jesus told of ten bridesmaids (five wise and five foolish). The wise had oil in their lamps (representing the saved) and five were foolish not having oil in their lamps (representing the unsaved). The analogy is quite easily understood, but the shocking point is that they all slumbered and slept: “While the Bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept” (v 5). Some have referred to the church as the sleeping giant—and so it is.

The affairs of the day need a church awake and vigilant. Many churches are full of professing Christians who don’t even know basic biblical truths and whose lives don’t reflect the Word’s transforming power. At the same time, biblical beliefs are either attacked, ignored, misrepresented, or violated in our society and others.

For example, surveys by the highly represented Barna Research Group show that one out of every three “born-again Christians”

in America believes that Jesus Christ actually sinned during His life, that He was not physically resurrected, and that faith in Christ is not needed to go to heaven. That is the reality of our times. Barna discovered that 55 percent of evangelical church youth have experimented sexually and that once they are on their own, two of every three evangelical Christian young people will abandon church altogether.

Make no mistake, there is an escalating, effective attack on biblical Christianity in America and elsewhere—and too many Christians are too spiritually weak to fight back or even build each other up in the faith. Today good and evil are colliding with new ferocity.

How to awaken the sleeping giant. The biggest scandal in Christianity today is that so few Christians know the Bible. As long as the Word of God is neglected and ignored, there will be no change. One of the major elements of the prayer seminar ministry has been to encourage participants to get into the Bible and honor it as the living, powerful, and inerrant Word of God. We have clear communication from God and it is in the Bible. Here we find the answer to life’s big questions and guidelines for life’s daily decisions. Only here do we find a sure road map to eternity. Careful reading of God’s Word can yield untold fruits.

Another key area is the Holy Spirit. The Church lives too much like the world and there is little conviction among believers that this is wrong. Once a person gets into the Word of God, the Holy Spirit will bring the Word alive to bring conviction of sin. A major focus in a prayer seminar is to teach Christians how to be Spirit-filled, which is Spirit-controlled. This

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Perspective

“Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me.”

Romans 15:30

There is no doubt that God intends for His children to order their lives around prayer. Many, however, are guilty of the sin of prayerlessness (**1 Samuel 12:23**). In fact, some studies show that many Christians pray less than four minutes a day, if at all. Prayerlessness does not mean that a person never prays. It means that he is not praying like he ought to be praying.

God’s Word is full of examples of prayer. Anyone who wants to know about prayer is wise to study them. One of the goals of the prayer seminar ministry is to mobilize prayer warriors who will become intercessors. An intercessor is one who focuses the power of God upon a person or a specific situation.

What good is it to pray for someone else and circumstances? Does prayer make a difference? Won’t God do it anyway whether we pray or not? Is there real power in intercessory prayer? Think about the church prayer meeting. What kind of requests should be made on behalf of someone else?

Surprisingly, the only NT writer to ask for prayer by others on his behalf was Paul (unless someone else wrote Hebrews). Paul believed beyond a shadow of doubt in the effectiveness of intercessory prayer. Much can be learned from his personal experience.

The church at Rome. Paul urged the church at Rome to strive together with him in prayer. Ken Taylor’s paraphrase is quite graphic: *“Will you be my prayer partners? For the Lord Jesus Christ’s sake, and because of your love for me—given to you by the Holy Spirit—pray much with me for my work. Pray that I will be protected in Jerusalem from those who are not Christians. Pray also that the Christians there will be willing to accept the money I am*

bringing them. Then I will be able to come to you with a happy heart by the will of God, and we can refresh each other” (**Romans 15:30-32 LB**). I like that, but it doesn’t reflect the intensity of the Greek.

“Strive together with me” is a picture of the apostle and the believers at Rome standing side by side on the spiritual battlefield, waging warfare for the Gospel. It is laboring to the point of exhaustion. Through such praying, the Christians at Rome could join Paul in the work he was doing for the Lord. The prayers of God’s people can move to any point in the world energizing God’s servants for their tasks. Think of that! God’s design is to allow His children to participate in His spiritual purposes for the earth! Entrance into prayer is unrestricted. The most humble and uneducated of God’s people can pray. Distances and difficulties cannot deny the opportunity to pray.

By looking at Paul’s specific prayer requests and what happened in Paul’s life, we can test the effectiveness of intercessory prayer. There were three objects of concern.

1. Deliverance in Jerusalem (v 31). Paul urged the Roman believers to pray that he might *“be delivered from those who are disobedient in Judea.”* His worst fears were realized when he was attacked by his enemies in the Temple a little over a week after his arrival in Jerusalem (**Acts 21:27**). He was rescued by Roman soldiers. Why did the mob not succeed in their wicked design? Roman Christians were praying that he be delivered as Paul requested! Even then, an assassination plot was concocted; his enemies did not give up easily! But a young boy overheard the plotters (**Acts 23:16**). The young boy was Paul’s nephew who reported what he heard to his Uncle Paul. It is rather amazing that the Roman centurion would believe a boy’s tale! He did and literally employed hundreds of soldiers to get Paul out of Jerusalem and down to Caesarea on the Sea (**Acts 23:23**). Further, the Lord Himself stood by Paul on the night immediately following his arrest to tell him: *“Take courage, for as you have solemnly witnessed to My cause at*

Jerusalem, so you must witness at Rome also” (Acts 23:11).

2. Acceptance in Jerusalem (v.31). When Paul wrote to the Roman believers, he was concerned that his efforts in raising a relief offering for the saints in Jerusalem among Gentile believers not be misunderstood or rejected. It seems that his relations with the Jerusalem church were tenuous at best and that he had strong opponents over the requirement of circumcision (**Acts 15:12**). The Church at Rome prayed. What happened? The Holy Spirit moved Luke to note that which otherwise would have been taken for granted: *“And when we had come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly” (Acts 21:17)*. God answered the intercession of the Roman believers!

3. Visit to Rome (v 32). Paul’s third request for prayer was that he might *“come to [them] in joy by the will of God and find refreshing rest in [their] company.”* The way that Paul got to Rome was probably not the way he visualized. He anticipated another missionary journey—this time to Rome and to Spain. God had a ticket to Rome waiting for Paul at Caesarea. A pagan society provided the passage to Rome for God’s missionary. As Roman Christians were praying for Paul’s request, God was moving on his behalf. A terrible storm developed en route and an angel of the Lord told Paul: *“Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar; and behold, God has granted you all those who are sailing with you” (Acts 27:24)*. After fourteen days in the storm, the ship ran aground and broke up, but Paul and all the others were cast up on the island in Malta—every life was spared.

Cold and wet, Paul helped the others gather firewood so that they could dry out and be warmed. A snake was in the bundle of sticks he carried to the fire and sank its fangs into Paul’s hand. The natives expected him to die and concluded he was a murderer and that some kind of unseen power must have determined he would not escape! Paul simply shook it off and was unharmed! There certainly was unseen power in what was happening; it was the power of God in cooperation with

prayer. God’s people were praying and God was at work. Nothing could keep him from Rome!

Intercessory prayer is praying on behalf of God’s purposes in the earth and in accordance with God’s will. It may be impossible to explain how God incorporates the prayers of His people in doing His work, but the sovereign God has made it possible. He commands us to pray.

Churches at Corinth, Ephesus, Colossae, and Thessalonica. Paul earnestly sought the prayers of God’s people because he believed this to be a part of God’s provision for the meeting of his situation. Not only did he ask the Roman Christians to pray, but he expressed the same view when he wrote to the church at Corinth that they were *“also joining in helping us through your prayers, that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many” (2 Corinthians 1:11)*. He called to the remembrance of Ephesian believers the importance of their prayer on behalf of others, saying, *“With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints” (Ephesians 6:18)*. Paul wanted the Ephesian Christians to be sensitive to the needs of other Christians and to be exercised in prayer on behalf of them. Then he made a specific request for himself, that he would both know what to say on behalf of the gospel and then have the courage to say it (**Ephesians 6:20**). This request is notable in that his concern was not for a change in circumstances as an *“ambassador in chains”*—but for faithfulness in those very circumstances. Is there any doubt as to whether God answered?

Colossians is likewise a letter written from prison in which Paul encouraged believers to devote themselves to prayer. His specific request was that they would be *“praying at the same time for us as well, that God may open up to us a door for the Word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned” (Colossians 4:3)*. Paul told the Thessalonians

he needed their prayers in order to carry out his ministry: *“Pray for us that the Word of the Lord may spread rapidly”* (2 **Thessalonians 3:1**). He also believed their prayers were needed that he be delivered from “perverse and evil men.”

Our call to intercession. How many times do some believers say: *“Please pray for me!”* with a ring of earnestness? Sometimes those words throb with all the pent-up agony of a burdened soul. It is profitable to pray for someone else. There is real power in intercessory prayer. One need only track Paul’s life to see how that he made his requests known to fellow believers at some point. Later, there are written accounts to demonstrate that God moved to meet his needs.

For whom are you praying? We can be sure that if we are not praying for our loved ones by name that nobody else is! If you have grown weary in your intercession or if you have become careless—and the Holy Spirit has spoken to you through the Word of God that has been shared—don’t waste time in regret. Agree that your prayerlessness is sin, that you are guilty and ask for forgiveness and cleansing. *“Father, You want me to pray for others. I agree with you that I have sinned by my failure to do what you want me to do. I’ve changed my mind about my prayerlessness and acknowledge that my neglect is sin. I say the same thing that you are saying. Please forgive and cleanse me.”*

On the authority of God’s Word (**1 John 1:9**), we can claim forgiveness and cleansing: then, yield control afresh and anew to the Holy Spirit. Allow Him to sit on the control seat of your life. He will help you form a prayer list. Begin to pray knowing that the sovereign God has ordained prayer as the tool to get His work done and that God works only in concert with the praying of His people!

Paul not only wanted God’s people to pray for him, but he often interceded for others. It is undeniably true that involvement in intercessory prayer has an effect on the one who prays. The church at Antioch had a

continuing prayer meeting in which Paul was a participant (**Acts 13:1-3**). A few others were there, but not many. Barnabas, Simeon, Lucius of Cyrene and Manaen, who had been brought up with Herod the Tetrarch, joined Paul in *“ministering to the Lord”* through praying and fasting. The object of their concern must have been the further extension of the gospel, especially to the Gentiles. It was then that the Holy Spirit commanded that Barnabas and Paul be separated to the work of ministry to regions beyond. It very well may be that you will want to either renew or begin a commitment to join with other believers in intercessory prayer. God moves when His people pray!

Yours in Calvary love,

J. Gordon Henry

Anger and prayer

Nothing can so quickly cancel the frictions of life as prayer. If you find yourself growing angry at someone, pray for him—anger cannot live in an atmosphere of prayer.

William T. McElroy

For special reflection

There is a point where God and man must meet, either in grace or judgment, and at that point both are revealed as they are.

Dr. George W. Truitt

Question: Are you ready for your meeting with God? You can make your peace with God now.

French Connection

Sue and I enjoyed our time with the Emmanuel International Church in Paris, France January 20-27. Pray for **Pastor Brian Kirby** and this congregation as they minister in a strategic city in Europe, a continent that has lost its faith. We are grateful to **Valerie Ritchey** who served as coordinator.

I love this!



The Street Family--Lonoke, Arkansas

Since October 30, 1995, **Rosie Street** has been a faithful **Doorkeeper**. After a career in the US Air Force, she moved to Arkansas with her husband Johnny. Their financial support has been significant on a regular basis. But when we came to **2007's greatest challenge**, the seminars in South Africa, Kenya, and the D. R. Congo, this couple did something that was inspiring. As they prayed about their support, a CD became mature. The Holy Spirit spoke to them to invest both the principal and the accrued interest in the prayer seminars in these African nations. To say that I was "overwhelmed" with joy and appreciation would be an understatement.

Then a card came from the Streets entitled "**WHAT A FIND WE HAVE IN JESUS**. We find peace, and the **PRINCE OF PEACE**; we find righteousness, and the **RIGHTEOUS ONE**; we find counsel, and the **COUNSELOR**; we find wonders, and the **WONDERFUL ONE**; we find salvation, and the **SAVIOUR**; we find the Kingdom, and the **KING**. *In Jesus, we find more gifts than our hearts can ever imagine.*" I love this thought from the beautiful **Street Family** and know that you will be blessed as well. I love this Street family picture as well.

Learn from early believers

Early Christians wove Scriptures into the body of their prayers (e.g., **Acts 4:24-30**). Learn the Word and you will be surprised how often the Holy Spirit will bring Scripture to mind in your adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and seeking for yourself and others. Praying the Scriptures is powerful praying, indeed!

Jesus to His disciples:

"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (**John 14:27**).

The offer is still good!

But money cannot buy it; good works cannot earn it! Peace comes only from God and only when you make peace with God only available through the blood of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, who paid for our sins when He died on Calvary's cross.

Have you made your peace with God? If not do it today!

"He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name" (**John 1:11-12**).

Peace with God— Then the Peace of God

Heaven above is softer blue,
Earth around is sweeter green;
Something lives in every hue
Christless eyes have never seen;
Birds with gladder songs o'erflow,
Flowers with deeper beauties shine,
Since I know, as now I know,
I am His and He is mine!



MARTIN & ANNE SHIKUKU
Lydia (8), Shalom (5)
Becky (3), Josiah (2)

PRAYER CALENDAR**FEBRUARY 2008**

"I will give myself to prayer..."

Psalm 109:4b**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1****LEVITICUS 1-3 (Argentina 41M)**

Wayne & Edie Aardsma (IL)
 Burnace Abrams (OH)
 Marie Adams (VA)
 Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)
 Rosalee Adams (VA)
 Wayne & Jennie Agee (VA)
 Norma Ailes (FL)
 Clyde & Kathryn Allen (VA)
 Lon & Denise Anderkin (FL)
 Tommy & Pat Apple (NC)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2**LEVITICUS 4-7 (Australia 21.2M)**

Milcie Arnold (VA)
 Solomon & Kriskna Arrington (MD)
 Leonor Avila (MD)
 Kenneth Banks (NC)
 Carolyn Barkley (NY)
 Stan & Emily Baskin (TN)
 John & Joan Bateman (PA)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

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 (NC)
 Stephen & Joyce Bishop (VA)
 Ed & Loretta Bolen (VA)
 Everett & Deborah Boston (MD)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

LEV 8-10 (Bahamas 331,000)
 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)
 Clint & Dorothy Brooks (VA)

Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)
 Shirley Brown (VA)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

LEV 11-15 (Botswana 1.9M)
 Jack & Arretta Bruce (KY)
 Freddie & Yvonne Brunson (DE)
 Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)
 Janice Bugg (TN)
 Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)
 Neal & Mary Ann Cabannis (VA)
 Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)
 Lew & Mary Campbell (ID)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6**LEVITICUS 16-17 (Brazil 186M)**

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7**LEVITICUS 18-20 (Canada 33.1M)**

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8**LEVITICUS 21-23 (Chile 16.6M)**

Delmarva Evangelistic Church (MD)
 Ruth Chamberlain, Pastor
 Alan & Rebecca Dockrey (KY)
 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)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9**LEVITICUS 24-27 (China 1.3B)**

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)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Frances Glass (AL)

Gloucester Co. Community Church
 Bruce Sofia, Pastor (NJ)

Ronald & Maryann Gold (CO)
 Odether Gray (GA)
 Linda Gregory (NJ)
 Uel & Hazel Hartless (VA)
 Jim & Joyce Hengoad (FL/CT)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11**NUMBERS 1-4 (Colombia 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)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12**NUMBERS 5-8 (Costa Rica 4.5M)**

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)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13**NUMBERS 9-12 (Cuba 11.3M)**

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)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14**NUM 13-16 (D,R, Congo 62.6M)**

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)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15**NUMBERS 17-20 (Ecuador 13.3M)**

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

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16
NUMBERS 21-25 (England 50.7M)

Charles & Cynthia Larson (MI)
 Bob Lawrence (MD)
 Raymond & Janet Lemay (VT)
 Rose Lewis (MD)
 Mike & Earlene Lips (MS)
 Vincent & Mary Lobisco (MI/FL)
 George & Ginger Locklear (NC)
 Stacy Logsdon (KY)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Ray & Bobbie Long (WV)
 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)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18
NUM 26-30 (Fija Isles 839,000)

Gary & 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)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19
NUMBERS 31-33 (France 64.1M)

Earl & Marvel Mills (VA)
 Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC)
 Katherine Morgan (VA)
 New Harvest Christian Ministries (MD)
 Marcus Johnson, Pastor
 Chet & Betty Nichols (WA)
 Craton & Helen Noyes (KY)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
NUMBERS 34-36 (Germany 82.3M)

Ann Palumbo (NJ)
 Jim & Barb Peterson (MI)
 Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA)
 Pleasant Hope Baptist Church (KY)
 Luther & Leslie Poellnitz (MD)

Ben Poplin (VA)
 Ayers & Nina Porter (TN)
 Marshall & Lois Powell (KY)
 Brandon Jeanne, Maggie Pribble (VA)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21
DEUTERONOMY 1-4 (India 1.1B)

Mike & Joyce Riley (KY)
 Cynthia Roach (VA)
 Windi & Caleb Roach (OK)
 John & Sandra Roberts (FL)
 Bo & Betty Robinson (MS)
 Dudley & Isabel Robotham (NY)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22
DEUT. 5-7 (Indonesia 231.6M)

Clark & Marie Rogers (VA)
 Fred & Jeannette Rolater (TN)
 Bob & Shirley Rose (MI)
 David & Amy Ross (KY)
 Sandra Rumore (VA)
 John Saint (PA)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Don & Marie Satterwhite (MD)
 David & Betty Schaum (NY)
 Tyler & Rebecca Scarlett (VA)
 Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA)
 Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA)
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23
DEUT. 8-11 (Israel 7.2M)
 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)
 Paul & Mary Smith (TX)
 Doris Snyder (FL/OH)
 Walt & Betty Sommers (VA)
 John & Helen Sourlis (MD)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

LeRoy & Suk Hi Standifer (WA)
 Marion J. Stansell (TX)
 Tim & Pam Steger (ID)
 Carol Snow Stewart (AZ)
 Gary/Leta Fern Stillwagon (GA)
 Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA)
 Johnny & Rose M. Street (AR)
 Bob & Sandy Swain (VA)
 Tabernacle Baptist Church (DC)
 William Stroman, Pastor

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25
DEUT 12-16 (Italy 59.2M)

Brian & Janice Tarraferro (TX)
 Taylor's Chapel Baptist Church (TN)
 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)

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)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26
DEUT. 17-20 (Jamaica 2.7M)

Sara Underwood (TN)
 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, FEBRUARY 27
DEUT. 21-26 (Japan 127.7M)

Kay Warmerdam (TX)
 Don & Joyce Warpoole (TN)
 Rodger & Jean Watts (WI)
 Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY)
 Allan & Judy Whitmore (VA)
 George & Virginia Whitner (FL)
 Paul & Diane Wieland (PA)
 Edward Williams (NC)
 Elijah Williams (NJ)
 Julie L. Wilson (PA)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28
DEUT. 27-30 (Kenya 37.5M)

Tim & Merry Gregory (Thailand)
 Mulamba Placide Kituta (Congo)
 Stephen Latong (Nigeria)
 Leslie & Tabitha Motsalane (S 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, FEBRUARY 29
DEUT. 31-34 (South Korea 48.2M)

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

Return to Venezuela

One of the most important countries in South America is Venezuela. Our third trip to this nation is scheduled for **March 15-30**. The April 2007 mission, when 2,633 attended six seminars, certainly verified that pastors and people are ready for the prayer seminar ministry. Both **Adam Nathanson**, who has served as our Spanish/Portuguese interpreter in many Latin American nations and is now a missionary-teacher in Caracas, and I felt the Holy Spirit working in an extraordinary way.

The leaders of the very strong and influential Council of Evangelical Churches have been working with Adam to establish a venue in Caracas, the capital city with 7 million, and in Meriba, a resort city in the mountains. Although the budget has not been finalized, we ask you to begin praying that the prayer and financial need will be met once again.

Adam has asked that JGHM provide 2,000 Spanish prayer seminar workbooks. Mary, in Lima, Peru, has agreed to print and ship them.

Itinerary

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

2 Thessalonians 3:1

February

- 5 - 15 Sue Henry, Thailand
- 7-9 Beacon University-IOM
Lifeline Church, Newport News VA*
- 8- 9 Prayer Seminar
Vision Baptist Church
Bonita Springs FL
- 10 Evangelism Clinic
A. M. Preaching
- Contact: Pastor John Roberts (239) 992-6227
- 21-23 Beacon University-IOM
New Covenant Church, Macon GA*

March

- 15-30 Prayer Seminars-Venezuela
(Caracas & Meriba)

*Video - Institute of Ministry --ten hours

New DVD available



WAYNE VESPIE & DR. HENRY--NEW DVD

For many years, the prayer seminar has been available on video. Two years ago, it was converted to DVD format. When the video was produced at the Christian Missionary Alliance headquarters in Colorado Springs, CO, we used the seventy-nine page workbook.

The first 2008 prayer seminar was a four-day event at the historic First Baptist Church, Madisonville, Kentucky. I enjoyed every minute with **Dr. Joe Leonard**, the senior pastor, his staff, and his people. The Holy Spirit's unction fell upon every session. The attendance at each session was remarkable. Sue and I made many new friends. We were guests in the home of **Bob & Jewell Bouchard**, who became our friends thirty years ago.

Thanks to **Wayne Vespie**, director, FBC Television Ministry, we now have a new edition of the prayer seminar on DVD. It was a joy to work with him in the recording sessions. The format for the six-hours is twelve thirty-minute segments following the thirty-page prayer seminar workbook. It is designed for both individual and group study.

In line with our policy, JGHM does not "sell" books, tapes, or other materials. We do "suggest" a contribution for those who are in a position to help defray production costs. The suggested contribution for the DVD and one prayer seminar workbook is \$20. I believe that this will be one of the most fruitful things. Now everyone who has a DVD player--individuals, churches, and other groups can experience a prayer seminar.

The sleeping giant, **continued from page one**

includes confessing and forsaking known sin and yielding to His leadership.

A Christian will never develop a meaningful, consistent prayer life apart from living the Spirit-filled life. Many have shared that one of the major benefits of the prayer seminar is to learn how to be clean before God and how to be Spirit-filled. Only when a believer has dealt with his sins does he have access to the power of God (**Psalm 66:18** and **Isaiah 59:1-2**). As a believer hears God speak through His Word, he will be ready to speak to God in prayer in a meaningful, fulfilling manner.

The purpose and power of prayer. Often here in the United States and in other nations, folks say that they did not understand the purpose and power of prayer until the Holy Spirit brought relevant Scriptures to show them. A man who attended a recent seminar at First Baptist Church, Mifflintown PA, wrote how his spirit had been revived and said he would never be the same.

Uniqueness. A leading pastor in Tidewater Virginia characterized the prayer seminar as unique and encouraged me not to change anything about it. When I asked the meaning of “unique,” he said that it meant one of a kind in its content and method of delivery. As we approach a new year, my commitment is to continue sharing as often and as widely as possible knowing the “night is far spent” and time is short.

When I became president of Northeastern Bible College (NJ), I became acquainted with Columbia (SC) Bible College and was impressed at their quality. Consequently, I invited their president, **Dr. Robertson McQuilkin**, to bring the inaugural address at my installation. Their motto stuck in my mind and I believe that it is appropriate for the work we are doing—**to know Him and to make Him known**. This was basically Paul’s personal mission statement (**Philippians 3:10-11**). As long as there is breath, JGHM will attempt to follow this as our

own mission statement. Through our **Doorkeepers**, we are making a difference in many lives around the world and pledge to continue to do so as God opens doors for us to share.

A half century and beyond

With the January 2008 issue, the **Reflector** began its fifty-fourth year of publication. Initially, it was primarily directed to members of the church where I served as pastor. The intention was two-fold: informational and inspirational. It was my desire to do everything within my power to encourage our people. When I changed positions, the publication continued.

I now see the **Reflector** as an extension of the prayer seminar ministry with the same two-fold purpose—to keep our **Doorkeepers** and other friends updated on the ministry to enable them to pray more intelligently for us and to provide inspiration to both challenge and encourage as we live our lives on earth.

Preparing copy is a highlight of each month’s activities. We want to be a blessing in your life and this is a tangible way for us to do so. By reading and heeding, you, then, will be a blessing in my life. If you know anyone whom you feel would benefit from the **Reflector**, get their permission and share their mailing address with us. As we draw nearer to the years when travel will be limited, we can continue to serve actively through the printed ministry.

God at work in Venezuela 2007



**Mark your prayer calendars for 2008:
March 15-30**

LITTLE ELEPHANTS IN TROUBLE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWELVE

to take the prayer seminar to Kenya and to surrounding nations in East and Central Africa. Don't forget to pray. Prayer support is needed along with the financial support.

Word from Martin Shikuku

January 7, 2008

"Praise God that I am still alive and my family. I ran to the police station in town since 31st. The whole village is burnt down including my assistant pastor's house with everything..I have been sleeping outside on the ground, no food, clothes, house, communication and so on. I managed to go back yesterday on foot for worship and thank God that they spared the church with my house though they looted everything from my house. Eleven out of my more than 200 members came for prayers totally discouraged, hungry without a house, some with their beloved ones dead and so on. They killed my father in law on Mon. and was found on Thur. in the fields around by the police now in the mortuary. I have found a small guest house in town where iam trusting God for the money to pay it and at least stay there for this month before I resettle. I escaped my children to Pastor Andrew on Fri. by the grace of God. I have postponed my Jan.19th and 26th Prayer Seminars in Eldoret up to Feb.16th and 23rd.

We cannot be separated from the great love of God(Jhn.3:16 and Rom.5:8).Satan is totally a liar. Our battle is from victory to victory. I am in urgent need of food ,shelter, clothes, money, etc. Martin and wife Anne alive in Eldoret determined to march forward in the army of the Lord despite of the calamities. Greet Sue and Maggie."

January 10, 2008

"The tension is still very high with more people coming through Eldoret and out of Eldoret. I managed to get to the Money Union and received the money the following day. I have paid the whole month rent of Ksh 20,000,

CONTINUED ON PAGE ELEVEN

NOTES
from my
BIBLE



Note 1131. Think about it. The true Christian is a person who is right-side up in an upside-down world.

Note 1132. If you need a helping hand, you will find one at the end of your arm.

Note 1133. Count on it. God's Word will stand, His truth prevail, and not one jot nor tittle will fail until time is no more.

Note 1134. Past experience is a good guidepost but it should never be used for a hitching post.

Note 1135. He who does not pray when the sun is shining will not know how to pray when the inevitable storm clouds come.

DOORKEEPER REPORT

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

1 Thessalonians 1:2

December 13-January 17

Regular	74	\$8,314.00
Martin/Kenya	41	7,015.00
Total	115	\$15,329.00



THANK YOU, DOORKEEPERS!

Welcome, New Doorkeepers!

Harry & Nancy Coffee (VA)
Alan & Rebecca Dockrey (KY)
David & Amy Ross (KY)

"Laborers together with God"
1 Corinthians 3:9

WORD FROM MARTIN
CONTINUED FROM PAGE TEN

set aside my tithe; bought some house basics: utensils, foods, clothes to at least change, and so on. Thank you very much and God bless JGHM. We love you as a family. My assistant pastor arrived yesterday from Nairobi Where the whole issue caught him and I was to much counseling and guiding. He slept in my small room for a night. Thank you once more. Martin and wife Anne in Eldoret. Shalom.”

January 15, 2007

“Sunday 6th experience was one I have never ever experienced in the life of my ministry since Nov. 3rd 1996 (the day I started Glory Baptist Church in Eldoret). My few people who managed to come, were fearful, discouraged, homeless, hungry, some of us with the death of their beloved ones and so on. We had nothing to do except to pray, encourage one another based in 2 Chro. 7:14 and returning back to where we had come from.

However, last Sunday 13th was a day of its own. I had full confirmation from the Lord that all in all I am among the remnants and that Jesus Himself had put me in my church field for His own good will and purpose. I arrived there at exactly 8am an hour before the normal church worship service starting time full of the message of King Hezekiah from Isaiah 38.

My subject was “God Remembers!” reminding my people what He exactly remembers as God:

- Those who walk faithfully before their Lord God.
- Those who walk with whole hearted devotion to their God
- Those who are determined to do good in the eyes of God and not men (Col 3:23).

God’s Spirit came down. I saw smiles (on my increased Sunday attendance from 31 of 6th Jan to 41 on 13th) hope and renewal of our stand towards God through Adoration and Petitions. Finally I explained to them (flock) the blessing of US\$1000 I had received from JGHM and how it was spent. Part of the expenditure, I had purchased the following: 2 bells of wheat flour

(48 packets of 2kg each); 2 bells of maize/ corn flour (48 packets of 2kg each); Cooking oils (1 carton with 24 pieces of 500g each; Beans (one sack of 80kg); 2 bells of rice (48 packets of 2kg each); Salt (48 packets of 1kg each).

I distributed to them with my wife in plastic paper bags whereby at least each family had a meal on table that evening from the church. That is why I say thank you JGHM. The challenge I am facing as per now is the transportation of some who have made up their minds that they should go back to their relatives first before they make another decision. They need transportation. Others need blankets, mattresses, mosquito nets, medicine and foodstuffs as well.

I am also very much involved in their camps with spiritual support of prayers, guiding and counseling and so on. My greatest prayer is that God, the prince of peace will restore peace in our beloved country Kenya. I am actually saddened to see the cultural culture wanting to dominate the Christian culture. It remains one of the greatest challenges I have observed in all these. How can a country like Kenya that claims to be 80 percent Christians end up like this? This raises to me a great call towards true Disciple-making within our church family. A true disciple hates not, rather he loves all including his enemy. A true disciple- is a peacemaker not a war-maker. We all pray for peace in Kenya.

Finally, I say again, thank you for your love respond to this time and true and urgent need. Your quick understanding responds of prayer, loving and merciful financial support has made us to realize our future hope again. We can strongly move through and out of this calamity full of the Lord’s joy (James 1:2-4). God bless you all as per Phil 4:19. Both the political sides have not agreed and the opposers have decided to have peaceful demonstrations countrywide from Wednesday for 3 days and the government has called it off as illegal thus raising more tension again of what may come out of this. Pray with us over this too. Greet all the beloved in the seminars.”

Shalom.

Pastor Martin, Eldoret, Kenya

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WESTERN KENYA 11/24/07
TO LEFT OF DR. HENRY, ANNE SHIKUKU
TO RIGHT, MARTIN SHIKUKU, FAR RIGHT
PASTOR ANDREW SAKARI, THE FOUR
SHIKUKU CHILDREN IN FRONT.

Little elephants in trouble

The analogy of the elephants was shared in the January **Reflector**. A beautiful carving of a big elephant with a small one by his side was a gift from **Martin and Anne Shikuku**, Eldoret, West Kenya. At the presentation, Martin shared that the big elephant represents me, the leader and originator of the prayer seminar ministry, and the small one represents him and all others who would be teaching the prayer seminar in Kenya and surrounding nations. I was deeply moved and touched by this analogy. Little did I know that very soon the little elephants would be in serious trouble.

Kenya's national election day was December 29. Post-election violence erupted when it appeared that the incumbent had stolen the election. A report came that the devastation was heaviest in West Kenya in the Eldoret area. For example, people fled to a church for refuge; the building was burned down killing fifty people. My concern deepened for the wellbeing of Martin, Anne, their four children and their congregation. After waiting anxiously to hear from Martin, the first word came on January 7. He reported that his village was burned. He and his family fled to the police station. His house was completely stripped—clothing, furniture, cooking utensils, and such. Anne's father was brutally murdered. Martin fled to the Eldoret police station and spent several nights sleeping on the ground.

JGHM, as soon as it was safe to do so, sent funds to help get Martin reestablished and funds to **Andrew Sakari** in Misikhu (the coordinator for the second November seminar). A number of refugees, including Martin's young children (ages 8, 6, 3, and 1) have gone there. Food and blankets were purchased from our gifts. We then told everyone on the Reflector mailing list of the need. The response was tremendous with many sending help for Martin. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you. Your contributions will make a difference in getting Martin's work moving forward again. **I am convinced that God has anointed Martin**

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