

# REFLECTOR

VOL. 57, No. 3

*“Holding Forth the Word of Life”*

March 2011

**PENETRATING  
THE SPIRITUAL DARKNESS  
VENEZUELA  
April 3-19, 2011**

*Do it, again, Lord!*

To celebrate their sixtieth anniversary, the **Venezuela Baptist Convention** decided to make 2010 a year of evangelism. The goal was to bring many people to the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Although there are evangelical churches throughout the land today, that was not true sixty years ago. Many communities did not have even one Christian family. When a person or family came to Christ, they were quickly ostracized and often asked to leave the community. Even today, the spiritual darkness is pervasive with many involved in spiritism and witchcraft.

The strategy was to build a strong foundation of prayer believing that prayer is the work that must come before all other work. To this end, I was invited to assist in laying this foundation by conducting a series of prayer seminars in March along a thousand mile arc in western Venezuela. I returned in August to teach several hundred pastors and leaders to prepare them for two weeks' evangelism in four western states. The result was 6,010 coming to Christ. God is able! God is willing! But we must ask!

A few weeks from now, April 3-19, **Adam Nathanson** (missionary in Caracas and my Spanish interpreter) and I will replicate what we did in 2010 in eastern Venezuela. Our prayer is simple: “Do it again, Lord.” We need both prayer and financial support.

For our November work in **Kenya** and **Tanzania**, **Foster and Georgia Covington** (Doorkeepers, Roanoke, Virginia) prepared a prayer list to guide their praying. There is a difference in simply praying and having a prayer life. **Foster** has learned that **if you don't have a prayer list, you don't have a prayer life**. He is 100% correct. Here are items on that particular prayer list: 1) we pray for you tonight; 2) we pray for the people who hear you; 3) we pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare you; 4) we pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare them; 5) we pray for the Holy Spirit to grow them; 6) we pray for revival; 7) we pray for Sue; 8) we pray for your children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; 9) we pray the trip will go smoothly; 10) we pray the weather will be good; 11) we pray for no hindrances from the evil one; 12) we pray for strength to overcome Satan's traps; 13) we pray for the armor to shine; 14) we pray for the sword to be sharp; 15) we pray for great success.

**Intercession is focusing the power of God on a person or a specific situation.** We encourage all of our **partners** to ask the Holy Spirit's guidance in making a prayer list for you to follow for **Venezuela**. Be sure to include “Do it again, Lord.”

## Perspectives

David: *“Oh, how I love Thy Word! It is my meditation all the day”* (**Psalm 119:97**).

What is success and how does a person become successful? Books are written on this subject and people aspiring to it enroll in classes that promise sure answers in a series of easy lessons. **Robert Frost** said that “Success is working faithfully eight hours a day so that you may eventually get to be boss and work twelve hours a day.” The pessimist says, “It is living miserable in order to die rich.” The optimist says, “It is getting up just one more time than you fell down.” Another says, “The only real problem with success is that its recipe is about the same as that for a nervous breakdown.”

The Book that gives God’s sacred secret for success is the Bible. While the road for genuine success is marked clearly through the sacred Scriptures, the word “success” is found only one time in the Bible. The Lord was giving instructions to Joshua, who was succeeding Moses, and told him to be strong and very courageous. Then He gave the first secret of a successful servant of God.

It might surprise you when you read that the advice was not concerning action or attitude. The prime injunction was not an urgent “up and at ‘em” philosophy but a quiet, reflective preparation and deliberate meditation. He said, “This book of the law shall not depart out thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have great success” (**Joshua 1:8**).

The first secret of successful living and service is to be in the place where God can speak to you and give you your marching orders. It is waiting in the chamber of prayer and meditation. Moses gave similar advice when he said, “Set your hearts unto all the words which I testify among you this day,

which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this law. For it is not a vain thing for you; because it is your life: and through this thing ye shall prolong your days in the land, whither ye go over Jordan to possess it” (**Deuteronomy 32:46-47**).

What may seem to be a setback to you in your plans for life may really be a most important factor which God considers success for you. There is a land to possess and claim for God and our natural feeling is to be up and at it, and to be in a place where we can extend our full energies to get the job done. God’s secret for real success begins by setting our hearts on His Word. The initial step toward success is often “to be still and listen to His voice.” Here we can “ponder the path of our feet” (**Proverbs 4:26**). Here we can “consider our ways” (**Haggai 1:7**). When our energetic, “let’s get on with it” nature says “hurry, rush,” often God says “Be still and reflect.”

How important to remember that unless motion in the work is preceded by meditation in the Word, what may appear to be success in our vocabulary could be failure in His. Be still, wait on Him, and know His Word and His will. This is God’s secret for success.

### Meditation

Basically, to meditate is simply to mutter, muse, or talk to yourself. Isn’t that a definition of the act of thinking itself? One of the principles of learning is that we learn to do by doing. The more activity generated, the more likely learning is taking place. Thinking is doing. When you talk to yourself, you are doing something. If an instrument were attached to your vocal cords, there would be movement registered as you think.

Meditation is the act of thinking deeply on Scriptural truths. Other words used for meditation are muse, remember, consider which were used by Asaph, during a sleepless night (**Psalm 77:3, 6, 11, 12**). Mary, the teenage mother of Jesus, had so many things to happen to her which she “treasured

*and pondered in her heart” (Luke 2:19, 51).* When Joseph shared with his father and brothers his dream, *“his brothers envied him, but his father kept the matter in mind” (Genesis 37:11).*

### Pictures of meditation

There are a number of helpful analogies that give a clear picture of meditation. One often used is a tea bag in a cup of hot water. A believer is the cup of hot water and the Scripture is the tea bag. Can you recall the five things that a believer must learn to do with the Word of God if he is going to be used in the work of God? Remember that the five things can be represented by the five fingers of a hand with the little finger representing the first of the five and the thumb the last — **hear, read, study, memorize, and meditate.** Meditate is the thumb which enables a person to get a grip on something. When you have the Word in your mind, with the help of the Holy Spirit, you will be able to see things from God’s point of view. This is the value of meditation.

Hearing God’s Word is like one dip of the tea bag (the Scriptures) into the cup of hot water (the believer). The water absorbs some of the flavor of the tea bag with the one dip, but not as much as it does with a more thorough steeping of the tea bag. Reading, studying, and memorizing are additional plunges into the water. It is apparent, isn’t it, that the more frequently the tea bag enters the water, the more effect it has! Meditation is like immersing the bag completely and letting its contents steep until all the rich tea flavor has been extracted and the hot water is thoroughly tintured reddish brown ready to drink!

I have often used the analogy of cows ruminating under a shade tree. A cow takes into her stomach a quantity of grass, finds a quiet spot to rest undisturbed, and brings the grass it has swallowed back up into its mouth and systematically, slowly and methodically, chews it, turning it over and over to get all

the good out of it before swallowing it again.

This is a clear depiction of meditation. We read the Word and get it into our minds. We then turn the passage over and over as we think about it, asking the Holy Spirit to teach its truth to us and open up its message to the nourishment of our souls. We can count on God’s willingness to help us. The process should include unhurried lingering and, in a dynamic, fast-moving world, that is not always easy to accomplish since there are always places to go and people to see. Meditation, by its very nature, calls for time and patience. It is a mental discipline that you carry throughout your day. It’s a mindset and a lifestyle in which the Word courses through your mind.

Another analogy is the digestive process. In an amazing way, digestion is working day and night. With no time off or vacation, it absorbs the nutrients from food we eat and distributes them to every cell in our bodies. The digestive process is necessary for life. If it shuts down, the body will slowly die. God’s Word is the believer’s spiritual food — necessary for spiritual health and vitality. Like physical food, it must be taken in, digested, and absorbed. Meditation is one part of that spiritual digestion process. By the way, eating is more than a good idea!

Yours in Calvary love,

*J. Gordon Henry*

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**R** Tim & Merry Gregory (Thailand)  
**S**hem & Deborah Kamla (Nigeria)  
**E** Mulamba Placide Kituta (Congo)  
**M** Nuhu & Mercy Leo (Nigeria)  
**J**ohn & Elberta McSween (Trinidad)  
**E** Leslie & Tabitha Motsalane (South Africa)  
**M** Enock & Patience Mulomba (Botswana)  
**A**dam & Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela)  
**B** Andrew J.Sakari (Kenya)  
**E** Martin & Anne Shikuku (Kenya)  
**R** Onesimus Sule (Nigeria)  
**C**liff & Marcia Vincent (Brazil)  
**S**ilas & Alice Yashim (Nigeria)

## My Jesus

Infuse some variety into the ways you use the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in prayer. This acrostic prepared by **Daniel Henderson** (Strategic Renewal Int., Forest, Virginia) will help you add depth and creativity to your praying while reminding you that His name should always be our primary focus for intercession.

My Jesus, You are the . . .

**L**ight of the world., so I will invite Your warmth and radiance into all the dark and cold places in my life, that You might expose and remove my sin and selfishness.

**O**nly wise God, so I can boldly ask and receive from You all necessary insight, guidance, and direction for my life today.

**R**ock of my salvation, so I will rest secure and safe, knowing that You have already done everything to save me and keep me in Your love forever.

**D**esire of all nations, so I will passionately proclaim Your truth and beauty in every place, expressing to others the delight I have found in You.

**J**ustifier, so I do not have to work today to be accepted by God, but can simply live in the grace that has made me pure and lovely in Your sight.

**E**mmanuel, so I will enjoy and practice Your wonderful presence in my life today, knowing that You are with me always.

**S**trength of my soul, so I come to You in humility, delighting in my weaknesses, that Your power may be demonstrated through me in every situation I encounter.

**U**nchanging Friend, so I will enjoy Your faithful companionship and rest securely in Your always reliable love and commitment to me.

**S**avior, so I will kneel before Your cross in grateful worship and will live by faith in the One who loved me and gave Himself for me.

**C**ornerstone, so I will confidently base my well being on the truth of who You are and allow You to build my life by Your strength and stability.

**H**ealer of my soul, so I will come to You with my hurts, disappointments, and fears to receive Your supernatural touch of wholeness, encouragement, and peace.

**R**esurrection and the life, so I will let You live through me today in the triumph You have already achieved over all sin and death.

**I**mage of the invisible God, so I will draw near and gaze upon You in intimacy today that You might reveal the fullness of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to my heart.

**S**hield of my salvation, so I will trust You today to protect my faith and preserve my life in You by Your promises and power.

**T**ruth, so I will come to You with all my doubts and questions, receiving counsel from Your reliable Word and consolation from Your Spirit in order to live with confidence in this world.

## Names of Jesus

Alpha, Apostle, Almighty, Arm of the Lord, Ancient of Days, Approved of God, Ark, Ark of the Covenant, Angel of His Presence, Advocate, Anchor, Answer, Authority, Apple Tree, Axe, Avenger, Amen, Anointed, Angel of the Lord, Author of our Faith, All in All, Atonement, Abounding, Bread, Brother, Bridegroom, Beloved, Blessed, Blesser, Brightness, Bright and Morning Star, Branch, Branch of Righteousness, Babe, Bishop, Bruised, Creator, Christ, Counselor, Compassionate, Chosen, Carpenter, Captain, Candlestick, Crown, Companion, Covert, Cornerstone, Comforter, Consolation, Crucified, Commander, Captor, Child . . . . .

Why not add His names to use as you praise Him for who He is and what He has done? Once you see who He is, praise Him as you pray.

## Itinerary

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

**2 Thessalonians 3:1**

### March

- 6-9 Prayer Revival  
Northeast U Methodist Church  
Columbia SC
- 26 Prayer Seminar  
Faith Community Church  
Davis IL
- 27 Evangelism Clinic/Preaching  
Faith Community Church  
Davis IL

### April

- 7-9 Video Prayer Seminar  
Family Worship Center  
East Point GA
- 3-19 Prayer Seminars  
Eastern Venezuela
- ✓ Ciudad Bolivar (150)
- ✓ Anaco (150)
- ✓ Puerto Piritu (200)
- ✓ Barcelona (200)
- ✓ Caripe-Congress of Prayer (300)

### TO HELP MAILING LIST RENEWAL

Give your change of address by marking out the old address and writing in the new. Then mail the address back to us.

To discontinue receiving the **REFLECTOR**, please write a note in the address box and return it to us. If you prefer, use the internet: [jghm84@aol.com](mailto:jghm84@aol.com).

Thank you. Let's pray for one another.

**E-mail: [jghm84@aol.com](mailto:jghm84@aol.com).**

**[www.jgordonhenryministries.org](http://www.jgordonhenryministries.org)**

**REFLECTOR**  
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**J. Gordon Henry Ministries**  
**1127 Lakeview Drive**  
**Lynchburg, Virginia 24502**  
**(434) 239-8837**

## Only one way out

About eighty men fighting a forest fire were being trapped without knowing it. An unknown airplane pilot, seeing their plight, risked his own life by flying low enough to drop weighted paper notes to these men. Three times he did this, and the notes told the men that they were trapped, that the pilot could see the way out, and that he would guide them to safety.

The men believed the pilot's words and obeyed him instantly. They dropped their tools and followed their guide. They ran through a narrow, flame-lined corridor and all reached the highway safely.

It is interesting to note that the men did not stop to argue about the notes that came from above, to see whether or not they were genuine. Neither did they take any chances by trying to find some other way out. They believed the only one who could view the whole scene, and ran for their lives and were saved.

God, who alone, can view the whole scene of this troubled world, sent His Son to save men, and He calls on them to believe His Word that tells the story of Jesus (His birth, His life, His death, and His resurrection) and believe (trust) Jesus as Savior and Lord. He is the One who explained: "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me" (**John 14:6**). How futile to try to find other ways out. How wonderful to know that "God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved" (**John 3:17**). Indeed, Jesus is the only way Home to the Father. So, trust Him!

## An old navy rule

When ships readjust their compass, they drop anchor in a quiet spot. A Christian is no different. When we don't maintain a quiet time each day, it's not really because we are too busy; it's because we do not feel it is important enough.

## The rail for God's work

Prayer is the rail for God's work. Indeed, prayer is to God's will as rails are to a train. The locomotive is full of power: it is capable of running a thousand miles a day. But if there are no rails, it cannot move forward a single inch. If it dares to move without them, it will soon sink into the earth. It may be able to travel over great distances, yet it cannot go to any place where no rails have been laid. And such is the relation between prayer and God's work. Without any doubt God is almighty and He works mightily, but He will not and cannot work if you and I do not labor together with Him in prayer, preparing the way for His will, and pray "with all prayer and supplication" (Eph. 6:18) to grant Him the maneuverability to so work. Many are the things which God wills to do, and would like to do, but His hands are bound because His children do not sympathize with Him and have not prayed so as to prepare ways for Him. Let me say to all who have wholly given themselves to God: Do examine yourselves and see if in this respect you have limited Him day after day.

Watchman Nee



There have been seminars in fifty-seven states. Of the 1,477 seminars, 642 have been abroad. Miles traveled, both national & international, total 2.4 million.

## NOTES from my BIBLE



### *Arminisms\**

*Note 2016.* If the Holy Spirit does not do it, there's nothing to it.

*Note 2017.* God always does His new things in the same old way.

*Note 2018.* The main things of Scripture are the plain things, and the plain things are the main things.

*Note 2019.* God wants us to put all our begs into one ask it.

*Note 2020.* If we do what God tells us to do, He will do what He says He will do."

\*pithy sayings from **Armin Gesswein**

## DOORKEEPER REPORT

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

1 Thessalonians 1:2

January 19--February 23

Regular	48	\$2,643.00
Martin's van	30	2,315.00
Total	78	\$4,958.00



THANKS, DOORKEEPERS!

### Martin's Van (Kenya)

Thirty-eight have given \$3,005 to pay off Martin's van. The balance is now \$945. Thanks for providing Martin a vehicle which he had never had until now.

**PRAYER CALENDAR****February 2011**

“I will give myself to prayer...”

**Psalm 109:4b****TUESDAY, MARCH 1****JOSHUA 1-5 (Russia 140M)**

Wayne & Edie Aardsma (IL)  
Zane & Burma Abbott (VA)  
Burnace Abrams (OH)  
Marie Adams (VA)  
Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)  
Wayne & Jennie Agee (VA)  
Norma Ailes (NJ)  
H. L. & Janie Allen (SC)  
Tommy & Pat Apple (NC)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2****JOSHUA 6-8 (Rwanda 19.8M)**

Milcie Arnold (VA)  
Leonor Avila (MD)  
Bill & Karen Baker (VA)  
Consuela Baker (NC)  
Carolyn Barkley (NY)  
Walter & Marilyn Barry (VA)  
Stan & Emily Baskin (TN)

**THURSDAY, MARCH 3****JOSHUA 9-12 (St. Helena 7,537)**

Carter Mylam Baynes (NC)  
Jean Beasley (TN)  
Frank Bell (TN)  
Tommy Bell (TN)  
Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN)  
Johnny & Juanita Bernard (FL)  
Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL)  
Ed & Loretta Bolen (VA)  
Bob & Beverly Blankenship (TN)  
Everett & Deborah Boston (MD)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 4****JOSHUA 13-17 (St Kitts 40,131)**

Bob Bouchard (KY)  
Gordon/Chloe Ann Bowyer (VA)  
David & Marna Boyd (CA)  
Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)  
Em & Kim Bradshaw (VA)  
Nancy Bretz (PA)  
Clint & Dorothy Brooks (VA)  
Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)

Mary Ann Brown (GA)  
Thomas & Norma Brown (NC)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5****JOSH 18-21 (St Lucia 160,287)**

Jack & Arretta Bruce (KY)  
Joe & Martha Bruno (AL)  
Freddie & Yvonne Brunson (DE)  
Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)  
Janice Bugg (TN)  
Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)  
Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)  
Mary Campbell (ID)  
Laura Cannon (FL)  
Pat & Cindy Caporossi (MI)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6**

David & Martha Cecil (VA)  
Merry J Chandler (MD)  
Harry & Nancy Coffee (VA)  
Margarie Coffee (VA)  
Jim & Kathy Connolly (VA)  
Foster & Georgia Covington (VA)  
Terry & Sonja Craig (TN)

**MONDAY, MARCH 7****JOSHUA 22-24 (St Pierre 7,063)**

Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC)  
Dufrene/PeggyCumming s (NC)  
Bill & Beverly Curtis (PA)  
Lin & Barbara Custalow (VA)  
Ida J. Davis (GA)

John & Margaret Davis (VA)  
Mark & Charmaine Davis (VA)

Lelia Dean (FL)  
Harold & Tama Decker (NY)  
Nick & Wilma DeGroot (IL)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 8****JUDG 1-5 (St Vincent 104,574)**

Alan & Rebecca Dockrey (KY)  
Emogene Dorsett (TX)  
Mary J. Dugans (LA)  
Walt Edwards (NC)  
Paul & Joyce Eggleston (VA)  
Grace Eldridge (NJ)  
Lynn Elkins (TN)  
Evalena Enoch (VA)  
Gene & Shirley Farley (CA)  
Lynne Farrow (NJ)  
Larry & Cara Fields (VA)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9****JUDGES 6-8 (Samoa 219,998)**

June Fisher (TN)  
Claire/Mary Ann Fredstrom (NE)  
Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA)  
Raymond & Estelle Gabbard (KY)  
Frank & Pauline Garrett (NJ)  
Frank Geiger (HI)  
Robert & Sara George (GA)

**THURSDAY, MARCH 10****JUDG 9-12 (San Marino 30,167)**

Frances Glass (AL)

Gloucester County Com Ch

Bruce Sofia, Pastor (NJ)  
Ron & Carol Godwin (VA)  
Ronald & Maryann Gold (ND)  
Chad, & Wendy Goodner (OK)  
Sam & Michele Graisbery (NJ)  
Odether Gray (GA)  
Linda Gregory (UT)  
Charles Hale (VA)  
George & Joy Harper (VA)  
Uel & Hazel Hartless (VA)  
Jim & Joyce Hengoed (FL/CT)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11****JUDG 13-16 (Sao Tome 212,879)**

Bruce, Gina, Sean 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)  
Steve & Donna Hensel (MN)  
Jerry & Sandra Hodge (VA)  
Joanna Holland (VA)  
John & Glenda Holland (VA)  
Jayson & Marylynn Hooker (VA)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12****JUD 17-21 (Saudi Arabia 28.7M)**

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

**SUNDAY, MARCH 13**

Oliver & Janie Jackson (NY)  
Louis & May Jenkins (DC)  
Vernelle Jenkins (MD)  
Paul & Suzanne Jennings (TN)  
Millicent John (NY)  
Dan & Jayne Johnson (KY)  
Jim & Penny Johnson (KY)  
Wilbur & Gwen Johnson (AZ)

**MONDAY, MARCH 14****1 SAMUEL 1-3 (Senegal 13.7M)**

James & Genevieve Jones (FL)  
Paul & Deanna Jones (KY)  
W I & Eloise Jones (SC)  
Jean Jonte (SC)  
Shem/Deborah Kamla (Nigeria)  
Mohan Katta (IL)  
Howard & Suzie Kauffmann (GA)  
Harper & Shelia Keebaugh (PA)  
Kerby Knob Baptist Church (KY)  
Bruce Kirby, Pastor  
Larry & Janet King (NC)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 15****1 SAMUEL 6-8 (Serbia 7.3M)**

Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN)  
Robert & Rose Klous (VA)  
Sherry Klutz (WA)  
Quentin & Mary Knauer (OH)  
Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY)  
Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI)  
Soma Kovoor (TX)  
Korean Branch:

Dr. Shin Kwang Suk  
Joel & Jackie Kramar (VA)  
Woodrow & Linda Kroll (NE)  
David & Cathy Laing (FL)  
Phil Landers (OK)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16****1 SAM 9-12 (Seychelles 87,478)**

Charles & Cynthia Larson (MI)  
Bob Lawrence (MD)  
Del & Mary Leach (VA)  
Raymond & Janet LeMay (VT)  
Karl & Rebecca Leonard (NC)  
Gaylen & Linda Leverett (VA)  
Liberty University (VA)  
Jerry Falwell, Jr., Chancellor

Mike & Earlene Lips (MS)  
Vincent & Mary Lobisco (MI/FL)  
Ray & Bobbie Long (WV)

**THURSDAY, MARCH 17****1 SAM 13-15 (Sierre Leone 5.1M)**

Manship Chapel (DE)  
Bud & Wilma Marcum (KY)  
Dan & Meribeth Martin (VA)  
Reginald & Gloria Martin (OH)  
Larry & Sue Mason (VA)  
Deborah Mathias (NY)  
Murray & Loretta Mathis (TN)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 18****1 SAM 16-19 (Singapore 4.6M)**

Dan & Fay McConville (VA)  
Leonard & Martha Meador (WV)  
Don & Barbara Meduna (CO)  
Memorial Christian Church (VA)  
Virgil & Sue Knipp, Ministers

**SATURDAY, MARCH 19****1 SAM 20-23 (Slovakia 2M)**

Terry & Sandra Metzgar (VA)  
Ken & Betsy Miedema (MI)  
Lewis & Martha Miller (IN)  
Lowry & Marjorie Miller (VA)  
Earl & Marvel Mills (VA)  
Roger & Carolyn Minney (VA)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 20**

French & Laura Moore (VA)  
Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC)  
Katherine Morgan (VA)  
Bob & Diane Nichols (VA)  
Chet & Betty Nichols (WA)  
Craton & Helen Noyes (KY)

**MONDAY, MARCH 21****1 SAM 24-26 (Solomon Is 595,813)**

Ann Palumbo (PA)  
Ellen Paulson (MN)  
Roger & Kay Pede (VA)  
Sandy Pederson (MI)  
Jim & Barb Peterson (MI)  
Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA)  
Mildred Pittman (NC)  
Luther & Leslie Poellnitz (MD)  
Ben Poplin (VA)  
Ayers Porter (TN)  
Marshall & Lois Powell (KY)  
Jeanne & Maggie Pribble (VA)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 22****1 SAM 27-31 (Somalia 9.8)**

Dave & Marilyn Rainey (VA)  
James & Jeannette Ralph (VA)  
John Reed (NH)  
Alice Riddick (NC)  
Mike & Joyce Riley (KY)  
Cynthia Roach (VA)  
Dudley & Isabel Robotham (NY)  
Clark & Marie Rogers (VA)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23****2 SAM 1-4 (South Africa 49M)**

Fred & Jeannette Rolater (TN)  
Bob & Marlene Rose (MI/AZ)  
David & Amy Ross (KY)  
Sandra Rumore (VA)  
Denise Russell (OR)  
John Saint (PA)  
Don & Marie Satterwhite (CT)

**THURSDAY, MARCH 24****2 SAMUEL 5-7 (Spain 40.2M)**

Tyler & Rebecca Scarlett (VA)  
Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA)  
Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA)  
Philip & Wendy Schrank (IL)  
John & Peggy Seibert (AL)  
Richard/Margaret Seigfield (SC)  
Dennis & Monica Shannon (OH)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 25****2 SAM 8-10 (Sri Lanka 21.3M)**

Wonsub/Young-Mi Sheen (S. Korea)  
Shenandoah Valley Bapt Ch (VA)  
Eric Farel, Pastor  
Nellie F. Shepard (CT)  
Martin/Anne Shikuku (Kenya)  
Sam & Lola Simpson (NY)  
Mary Skiles (KS)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 26****2 SAMUEL 11-14 (Sudan 41M)**

Paul & Mary Smith (TX)  
Walt & Betty Sommers (VA)  
John & Helen Sourlis (MD)  
Leroy & Suk Hi Standifer (WA)  
Marion J. Stansell (TX)  
Tim & Pam Steger (ID)

Carol Snow Stewart (CT)  
Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA)  
Charles & Irene Stinson (VA)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 27**

Johnny & Rose M. Street (AR)  
Bob & Sandy Swain (VA)  
Tabernacle Baptist Church (DC)  
William Stroman, Pastor  
Brian & Janice Tarraferro (TX)  
Ron & Mazie Taylor (VA)  
Stephanie Taylor (GA)  
Earline Thigpen (TN)

**MONDAY, MARCH 28**

2 SAM 15-18 (Suriname 481,287)  
Mona Henry Thomas (VA)  
Montez Thompson (CO)  
Mildred V. Thompson (GA)  
Paula Tipton (TN)  
Virginia Trask (VA)  
Carrol & Ouida Troutman (KY)  
Clay & Lisa Troutman (KY)  
Kelly & Janice Troutman (KY)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 29****2 SAM 19-20 (Svalbard 2,116)**

Malcom Troutman (KY)  
Marshall & Mary Troutman (KY)  
Willie & Diane Troutman (KY)  
Tommy & Frances Turpin (VA)  
Sara Underwood (TN)  
Patrick & Patricia Vaden (TN)  
Harris & Jane Verkaik (MI/FL)  
George /Jeannette Vernarchik (NJ)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30****2 SAM 21-22 (Swaziland 1.4M)**

Sam & Rita Verghese (NJ)  
Doris Snyder Vernall (FL)  
Horace & Becky Ward (NC)  
Michael & Sandra Ward (IN)  
Beau Ware (VA)  
Kay Warmerdam (TX)  
Don & Joyce Warpoole (TN)

**THURSDAY, MARCH 31****2 SAM 23-24 (Sweden 9M)**

Rodger & Jean Watts (WI)  
Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY)  
George & Virginia Whitner (FL)  
Herbert & Kay Wice (TN)  
Paul & Diane Wieland (PA)  
Edward Williams (NC)  
Elijah Williams (NJ)  
Jeff & Terri Williamson (FL)  
Julie L. Wilson (PA)  
Neil & Melinda Wilson (VA)  
Roy & Eva Winebarger (VA)  
The Word Church (NJ)  
Buz Offenbacher, Pastor  
Lili Wykle (VA)  
Silas & Alice Yashim (Nigeria)

## Remembering Armin Gesswein 11/28/1907 3/10/2001

For over fifty years, **Revival Prayer Fellowship**, founded by **Armin Gesswein**, has been casting the vision for prayer and revival. Although he is now one of the great cloud of witnesses (**Hebrews 12:1**) looking down from Heaven, his leadership and writings continue to touch the hearts of thousands around the world

**Ken Anderson** from **Anderson Films** once said to **Armin**, “You should write a book on revival.” He responded by saying “that book has already been written, **The Book of Acts**.” As I share some of his thoughts from the Book of Acts on the place of prayer in an individual Christian’s life and in the life of a live and vibrant church, I hope you will resist the temptation to speed-read this material. A worthy goal for each Christian is to understand the purpose and power of prayer. Further, a worthy goal for all pastors, deacons, and elders is to see their churches become **Lighthouses of Prayer** for all nations. Time is now passing, the shadows are lengthening. Someone needs to pick up **Armin’s mantle** and discover that prayer is the work that must come before all other work. This is the need of the hour and is a word to each teachable Christian leader. If not you, who? If now now, when? If not in your church, where?

**Armin Gesswein**, in many ways, was my prayer mentor and I continue to be influenced by his writings. I have on file several hundred of Armin’s prayer letters and a number of personal letters. A casual review of these documents reveals lessons he learned from the **Book of Acts**. While many theologians shy away from this book, not Armin. In it, he found Luke unveils a logical basis for revival-prayer principles systematically presented.

Nothing more clearly illustrates the Gesswein philosophy of revival-prayer than the **Upper Room** (a **UR**). Just as every local hospital has an ER, every local church needs

a **UR**. A letter dated February 16, 1989, cuts to the heart of his Upper Room theology:

The New Testament prayer meetings reveal the master plan of Jesus. The last thing Jesus did on earth was to build that prayer meeting and it is the only thing He left behind on planet Earth when He ascended to heaven. With this He unfolded His master plan for His church, for true Christian unity, for evangelism, for spiritual awakening and revival, for dynamic church growth, for birthing and battling, for the fulfillment of **Acts 1:8**.

We must never get away from the fact that when Jesus built His church, He built a prayer meeting. Everything He did led to it, and every thing that came out of it, much as a mighty oak tree comes out of a tiny acorn. The prayer meeting embodies the embryonic secret of the New Testament Church. Strangely, it is the best kept secret of the New Testament. Stranger still, it is the most open secret. The wonder is not that we do not see it, but that we could fail to see it. So the problem is not with our eyes. It is one of vision.

It is something which is so old that, when we discover it, it is new. This at once tells us that it is a secret which has not changed. We must find our way back to it. We must rediscover Christ’s organic way of doing it. And when we do, we will see wonderful awakening in our churches.

Armin called the Upper Room “God’s master plan for revival,. In his writings, Armin reminded us that in the early church, every Christian was a prayer-meeting Christian. Every pastor was a praying pastor. Every leader was a praying leader. To him,

the **Book of Acts** is the greatest book on revival ever written – greater than **Jonathan Edwards** or **Charles Finney** or any of the others. One can say without equivocation, he was driven by a vision of what prayer accomplishes out of the Upper Room.

“Make no mistake about it,” **Armin** would often exhort, “the Upper Room was God’s idea, not man’s.” He would then quote **Acts 1:4** in his own words, “He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem but to wait for the promise of the Father,” pointing out that the word “command” or “charge” (Greek: *parangello*) was a military term that put them under orders. Jesus literally commanded them to go the Upper Room and establish a prayer meeting. Therefore, the Upper Room was instructive New Testament teaching, not simply narrative. While it may have been called an Upper Room because of its physical location on the roof of a private home, it was quite literally upper in importance, upper in priority, upper in value and significance. It was upper in the mind of Christ, who called for it initially in the first century, and for it to remain upper in the twenty-first century.

The Upper Room was not an afterthought. Jesus had trained His followers in prayer from the moment He called them, and in His final command He told them to go straight to the Upper Room as soon as He ascended into Heaven. As I have gone up and down the nation teaching about prayer, it is pretty obvious that our trouble today is that we have not seen the Upper Room prayer meeting as a command of Jesus. Amazingly the final command of Jesus was not “Go into all the world and make disciples of all nations” (**Matthew 28:19**), it was His command to stay stay and pray.

**Armin Gesswein** maintained that the Upper Room pattern holds the secret to all healthy church life. One little prayer meeting, when 120 believers gathered in the Upper Room in the city of Jerusalem, launched the Christian movement. And there was no

alternate plan. For **Armin**, the Upper Room has been the driving force behind the Church through history and the only hope for the modern-day church. The Sovereign (the one who has “final say”) God has ordained prayer as the work that must come before all other work. As **John Wesley** said, “God works only in concert with the praying of His people.” If we believe this, we would be wise to master the **Book of Acts** beginning with the Upper Room events recorded in **Acts 1**.

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## **Guidance for quiet time**

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To meditate is to think quietly and deeply about the greatness and goodness of God. As you read the Scriptures, note the promises of God. Look for guiding principles for your daily life. Commit to memory a meaningful verse. Don’t hurry. Regularly, quietly, systematically, meditate upon the written Word and the living Word. When you enter your prayer closet, you will soon see your strength renewed.

Lord, I have shut the door; here do I bow;  
Speak, for my soul attent turns to Thee how,  
Rebuke Thou what is vain, counsel my soul,  
Thy holy will reveal, my will control.

Lord, I have shut the door; strengthen my heart;  
Yonder awaits the task I share a part.  
Only through grace bestowed may I be true;  
Here, while alone with Thee, my strength renew.

**William M. Runyan**

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## **Wisdom**

**“Work as if everything depended upon your work and pray as if everything depended on your prayer.”**

**--General William Booth**

## **Trust in the Lord**

***“It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.” Psalm 118:8***

The shortest chapter in the Bible is **Psalm 117** (two verses), the longest **Psalm 119** (one-hundred seventy-six verses). The short psalm is about a big subject: helping all the nations to praise the Lord God of Israel whose mercy is great and truth enduring. What He does is merciful and what He says is dependable. The theme of the long psalm is the Word of God. Every verse except five (84, 80, 121, 122, 132) refers to God’s Word — what it is and what it will do in lives. Most of the verses are either prayers for God’s help or affirmations of the writer’s faith in God’s truth despite the difficulties and obstacles he was facing. Meditating on this psalm ought to make a believer love and treasure the Word of God more and obey it willingly.

Nestled between the shortest and longest chapters is the middle verse in the Bible which states that *“It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man” (Psalm 118:8)*. The New International Version is that *“It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man.”*

It seems to me that the key words are **trust**, **confidence**, and **refuge** in the light of the object and direction of each. The centrality of the verse in the Bible accents the truth as another one of those anchors of the soul. **Trust the LORD** to guide and provide. Beware of placing confidence in human power because one day it will fade no matter how strong it appears at the moment. This is a good reminder, isn’t it?

As one grows older in the Lord, he experiences the mercies of God which are new every morning (**Lamentations 3:22-23**) as God’s faithfulness is demonstrated. As answers to his prayers mount, the believer becomes stronger in faith, no longer fearful when trials and adversaries come. After seeing God often turn defeat into victory

and darkness into light, he is increasingly confident that *“the Lord is round about His people from henceforth even forever” (Psalm 125:2)*. He can affirm with strong assurance and confidence that *“we know that all things work together for good to them that love God who have been called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28)*.

God works in “all things” — not just isolated instances — for our good. This does not mean that all that happens to us is good. Christians are not immune from the evil pervading our fallen world. But God is able to turn every circumstance around for our long-range good. God is not working to make us comfortable or happy; He is working to fulfill His purpose in the lives of those “called” by the Holy Spirit who convicts and enables them to receive the Lord Jesus Christ. These have a new perspective, a new mind-set and world-view. They trust in God, not life’s treasures; they look for their security in Heaven, not on earth. Although we have friends and loved ones who care, human strength and wisdom are not enough. So beware of placing confidence in human power because one day it will fade no matter how strong it appears now.

A young lad was sitting calmly in his seat in a plane that had run into turbulence that had all the grown-ups frightened and concerned — far beyond what even the seasoned travelers had experienced. Some were praying who had not prayed for a long time. Finally someone asked the boy why he was not afraid. He said quickly and confidently, “The pilot is my dad. He will bring us safely through.”

It is a mistake to trust anyone or anything more than God! Why? Because we are all human and do not have the power needed. He does! Let’s take refuge in Him, **trust Him**, and have confidence in Him. He cares! He has demonstrated His love to us that while we were yet sinners, He gave His Son to die for us. There is no greater love. He will always be there for us. **Trust in the Lord.**

## A PRAYER TO BEGIN THE DAY

[Shared by Doorkeeper Joyce Hunt, Gallatin TN]

**D**ear Lord, I thank You for this day. I thank You for my being able to see and to hear this morning. I'm blessed because You are a forgiving and understanding God. You have done so much for me and You keep on blessing me. Forgive me this day for everything I have done, said or thought that was not pleasing to you. I ask now for Your forgiveness. Please keep me safe from all danger and harm.

**H**elp me to start this day with a new attitude and plenty of gratitude. Let me make the best of each and every day to clear my mind so that I can hear from You. Please broaden my mind that I can accept all things. Let me not whine and whimper over things I cannot control. And give me the best response when I'm pushed beyond my limits.

**I** know that when I am unable to pray, You listen to my heart. Continue to use me to do Your will. Continue to bless me that I may be a blessing to others. Keep me strong that I may help the weak. Keep me uplifted that I may have words of encouragement for others. I pray for those that are lost and can't find their way. I pray for those that are misjudged and misunderstood. I pray for those who don't know You intimately. I pray for those that will dismiss this without sharing it with others that God changes people and God changes things.

**I** pray for all my sisters and brothers. For each and every family member in their households. I pray for peace, love and joy in their homes; that they are out of debt and all their needs are met.

### A simple step

Recently I met with pastors and leaders of the **Piedmont Baptist Association**, one of the oldest associations in Virginia that covers Amherst and Nelson counties (north of Lynchburg) organized in 1903.

There is a strong desire (burden) for a spiritual awakening in this area. Plans are to schedule an area-wide crusade in 2013. The leaders concurred that there is prayer work to be done during the preparation and implementation of the plan. There are twenty-seven churches scattered over a wide geographical area.

In order for a church to become a praying church, the members must become praying members. A simple step is to assign two members to pray for one another for a



month. At the end of the month, change partners.

Next month, I will provide suggestions to guide the prayers. I have no doubt that this simple step will not bring forth fruit. No only will an individual be strengthened through the prayers of his partner, it will be long until a prayer atmosphere will develop the congregation. **Don't settle for anything less than a praying church.** The key is to get started. The journey of a thousand miles must begin with the first step.