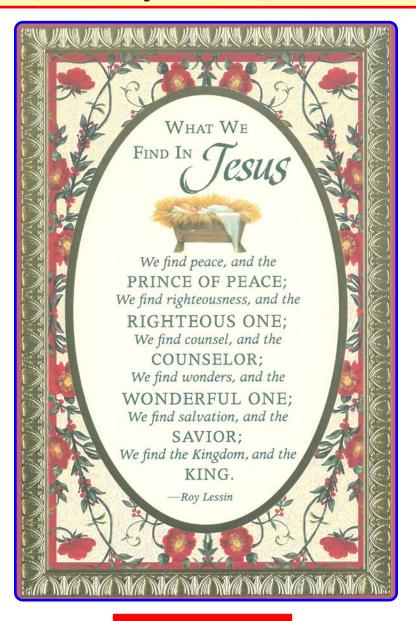
# REFLECTOR

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# Take Time To Pray

A Study with J. Gordon Henry



MOST CHRISTIANS put prayer high on their list of failures and deficiencies.

What about your personal altar? Is it broken down and deserted? Take measure of your prayer life. What has happened to the practice of prayer in your life?

No believer's spiritual life will ever rise above the level of his praying. You are what you are on your knees — nothing more. Regular daily contact with your Source of spiritual life, Jesus Christ himself, is absolutely necessary.

Average Christians fail in their prayer lives because they do not set apart a definite time and place to meet the Lord daily. Would you expect to be healthy if you ate a meal only once a week? Of course not! The same is true of your spiritual life.

Here's a workable plan on how to begin and maintain a morning meeting with the Lord. Sink your roots deeply into a DAILY DEVOTIONAL LIFE. Without a QUIET TIME, you will not grow spiritually as you should.

Here are some suggestions for starting your daily time with the Lord:

# ESTABLISH IN YOUR MIND THE PRIORITY OF PRAYER

You do what you consider important. You have spent a lifetime developing patterns of behavior which have become habits in your life. In order to establish a prayer time, you will need to develop new habits. As you are in the process of doing this, you will be pulled between old habits and the new ones; that's

normal, so expect it. Make up your mind that each day you will find a time to be alone with Christ. Set a specific time to meet the Lord in prayer.

### DESIGNATE A TIME AND A PLACE

Begin each day with God. If you normally get up at 6 a.m., plan to get up at 5:45 a.m. to have minutes for God. THIS IS A MATTER OF DISCIPLINE. If we follow the example of Jesus, it will be a morning hour. You may need to get to bed earlier so you can meet your appointment with God.

Jesus gave His disciples the model prayer, expressing a manner of praying for us to follow. That prayer does not lend itself to any other time than the early morning. You would not ask God for your daily bread, for example, after your day was over. Neither would you need deliverance from temptation when you are about to go to sleep.

A major reason why it should be the first part of your day is that we should bring God in on the beginnings; we should not wait until we have messed up our day and then go to God.

The place of prayer should be private. Jesus suggested a place that is quiet, secluded, and shut. Designate a place which will be your altar of prayer. Use that place exclusively for your time with God.

Remember, you must in your mind and heart make prayer a priority enough to schedule a time for prayer in your daily life just as you schedule eating and sleeping. You can do it! Ask God to help you: "Lord, I look forward to meeting You the first thing in the morning for a few minutes. When I awaken, I have an appointment with you."

#### HOW TO USE THE TIME DAILY

Have a Bible and pencil handy. As you read the Word and put the proper information into your mind, you program your day to let Christ be Lord of your life.

Let God speak to you directly through His Word. Read a brief portion and think about what you are reading. Open your heart to God, offering Him the right to teach, to discipline, to direct you as you study.

You will be surprised at what He is ready to do for you.



# The Practice of Prayer

During the six-hour prayer seminar, considerable time is devoted to answering a basic question: WHAT IS PRAYER? In fact, ten pages of the thirty-page Prayer Seminar Workbook, the basic teaching tool to guide the teaching-learning experience, deals with WHAT IS PRAYER? Believers, regardless of their nation, seem to perk up and show excitement even when we recite together the subjects of each of the nine sessions. Somehow we know that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are calling us to pray.

The lead article on page two was written for Dr. John Hash's Bible Pathway Magazine. As time allowed articles were written for other publications including Dr. Henry Morris's popular Days of Praise as well as the **Navigators**' magazine. Since my week-days were devoted to my duties as the Executive Director developing Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS), an accrediting agency for higher education institutions that believe in the historicity of the first eleven chapters of Genesis including creation, not evolution and the weekends to prayer seminars, there was little time to accept invitations to submit articles. Eight books were written to flesh out points taught in the prayer seminar and are still available from **JGHM**, along with the Prayer Seminar Workbook.

Without practicing prayer all that we learn about prayer is but an exercise in futility. One of the nine sessions in the **Prayer Seminar Workbook** that facilitates praying is Session Seven that is entitled **A-C-T-S. PERSONAL PRAYING**.

I strongly recommend that those who have a workbook (and these are available upon request) that considerable time be given to this session. Certainly, this material is not the only approach to this important subject, but it very well could assist anyone in building a foundation for a meaningful, sustained prayer life. Without being a the information could be deemed merely lifeless information. Talking and reading about prayer is not prayer. To pray effectively, it is helpful to know when, with whom, how, and what to pray.

To conclude 2020, known as one of the most difficult and challenging years most of us has known, I invite you to join me in examining your Personal Praying. Much of what I will say will not be new information to many of the readers. In recommending that all churches schedule a prayer seminar one Beaver Springs, Pennsylvania pastor, a graduate of Liberty University, wrote:

I knew that! is an often repeated phrase today, and for many a pastor in the prayer seminar, it could be phrased, I taught that! So often, however, is that other voice that is heard. Dr. Henry is just such a voice bringing a seminar on prayer that refreshes and revitalizes the weary heart with long-known truths and fresh, exhilarating insights. Our one day with Dr. Henry has changed the prayer lives of our people as God's Word was used to challenge, uplift, exhort, and instruct. Any one of us would do well to give more time to prayer; any church would do well to give one day to prayer with Dr. Henry.

WHEN TO PRAY. David prayed faithfully in the morning, evening,

and often at noon (Psalm 5:3 and 55:17). Our Lord also spent times in prayer during early morning hours and late at night (Mark 1:35 and 6:46ff). Much can be said for opening and closing each day in communion with God. Often these times provide the most privacy and greatest freedom to be reflective and quiet. The Holy Spirit likes this approach. You can be sure, however, that Satan doesn't like this idea. Neither does the flesh which wars against the Spirit." For you, this will be the time to exercise DISCIPLINE and turn off the television, close down the smart phone and computer, shut down the telephone and any other distraction. Forget social media.

Abraham's chief servant, sent by his master to secure a bride for Isaac, communed with God in the midst of carrying out his busy schedule, surrounded by strangers (Genesis 24:11-14. He prayed quietly in his heart (v 45) in the midst of his work. It is acceptable and advisable to pray throughout the day as well as in the morning and evening. We need not be in the privacy of our homes to seek the face of God. Often, the Lord will bring to mind a person or an issue at the oddest time. We need to seize these moments and use them to offer short, specific prayers back to God. I first was impressed with arrow prayer prayers in studying Nehemiah. Learning to respond to the unexpected promptings of the Holy Spirit is vital to a vibrant prayer life.

It is good to have a set time of daily prayer, but it is also important to seize the eternal moments that God gives throughout each day to talk to Him. He is able! He is willing! He is waiting for us to call upon Him at any moment of the day. He is on His throne and through the blood of Jesus we have access (Hebrews 10:19). He invites us to come (Hebrews 4:16).

WITH WHOM TO PRAY, Jesus exhorts us to shun praying in public in order to impress others, and encourages us to pray in secret (Matthew 6:5-6). Private prayer will undoubtedly occupy the largest portion of our total prayer life. During these moments of solitude we can unveil our hearts before Him who sees us as we are and yet loves us with an everlasting love. During thse private hours we can intercede for the world that exists outside our private place. Here we can plead, weep, or rejoice over issues that matter little to anyone but us and God. Private prayer, which Jesus Himself practiced, alone, should be a priority.

But Jesus also speaks of praying with two or three in agreement (Matthew 18:19-20). The early Christians prayed together often in the Upper Room and elsewhere (Acts 4:23-24; 12:12). By the way as a hospital needs an ER a local church needs a UR. A sweetness of fellowship and a sense of strength comes when God's people go to Him together in prayer.

God's Word holds before us models of private and corporate prayer; both are vital and should have a place in our prayer life.

HOW TO PRAY. The material

shared in Session Seven in the **Prayer** Seminar Workbook deals with your personal praying. It is more important that we pray than how we pray. Those who pray best are those who pray most. Yet, for some, a format that provides a model/framework for us to follow, is helpful. Over the years, we have provided time at the end of a prayer seminar for the participants to share what God has taught them during a prayer seminar, the number one response has been God taught me that prayerlessness is a sin! I did not know that! The number two response was the way to organize my praying. I will do this and teach my family what I have learned. Once the framework is in place, personal detail can be added.

From the very beginning of the prayer seminar movement, I have used an acrostic, A-C-T-5, as the needed framework. There are times when you would not follow the order the acrostic suggests, but a meaningful prayer life will include five elements. A-C-T-S. All ages can profit. In fact, when I have conducted prayer seminars in Christian schools using a full-school day, I have spent time with each grade beginning with first graders who learn quickly the five elements. During follow-up in days that follow, teachers report that their students never forgot the elements. The first three letters, A-C-T, stand for one element of prayer; the fourth letter, 5, incorporates two elements. Using these letters, prayer can be arranged in a natural, meaningful order:

A ADORATION (worship); C-CONFESSION (of specific sins after the Holy Spirit's conviction leads to repentance) T-THANKSGIVING (gratitude); S-SEEKING (specific requests <u>for self</u>, <u>PETITION</u> and specific requests <u>for others,</u> INTERCESSION.

While you might not always use this order (avoid using these as a mere ritual), knowing the five elements and using the acrostic to remind you will be helpful in developing a meaningful, sustained prayer life.

ADORATION. Worship begins and ends with who God is. Beginning our prayer time with adoration immediately places us in the position of a creature in the presence of its Creator. Adoration is simply acknowledging to God what He has revealed about Himself. One helpful way to cultivate an attitude of adoration is to take actual phrases from Scripture and pray them back' to God, using them as springboards of thought on who God is and what He is like. Some of the main appropriate passages for this purpose are Job 38; 1 Chronicles 29:10-13; Psalm 19:1-2: Psalm 84: Psalm 95:1-7; and many other Psalms.

Not only is this the proper starting point for prayer, it is a crucial driving force in our entire Christian life. As we worship, we must be sure that the One we worship is indeed the living God.

CONFESSION. David asked God to show him any sin in his life (Psalm 139:23-24) and we can use his prayer as a model for ourselves. When He shows us a sin and we become conscious of it that is called conviction. We repent change of mind leading to a change of behavior provided we confess the specific sin to God (1 John 1:9). The closer we draw to God

Himself, the more we sense our own sinfulness. Again like Isaiah, a glimpse of God's glory will cause us to exclaim, Woe is me (Isaiah 6:5) as we realize how far we fall short of His glory.

The natural consequence of genuine adoration is sincere confession. It is reasonable that as we worship God in spirit and truth, the awareness of our personal sin becomes greater.

Confession is the second step in prayer: agreeing with God that specific conduct and attitudes in our lives are wrong. We should name the sin and ask God to forgive us. During this period of confession, we may also ask God to make us aware of other sins in our life that we are aware of and have neglected to deal with. Is there anything else, Lord?" And don't be surprised if He says, As a matter of fact, there is!! Once we confess, we must be willing to accept the forgiveness. As far as God is concerned the sin confessed is off our record

THANKSGIVING. Our immediate response after confession and cleansing is thanksgiving. Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered ... (Psalm 32:1). We can certainly thank God for forgiving us of the sins we have confessed. But gratitude should encompass more than forgiveness. Paul told the Colossians, And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him (Colossians 3:17).

Thanksgiving causes us to acknowledge God's existence, His love, and His care. It reminds us of

His goodness. In short, thanksgiving forces us to keep God in our thoughts.

We should thank God for all the blessings we can see in our lives health, friends, guidance, and answered prayer. But we should also verbally thank Him for all that is ours that we can't see, such as our adoption as His children, our inheritance in Heaven, the ministry of angels in our lives, the new body that will be ours for eternity, and the permanent gift of the Holy Spirit.

By giving thanks, which is simply expressing gratitude for what we have, we prevent our focus from shifting to what we don't have. Satan loves to distract God's children from thanksgiving, because he can accomplish much in a heart that is ungrateful. Thanksgiving is a powerful weapon against Satan's tactics.

SEEKING (For PETITION, Some choose to use 5 for supplication. I choose to use 'Seek (an active verb) incorporating both self and others (two elements of prayer). Sometimes someone says to me, Don't you think you should teach intercession before petition? Му answer: As a matter of fact, I don't believe that at all. You are not really ready to pray for someone else until you are on praying ground for yourself. Simply, it is right to pray for yourself. Session Two in the prayer seminar deals with BIBLE EXAMPLES OF PRAYER. I highlight an Old Testament example, **Jabez**, and a New Testament example, Jesus. Jabez asked four things for himself (2 Chronicles 4:9-10) and God granted what he asked. The word translated

petition means asking something for yourself. It is the same word used for asking from a family member, a neighbor, a stranger or God. Pray for yourself.

SEEKING (For others): INTERCESSION. Intercession is praying for others. The fundamental principle for intercession is to focus the power of God on another person or on a specific situation. The word derives from two Latin words that, taken together, mean a go between. Hence, one could say that intercession is standing between God and a person or circumstance. God seeks those who will stand in the gap and make up the hedge.

**SEEKING** is bringing our requests to God. Too often, when we think of prayer our minds rush immediately to these two elements of prayer because we have not cultivated the practice of ADORATION, CONFESSION and THANKSGIVING. Jesus gave His followers a Model Prayer to show them how to prayer. Pray like this is what He told them. The Model Prayer can be divided into two halves, using the pronouns. The first is focusing on God Himself and the second is on us and matters. Seeking (supplication) by itself can become selfish, but when it follows adoration, confession, and thanksgiving, it balances our prayer life.

WHAT TO PRAY. A basic definition of prayer is coming to the Father (who sits on His throne in the throne room of Heaven) through the Son (the only way to the Father through His name and His blood, the only access), and in the power of the

Holy Spirit. We worship, but we ask for ourselves, PETITION, and for others, INTERCESSION. Prayer is the work that must come before all other work. Ask ... Seek ...Knock (Matthew 7:7) is the instruction Jesus gave His disciples in the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus commands us to ask" in prayer nine times in John's Gospel. Asking is God's idea, not just the result of our need. The Lord wants us to ask certain things of Him. But for what should we pray? Pages of books on prayer have been written to guide our asking and items have been enumerated accordingly. Examples of what we should pray follow. We should pray for:

Self. Pray for personal growth in Christ-likeness and a sensitivity to God (Colossians 1:9-10).

Family. Pray for spouse, children, and children's children. For Sue and me, we pray for our greatgrandchildren by name during our morning devotions; pray for an unbroken heritage of love for God (Proverbs 20:7); Isaiah 54:13).

Community. Pray that God will show us our part in the area where we live (Jeremiah 29:7). My wife, Sue, includes our immediate neighbors in her prayer during our Quiet Time devotions. Pray for a visible witness of unity among God's people in our communities (Philippians 4:2-3).

Church. Pray for a sense of vision and heart. Pray for the church to be the church in the sense of the body of Christ with work to be accomplished in His name. Pray for a desire to please God rather than each other (Philippians 2:1-4).

Church leadership. Pray for a deep sensitivity to the will of God, clarity of vision, and a desire for

personal holiness (Hebrews 13:17; 1 Timothy 5:17). Pray for a deep conviction for one-on-one disciple making (2 Timothy 2:2).

The nation. Pray for national repentance and a consciousness of who God is (Psalm 33:12; Proverbs 24:34).

Leaders in government. Pray for wisdom and integrity, and an awareness of their accountability to God (1 Timothy 2:1-2; Romans 13:1).

Nonbelievers. Pray for understanding of salvation, and an openness to the Spirit's promptings. Pray that Christians will be sensitive to the nonbelievers (including family members) in their lives (1 Timothy 2:1-6).

The sick. Pray for God's healing or assurance (James 5:14-16).

Those in prison. Pray for an understanding of Christ's forgiveness. Pray for strength to resist sin, and encouragement against loneliness (Hebrews 13:3; Colossians 4:18).

Children. Pray for the unborn children who face abortion. Pray for those whose lives are shattered by divorce or dysfunctional families. (Malachi 4:6; Matthew 19:14).

Laborers for the vineyard. The fields are white for harvest and the laborers are few. Pay for laborers to bring in the harvest (Matthew 9:35-38); Luke 10:2; John 4:35).

**Peace of Jerusalem**. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (**Psalm 122:6-7**).

Your own personal situation will invariably have its own list of items to pray for, as you well know. A written prayer list is imperative. My conclusion, after studying, praying, teaching, writing on prayer is simply NO PRAYER LIST, NO PRAYER LIFE! Remember we need prayer

warriors now than ever before. What do you think? Are you ready, Christian, to do prayer work?

> Yours in Calvary love, J. Gordon Hong

# PRAY WITH A CLEAN HEART

If [when] I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me (Psalm 66:18)

As we begin to pray, after acknowledging God for Who He is, we need to confess our sins. We need to ask God to show us any sin in our lives that we have not already confessed. Pray David's prayer. "Search me O God, amd know my heart; try me and know my thoughts; see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psalm 139:23-24).

When we sin, we are disagreeing with God than think that our ways are better than His ways. When we confess our sins, we are agreeing with God, agreeing that our sins are wrong and we are repenting and want to change.

In prayer, we ask God's forgiveness of specific sins, as we name them one by one, and accept His forgiveness. If [when] we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins and cleanse us of all righteousness (1 John 1:9). When we sincerely confess our sins, He has forgiven us whether we feel like it or not. In fact, He places our sins into the Sea of Forgiveness and remembers them no more. There is no such thing as partial forgiveness.

# Lord, It Belongs Not to My Care

Richard Baxter (1615 1691)

Lord, it belongs not to my care Whether I die or live; To love and serve Thee is my share, And this Thy grace must give.

If life be long, I will be glad, That I may long obey; If short, yet why should I be sad To welcome endless day?

Christ leads me through no darker rooms

Than He went through before; He that unto God's kingdom comes Must enter by this door.

Come, Lord, when grace hath made me meet Thy blessèd face to see; For if Thy work on earth be sweet What will Thy glory be!

Then I shall end my sad complaints And weary sinful days, And join with the triumphant saints That sing my Savior's praise.

My knowledge of that life is small, The eye of faith is dim; But 'tis enough that Christ knows all, And I shall be with Him.

Baxter, an English Puritan continues to have an impact on the church through his writings including: The Reformed Pastor and The Saints' Everlasting Rest. As a pastor, he developed an intentional approach to discipleship and pastoral care that the Lord used to bring renewal

to the churches and communities in which he served. Toward the end of his life he was imprisoned as a Nonconformist for not adhering to certain Anglican beliefs regarding The Book of Common Prayer and other matters. His faith in Jesus Christ regardless of the trials of life is reflected in this poem. Ravai Zacharias (1946-2020) Christian apologist, quoted the last stanza in one of his last sermons before God called him home to Heaven.

# IN LOVING MEMORY

DOORKEEPER
JERRY STINNETT
7/11/1943-11/1/2020
Forest, Virginia

"ABSENT FROM THE BODY, PRESENT WITH THE LORD" Psalm 116:15 2 Corinthians 5:1.8b

No one has been any more faithful to the prayer seminar ministry than Reba and Jerry, two dear friends of deep faith. Every month there is a note from Reba that encourages us, This is a recent note:



### PRAYING OR NOT PRAYING

Are you praying or not praying? Am I? "Let a man examine himself" to find the answer letting the Word of God be the mirror in which we see ourselves.

"Revive us again, and we will call on Your name" (Psalm 80;18b).

A sign of a revived believer is that he is praying when before revival came he was not praying. What is the message for us? Could it be that you and I are among those who need a revival?

If the answer is "Yes" don't spend time in regret, remorse. or morbid introspection. Revival is first of all kneeling down and asking God to turn the spotlight of Heaven on you. Ask Him for a fullscale investigation. Then, respond to His Word!

What a joy to know Him, the Lord Jesus as Savior and Lord-who was born in Bethlehem, died on a cross for our sins outside the city wall of Jerusalem, buried in the borrowed tomb, resurrected on the third day, ascended forty days later, and is with us always until the end of the age. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

# REFLECTOR

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# NOTES from my BIBLE

A MESSAGE FROM JESUS I came that they may have life, and might have it abundantly" John 10:10 NASB

Note 5041 Christmas is based on an exchange of gifts: the gift of God to man--His Son; and the gift of man to God--when we first give ourselves to God Vance Havner

Note 5042. Wise men still seek Jesus

Note 5043. Jesus coming was a free gift to everyone.

Note 5044. Let us do what the shepherds did and tell everyone the Good News. Christ has come!

Note 5045. "This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into Heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into Heaven" (Acts

# ROPEHOLDER/DOORKEEPER REPORT

'We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers. October 23-November 19, 2020

\$7,316,00 Regular 66 Ropeholder 150.00 7,466,00 Total

SOWING...THEN COMES HARVEST!



### PRAYER CALENDAR

### December 2020

"I will give myself to prayer..."

Psalm 109:4b

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

1 Thessalonians (Phillippines 104M) Mae Adams (NC)

Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)

H. L. & Janie Allen (SC)

David & Eunjoo Andersen (VA)

Marvin/Donna Anderson (VA)

Tommy & Pat Apple (NC)

Eldon & Gayle Armstrong (SC)

Leonor Avila (MD)

Mike & Joyce Baker (VA)

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

2 Thessalonians (Puerto Rico 2.3M)

Marcia Barna (PA)

Linda Beattie (PA)

Tim Bash-GCCC (NJ) Emily Baskin (TN)

Jean Beasley (TN)

Tommy Bell (TN) Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN)

Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL)

Beulah Baptist Church (VA)

Dr/ Dennis Hollandsworth

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

1 Timothy 1-3 Romania 142.3M)

John & Jean Billingslea (VA)

Beverly Blankenship (TN) Loretta Bolen (VA)

William/Debbie Bowden (NC)

Kathleen Boyce (PA)

David & Marna Boyd (OR)

Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)

Ed & Jean Bradshaw (VA)

Kim Bradshaw (VA)

Lurlene Braud (VA)

Michael Breed (WI)

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

1 Timothy 4-6 (Russia 142.3M)

Nancy Bretz (PA)

Judy Britt (GA)

Dorothy Brooks (VA)

Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)

Freddie/Yvonne Brunson (DE)

Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)

Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)

Anne Campbell (VA)

Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

2 Timothy (Rwanda 119M) Robin & Teresa Carlson (NJ)

Robert & Anita Carroll (VA)

Vernia Coleman (MD)

Mary Columbus (VA)

Kathie Connolly (VA)

Philip & Jennifer Cooke (VA)

Larry & Sue Cooper (DE)

Foster/Ravenna Covington (VA) Barry & Melanie Cox (VA)

Terry & Sonja Craig (TN)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC) Dufrene/Peggy Cummings (NC)

Barbara Custalow (VA)

Tina Darden (MD) Bobby & Deborah Davis (VA)

John Davis (VA)

Harold & Tama Decker (NY) Robert & Janice DeLong (VA)

Carolyn Dodd (VA)

Jo Ann Dudley (VA)

Micheal & Diane Eagle (VA)

Kathryn Eaton (ME)

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

Titus (Scotland 5.3M)

Lynn Elkins (TN)

Jeff & Leeann Englert (KY)

Don & Mary Enoch (FL)

Duane Erieau (WI)

Larry & Cara Fields (VA)

John & Susan Finnessy (MD)

James & Ruth Flanagan (GA) Nancy Fowser (NJ)

Claire/MaryAnn Fredstrom (NE)

Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA)

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

Philemon (Singapore 5.9M)

Emilee & Emma Fulcher (VA)

John & Kim Gaines (DE)

Ron & Kay Gavette (VA)

Gloucester Co. Community Ch

(NJ) Bruce Sofia, Pastor

Ron & Carol Godwin (VA)

Ronald & Maryann Gold (ND)

Chad & Wendy Goodner (OK) Steve & Sue Gordon (VA)

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

Hebrews 1-2 (Zambia 20M) Sam/Michele Graisbery (NJ)

Dale & Mary Gray (IL)

Odether Gray (GA)

Linda Gregory (UT)

Mike Hall (IN)

Bruce & Vivian Harris (TN)

Sadie Harris (VA) Hazel Hartless (VA)

William & Sara Hefner (PA) Mary Pat Hendrick (VA)

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

Hebrews 3-4 (Swaziland 1.4M)

Jim Hengoed (CT) Gina Henry (VA)

J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA)

Jack Henry (TN)

James & Kathryn Henry (MS)

Mark Henry (TN)

Melody Henry (VA)

Roger & Sara Henry (OH) Sean & Bethany Henry (VA)

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

Hebrews 5-7 (Switzerland 8.2M)

Steve & Donna Hensel (MN) Frank & Pat Hitchings (VA)

Jeff Hodge (VA)

Jerry & Sandra Hodge (VA)

Bill Hogan (VA)

Joanna Holland (VA) John & Glenda Holland (VA)

Anita Horton (VA)

Mike & Sonya Hosick (TN) Coy Hunsucker (NC)

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

Hebrews 8-10 (Tanzania 54M)

Joyce Hunt (TN) Wilbert/Almaretta Hupp (PA)

Jide & Bunmi Iware (MD)

Gene Jeffries (AR) Debbie Jenifer (MD)

Vernelle Jenkins (MD)

Paul & Suzanne Jennings (TN)

Jonathan & Julie Jobe (SC)

### Millicent John (NY)

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

Dan & Jayne Johnson (KY)

Ben & Gwen Jones (MD) Gwen Johnson (AZ)

Aaron & Iris Johnson (MD)

Jim & Penny Johnson (KY)

Rick & Betsy Johnson (TN) Vicky Johnson (MD)

James Jones (FL) Paul Jones (KY)

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 14

Hebrews 11-13 (Trinidad 1.2M) Theo/Sherry Jones (MD)

W I & Eloise Jones (SC)

Mohan Katta (IL)

Suzie Kauffmann (NC) Harper/Shelia Keebaugh (PA) Kerby Knob Baptist Church

(KY) Darren Hisel, Pastor

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15

James (Uganda 39.6M)

Harriet Kennedy (VA)

Louis & Jane Kiger (VA)

12 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21 Mona Henry Thomas (VA) Larry & Janet King (NC) Ken & Bonnie Kirby (PA) 3 John (Venezuela 31.3M) Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN) Zach & Jackie Olcott (VA) Montez Thompson (WI) Cathy Tilton (VA) Kenneth & Amy Kollar (ID) Ann Palumbo (PA) Cliff & Mary Pavalonis (VA) SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27 Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI) Pecks Baptist Church Paula Tipton (TN) WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16 Bryan (Ada) Sheehan )VA) William & Katie Toney (NC) 1 Peter (Ukraine 44M) Greg & Christine Powell (VA) Virginia Trask (VA) Korean Branch: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22 Carrol/Ouida Troutman (KY) Dr. Shin Kwang Suk Clay & Lisa Troutman (KY) Jude (Zambia 16M) Joel & Jackie Kramar (VA) Diane Troutman (KY) Woodrow & Linda Kroll (NE) Marshall & Lois Powell (KY) Craig & Molly Lampe (AZ) Jeanne & Maggie Pribble (VA) Joe & Benita Troutman (KY) Phil & Edra Landers (OK) Marjorie Randall (TX) Malcom Troutman (KY) Dave Ricker (ME) Del & Mary Leach (VA) Joyce Riley (KY) Marshall/Mary Troutman (KY) Aaron & Wanda Lewis (MD) Frances Turpin (VA) Calvin & Valerie Ritchey (VA) THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17 Cynthia Roach (VA) MONDAY, DECEMBER 28 2 Peter (Umited Kingdom 64.8M) John & Sandra Roberts (NC) Liberty University (VA) Dorlos & Betty Robinson (MS) Sara Underwood (TN) Jerry Prevo, Acting President Isabel Robotham (NY) Patrick/Patricia Vaden (TN) Delores Liely (MD) WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23 Jane Verkaik (MI/FL) Mike & Earlene Lips (MS) Revelation 1-3 (Afghanistan 34.1M) George/Jeanette Vernarchik (NJ) Vincent/Mary Lobisco (MI) James & Shelly Rode (FL) Sam & Rita Verghese (NJ) Ray & Bobbie Long (WV) Clark & Marie Rogers (VA) Mary Ann Voss (DE) Don & Betty Lowry (SC) Wanda Rolater (TN) Manship Chapel (DE) Michael/Sandra Ward (IN) Bob & Marlene Rose (MI) Bruce & Vickie Tribbett John Saint (PA) TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18 Don/Marie Satterwhite (MO) 1 John (USA 326.6M) Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA) Wilma Marcum (KY) Joyce Warpoole (TN) Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA) Nick & Pat Markham (VA) THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24 Reg & Gloria Martin (OH) Rodaer Watts (WI) Revelation 4-5 (Albania 3M) Larry & Sue Mason (VA) Frank & Nell Weer (KY) Phil/Wendy/Steve Schrank (WI) Beau Ware Masonry (V) Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY) John & Peggy Seibert (AL) Deborah Mathias (NY) Paul & Diane Wieland (PA) Murray Mathis (TN) Dennis/Monica Shannon (OH) Reg/Mary Ann Wilburn (VA) ShenandoahValleyBapt Ch (VA) Dan & Fay McConville (VA) Jeff Williamson (FL) Nellie F. Shepard (CT) SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19 Ken & Carol Willis (VA) Lola Simpson (NY) 2 John (Uruguay 3.4M) Mary Skiles (KS) R. O. & June McHaney (VA) Rev 17-19 (Bahamas 329,988) FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25 Nancy McPherson (ME) Julie L. Wilson (PA) Don & Barbara Meduna (CO) Luke 2 (USA 330M) Neil & Melinda Wilson (VA) Terry & Sandra Metzgar (VA) Ron & Bonnie Smith (VA) Eva Winebarger (VA) Betsy Miedema (MI) Walt & Betty Sommers (VA) Amos & Celia Wipf (GA) Roger & Nancy Minney (VA)) John & Helen Sourlis (MD) Jon & Selena Wood (PA) Tim & Pam Steger (ID) Bill & Sharon Moody (VA) Reba Stinnett (VA) Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC) Revelation 20-22 (Bahrain 1.4M) Charles Stinson (VA) SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 Layden Wood (VA) Johnny & Rose M. Street (TX) Doris Moos (NJ) Greg & Lori Worley (GA) SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26 Elaine Moser (MN)

Revelation 6-8 (Angola 29.3M)

Brian/Janice Tarraferro (TX)

Jimmy & Mary Thomas (VA)

Billy & Sharon Taylor (PA)

William Suttles (NC)

RonTaylor (VA) Stephanie Taylor (GA)

Bob & Sandy Swain (VA)

Drever/Roberta Morton (VA)

Bob & Diane Nichols (VA)

NE Baptist College (VT)

Mark Ballard, President Oconto Gospel Chapel (WI)

Betty Nichols (WA)

Peter Dorn, Pastor

W. D./Jackie Thomason (TN) Kelly & Janice Troutman (KY) Revelation 8-13 (Argentia 44.3M) Beau/Ashley/Willow/Will Ware (VA) Revelation 14-16 (Australia 23.2M) Holland & Mary Warren (VA) WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31 David & Lili Wykle (VA) Yeshua Ministries (TN) Dr. Frank Bell, Pres. Fred & Susan Zeller (VA)

Norman/Mary Sue Zink (MI)

# DAILY INTERCESSION: J. GORDON & SUE HENRY ADAM & DIANNA NATHANSON

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

You never have to bear your burden alone. We are eager to pray with you and then supply needed prayer support daily. Keep us updated.

Call or text: 434-239-8837 (JGH)
E-mail: jghm84@aol.com
Address: 1127 Lakeview Drive,
Lynchburg VA 24502.

#### HEALTH

Zane & Burma Abbott (VA)
Joyce Hunt (TN)
Bruce Kirby [Wanda] (KY)
Edra Landers [Phil] (OK)
Linda Leverett [Gaylen] (VA)
Murray Mathis (TN)
Dan McConville [Fay] (VA)
Aija Ozolins [John] (Latvia)
Daphne Reamer [Walter] (FL)
Bobby Smith [Cindy] (VA)
Jean Smith [Jim] (KY)
Walt & BettySommers (VA)
Paula Tipton (TN)
Mary Warren [Holland] (VA)

# INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Ben & Judy Armacost (Europe)
James & Elizabeth Dean (Pakistan
Digmar & Lisbeysi Garcia (Cuba)
Shem & Deborah Kamla (Nigeria)
Mulumba Placide Kituta (Burundi)
Nuhu & Mercy Leo (Nigeria)
Leslie/Tabitha Motsalane (South Africa)
Enock & Patience Mulomba (Botswana)
Adam & Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela)
Andrew & Celestine Sakari (Kenya)
Martin & Anne Shikuku (Kenya)
Cliff & Marcia Vincent (China)
Robert & Joana Waismam (Brazil)
Othnel Wakili (Nigeria)
Silas & Comfort Yashim (Nigeria)

**Pray Daily** 

DECEMBER 25, 2020
HAPPY 94TH BIRTHDAY
TO A DEAR FRIEND,
PROFESSIONAL
COLLEAGUE
AND DOORKEEPER

# DR. JAMES HENGOED



A Dining Room Gift from the Hengoeds

Since 1980, Sue and I have counted Jim and Joyce Hengoed as special friends. Joyce is now in Heaven awaiting the rest of us who are in Christ; Dr. Hengoed has retired to his home in Hamden, Connecticut. Not only was he an adjunct professor at Northeastern Bible College while serving on the faculty of Jersey State College, he joined the leadership that established the Transnational Association of **Christian Colleges and Schools** serving as the chairman of the Accreditation Commission for eight years. He served on many evaluation teams during his tenure and provided excellent leadership.

Dr. Hengoed, who worked primarily in secular institution during his illustrous career was the needed salt and light. His love for the Word of God is striking!

# A PERSONAL PRAYING GUIDE FOR DECEMBER 2020 AND/OR JANUARY 2021

A number of years ago, I conducted a prayer seminar at Calvary Baptist Church, Windsor Locks, Connecticut. A brother approached me at the beginning of an afternoon break stating, When I come back from the break, I am going to bring you a special gift. To my utter amazement, the gift was a book written by Matthew Henry (1662-1714) in 1710 entitled A Method for Prayer WITH SCRIPTURE EXPRESSIONS (8<sup>th</sup> edition, published 1737). It was in good condition. My first reaction was "You don't really want to give this to me, do you?" His answer was "Yes. You are the very one who should have it."





THE BOOK

# Matthew Henry (1662-1714)

Although I do not know as much as I would like to know about Matthew Henry, for some reason I have an affinity toward him. Do you think it is because of his surname? One of the first Bible commentaries I purchased in the early years of my ministry was Matthew Henry's Bible Commentary. Although my copy is deposited in the J. Gordon & Sue Henry Collection Room in the Northeastern Baptist College Library in Bennington, Vermont (along with the personal book collections of both of us), I can easily pull it up on the internet which I do when I need to delve more deeply into a passage. During the early years, I had no idea that he had authored other books, but having his book on prayer has been humbling and thrilling. It is written in Old English and requires concentration and time to read and ponder the text

# His Life

Matthew Henry was born at Broad Oak in Wales on October 18, 1662 and died at Nantwich, Cheshire, June 22, 1714, He was educated privately at the home of his father, the Rev. Philip Henry, and at the academy of Thomas Doolittle, Islington, which he attended in 1680-82.

In May 1685, Henry began the study of law at **Gray's Inn**, but he already desired to enter the ministry and devoted much time to theological studies.

In June 1686, he began to preach in the neighborhood of **Broad Oak**. In the following January, he preached privately in **Chester**. He was asked to settle there, and consented conditionally, but returned to Gray's Inn.

After the declaration of liberty of conscience by King James II in 1687, he was privately ordained in London, and on June 2, 1687, he began his regular ministry as pastor of a Presbyterian congregation at Chester where he remained twenty-five years. After having several times declined overtures from London congregations, he finally accepted a call to Hackney, London, and entered upon his ministry there in May 18, 1712. He visited his beloved Chester for the last time in May, 1714. On his return journey, he was seized with apoplexy, and died at Nantwich.

# His Writings

Henry's reputation rests upon his celebrated commentary. He lived to complete its publication only as far as the end of Acts. But after his death, some non-conformists prepared the Epistles through Revelation from his manuscripts. The Matthew Henry Commentary has long been celebrated as the best of English commentaries for devotional purposes. He portrays a remarkable fertility of practical suggestion and, although the work is diffuse, it contains rich stores of truths, which hold the attention by their quaint freshness and aptness, and feed the spiritual life by their Scripture unction.

George Whitefield (1714-1770) and Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892) both used the work, and commended it heartily. Whitefield read it through four times, the last time on his knees; and Spurgeon said, Every minister ought to read Henry entirely and carefully through at least once.

# His Book on Prayer

I began to share studies related to adoration and thanksgiving in prayer in the January 1991 i **Doorkeeper Report**. In August 1992, I was ready to move on to studies on praying in the name of Jesus. But to celebrate my 40<sup>th</sup> year in the ministry in September 1992, our daughter, Mona edited **Chapter IV**, **Thanksgivings for Mercies We Have received from God** translating the work from Old English, a laborious undertaking, and typing it for the **Doorkeeper Report**. His writings were a worthy finish to the studies of adoration (praise and worship) and a special fifty-seventh birthday gift as well as a thank you gift to our faithful **Doorkeepers**.

Drawing from this Christian classic, the December 2020 and/or January 2021 Prayer Guide will be useful to Christians who want to implement or reinforce the A-C-T-S model into their praying, using words and precepts of Scripture to help shape their prayer lives. The guide is for four consecutive weeks, Monday through Friday, twenty prayers based on Scripture from Matthew Henry's book on prayer. Repeat as many months as you desire.

# December 2020 and/or January 2021 (Based on Matthew Henry's text selections)

### WEEK 1

### Monday **ADORATION**

The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise Him, my Father's God, and I will exalt Him. **Exacts** 15:2

### Tuesday CONFESSION

To us, O Lord, belongs open shame, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against You.

Daniel 9:8

### Wednesday THANKSGIVING

We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks, for Your name is near. we recount Your wondrous deeds.

Psalm 75:1

# Thursday SEEK (SELF) PETITION

And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you. Psalm 39:7

### FridaySEEK (OTHERS)

### **INTERCESSION**

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ... This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, Who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

1 Timothy 2:1,3-4

### WEEK 2

### Monday **ADORATION**

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come! **Revelation 4:8** 

### Tuesday CONFESSION

O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift my face to You, my God, for our iniquities have risen higher than our heads, and our guilt has mounted up to the heavens. **Ezra 9:6** 

### Wednesday THANKSGIVING

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits. Psalm 103:1-2

### Thursday SEEK (SELF) PETITION

Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, He will give it to you ... Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

John 16:23-24

# Friday SEEK (OTHERS)

### INTERCESSION

Remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. Ephesians 2:12

### WEEK 3

### Monday **ADORATION**

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness. Psalm 29:2

### Tuesday **CONFESSION**

And I said.

Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts. Isaiah 6:5

### Wednesday THANKSGIVING

Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name. **Hebrews 13:15** 

# Thursday SEEK (SELF) PETITION

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And He who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. Romans 8:26-27

# Friday

# SEEK (OTHERS) INTERCESSION

Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. Romans 10:1

BLESSED ASSURANCE JESUS IS MINE!

### WEEK 4

### Monday ADORATION

But the Lord is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King. **Jeremiah 10:10** 

### Tuesday CONFESSION

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who would stand?
But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared. Psalm 130:3-

### Wednesday THANKSGIVING

I will recount the steadfast love of the Lord, the praises of the Lord ... that He has granted them according to His compassion, according to the abundance of His steadfast love.

### Isaiah 63:7

### Thursday SEEK (SELF) PETITION

And this is the confidence we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us.

1 John 5:14

### Friday

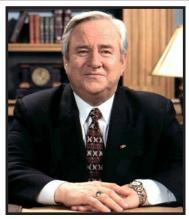
# SEEK (OTHERS) INTERCESSION

Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in Heaven, saying The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever.

He who testifies to these things says.

He who testifies to these things says, Surely I am coming soon. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

REVELATION 11:15; 22:20



DR. JERRY FALWELL (1933-2007)

"What do you say to these things?" is a question that has come from a number of our friends who know our involvement in the foundational years of Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia. I served as the first provost (first called "academic dean", then "Vice President for Academic Affairs"). The time period of my active involvement was 1972 until 1980, the last two years as a consultant overseeing moving from candidacy to accreditation with the Southern Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (SACS).

For those who do not know the very first stage in the development of the institution was Lynchburg Baptist College, renamed Liberty Baptist College. Now Liberty University. The growth was amazing and God did many unusual things to help us thrive beyond our highest expectations.

A note of appreciation for the work that both Sue and I did that Dr. Falwell wrote to me on the commencement bulletin of the last graduation for which I was responsible is now in the Liberty Archives along with key documents of this era.

We have had Liberty University on our Doorkeeper Prayer Calendar for many years knowing the greatest challengethat any Christian institution inevitably comes with success and worldly recognition. As the one who lead the academics during the foundational years, my desire was to see a level of excellence that made a degree from Liberty respectable and useful. Both Sue and I have concern for the spiritual as well.

I have beem hesitant to judge. The publicity has been bad and certainly Satan uses anything to hinder. Then a letter from a dear couple who were with us during the early days and whom we admire very much wrote a simple note that expresses what I want to say. Let me share it as it was written, "Craig and I are really sad about events at Liberty and are praying that this will make the school stronger with a sound-believing base. A hard thingto have to hear about."

When it came time for us to move to a new position, Dr. Falwell took me to lunch. During our conversation, he said,, "Dr. Jim when the Lord leads, I want you to come back. You can name your position."

Everytime we met, Dr. Falwell repeated the invitation. Actually, there were invitations from other organizations that invited me to consider joining them. The one deciding factor was the prayer seminar ministry. Although I continued in higher education for many years, it was with the understanding that the prayer seminars would be my number one interest; Pray with us for Liberty University's success and protection.

# JGHM MINISTRY UPDATE

2020 is a year that will be remembered, that is for sure. When we met in January for a JGHM Board meeting, we had no idea that circumstances would negate our traveling to Murfreesboro, Tennessee where our board meetings are conducted. But that has been the case.

The new paradigm that was established to provide for a transition of leadership could not have gone better. Adam Nathanson is now conducting prayer seminars here in the United States. I could not be better pleased with what he is doing.

Digmar Garcia is active in Cuba with great interest. Since my overseas work began in Cuba in January 1960 this country is very special to my heart. It has been great to be able to return a number of times and see great evangelical progress. God is at work in Cuba.

Martin Shikuku continues to be used by the Lord in a special way. He recently baptized twentythree. He continues to excel in his teaching-preaching ministry and has many ministries including a preschool, a home for children, and a training school for pastors.

SINCE THERE ARE MANY UNFINISHED TASKS HERE ON THE HOME FRONT, WE WILL CONTINUE JGHM AT LEAST ANOTHER YEAR.

A full report, along with oodles of photos, will be forthcoming. God continues to be **Jehovah-Jireh** to Sue me, our family, and our ministry.

# YEAR END GIFTS

As you plan your own December giving ....

What are you giving Jesus for His birthday this year? What is under the tree for Him? Is Jesus first on your shopping list?

There are many ways to remind us that the very best and most expensive gift that we give should be to honor the Lord Jesus Christ.

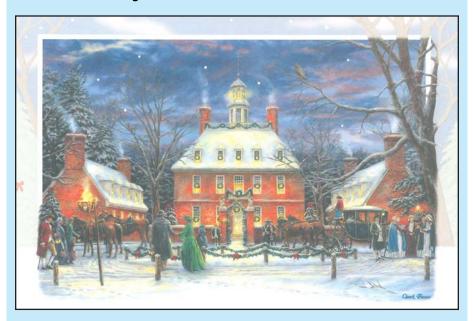
In addition, December is a time to catch up on making gifts you planned to make earlier in the year. Taxpayers who itemize their deductions such as home mortgage interest and medical expenses, may deduct charitable gifts. A larger-than-usual gift may boost your deductions above the standard deduction, allowing you to enjoy more tax savings. Gifts postmarked by December 31 are deductible this year.

It very well may be that as you pray about your December giving that you will want to make your gift in honor of the Lord Jesus Christ through the prayer seminar ministry. If so, we will be grateful. Again, thanks for your partnership in making the prayer seminar ministry possible.

By the way, JGHM is a faith ministry from the beginning. Since we use a permit to mail, the USPS requires each item be the same. We include a response envelope in every Reflector envelope to meet this requirement. There is no charge for any of the services we provide, nor has there ever been. We are laborers together with God.

# Christmas Greetings from Virginia FROM OUR HOUSE TO YOUR HOUSE

The Henrys have made Virginia their home for twenty-six years (1972-1980; 2002-2020). For many of these years, we have been able to receive guests and show them some of the historic sites and let them experience the extraordinary beauty of the state. Although I am a Tennessean and Sue is a Kentuckian, we have allegiance to Virginia as well. By the way, we both were commissioned as Kentucky Colonels by Governor Edward T, Breathitt in 1966 in recognition of service as an educator (JGH) and a nurse (STH) to the Commonwealth. Above all, we are Americans. God bless the USA. It is prayer time. We are asking God to stand beside us and guide us



# The Governor's Palace Colonial Williamsburg

On October 23, 1705 Governor Edward Nott had the Virginia general assembly authorize the building of the Governor's Palace in Williamsburg. The palace was eventually completed sixteen years later in 1722. Thomas Jefferson was the last of a long line of governors to live in the original palace before the government was moved to Richmond in 1780. In 1781 the Governor's Palace served as a hospital for American soldiers wounded during the Battle of Yorktown. Original buildings, including the Palace, have been restored using Jefferson's drawing, general assembly records, and other artifacts. The Christmas season has been a wonderful time to visit Williamsburg and see the period style decorations and enjoy the cheerful atmosphere. Those of us who are members of the Williamsburg Foundation have been advised that many of the sights are now available virtually.