

REFLECTOR

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"Holding Forth the Word of Life"

November 2006

"Sing to the Lord with Thanksgiving"

Psalm 147:7

THEN JESUS CAME

Bartimaeus—Mark 10:46

One sat alone beside the highway begging,
His eyes were blind, the light he could not see;
He clutched his rags and shivered in the shadows,
Then Jesus came and bade his darkness flee.

The Gadarene Demoniac—Mark 5:1-8

From home and friends the evil spirits drove him,
Among the tombs he dwelt in misery;
He cut himself as demon powers possessed him,
Then Jesus came and set the captive free.

Lazarus—John 11:1-44

Their hearts were sad as in the tomb they laid him,
For death had come and taken him away;
Their night was dark and bitter tears were falling,
Then Jesus came and night was turned today.

SINNERS TODAY

So men today have found the Savior able,
They could not conquer passion, lust, and sin
Their broken hearts had left them sad and lonely,
Then Jesus came and dwelt Himself within.

CHORUS

When Jesus comes the tempter's power is broken;
When Jesus comes, the tears are wiped away.
He takes the gloom and fills the life with glory,
For all is changed when Jesus comes to stay.

Oswald J. Smith (1889-1986)

Perspectives

One of the five elements of prayer is thanksgiving. I ought not to even have to teach this element since everyone should be thankful. But I have to do so. Remember what Jesus said after He had cleansed ten lepers: "Were there not ten cleansed? Where are the nine?" (**Luke 17:17**). Only one, and a Samaritan at that, returned to thank Him for healing them from dreaded leprosy. Does this mean that nine out of ten who receive His blessings are not thankful? Perhaps. Think of biblical injunctions to remember God's blessings and express thanks: "Bless the Lord O my soul, and forget not all His benefits" (**Psalms 103:2**); "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good" (**Psalms 118:1a**); and, "[His mercies] are new every morning" (**Lamentations 3:23a**).

I have not written as much about thanksgiving over the years as I have on the other elements (adoration, confession, petition, intercession). Since several have written expressing appreciation for reminders and suggestions for thanksgiving, I know this emphasis strikes a chord. Certainly, November, the month we observe a national thanksgiving day, is an appropriate time to address thanksgiving in prayer. We need to be reminded of things we already have learned, but have either forgotten or ignored.

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

Thanksgiving—a biblical institution

Thanksgiving has always been appropriate. To express thankfulness, the children of Israel were instructed to make a wave offering to the Lord (**Leviticus 7:28-30**). God told them to bring their fellowship offerings personally, with

their own hands. They were to devote time and effort to express thanks to God and not take His blessings for granted. You and I need to do the same.

"Offer to God thanksgiving and pay your vows to the Most High" (**Psalms 50:14**). "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good" (**Psalms 100:4-5a**). "O give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name, make known His deeds among the peoples" (**Psalms 105:1**). "O give thanks to the Lord; for He is good; for His mercy endures forever" (**Psalms 107:1**). "Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the first-fruits of all your increase" (**Proverbs 3:9**). "In everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God" (**Philippians 4:6**). "Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving" (**Colossians 4:2**). "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (**1 Thessalonians 5:18**). "Through Him [the Lord Jesus Christ] then, let us continually offer up the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name" (**Hebrews 13:15**).

The difference between thanksgiving and praise

Many Christians use praise and thanksgiving interchangeably. However, there are different meanings for the words. When we reflect upon God's greatness, we give praise. Praise relates to God's character, who He is—His attributes, His essence. Praise is an expression of adoration to God who is worthy of praise, not because of what He has done, but because of who He is. Praise is God-centered, not man-centered. When we reflect upon God's goodness, we give thanks. Thanksgiving is an expression of gratitude to God for what He has done for us and for others. Thanksgiving is person-centered or people-centered. We are grateful to God because His hand has moved and He has done that which was needed or that which we desired.

Through praise and worship, we seek God's face for fellowship and intimacy. Through

thanksgiving, we express gratitude for what His hand has wrought in our lives. Thanksgiving is humbly acknowledging His work on our behalf and expressing appreciation for what He has bestowed upon us. When you enter your private place of prayer, fill some of your moments with Him with simple, sincere expressions of thanks to God.

Daily thanksgiving

The importance and spiritual benefits of thanksgiving in one's prayer life cannot be overly emphasized. The Word of God reveals that God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble (**James 4:6**). But the question is how to become humble. It is done by being thankful. A good rule is to "be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God" (**Philippians 4:6**), and be thankful in all things (**1 Thessalonians 5:18**). The sin of thanklessness caused the ancient world to plunge into the terrible depths of sexual depravity (**Romans 1:21**).

We, too, should thank the Lord daily. What are the parameters of thanksgiving? As noted above, we are instructed "in everything give thanks" (**1 Thessalonians 5:18**). Following the injunctions and examples in God's Word, there are two specific things we are to thank God for as we pray. First, we are to thank Him for His work in Creation. David reminds us concerning this area of thanksgiving in **Psalms 100:4**: "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name." Later, John, the beloved apostle, tells us we will thank God for His Creation throughout all eternity: "You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created" (**Revelation 4:11**). Second, we are to thank Him for His work in redemption. John also informs us that our second song in heaven will feature thanksgiving for God's work in redemption: "And they sang a new song, saying, 'You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals;

for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood" (**Revelation 5:9**).

In the Old Testament, a special group of priests was appointed to do nothing else but praise and thank the Lord. Certain Levites were appointed to give continual praise and thanks to God (**2 Chronicles 31:2**).

Praise and thanksgiving should be a regular part of our daily routine, not reserved only for special occasions and celebrations. By praising and thanking God continually, we will avoid the rut of taking His blessings for granted.

Practical suggestions

It will be helpful to reflect on practical suggestions that can be used in thanksgiving. Paul admonished the Corinthian believers to "pray with understanding" (**1 Corinthians 14:15**). While praying from the heart in genuine sincerity is basis to all prayer, the more we understand the biblical teachings regarding the elements of prayer, the more our praying will not only be satisfying to ourselves, but to God as well. Do you agree? Giving thanks is the will of God and is evidence of Spirit-filled or Spirit-controlled living.

We need to be as definite and specific in our thanksgiving as we are in bringing our petitions for His help. We are often quite careless, indefinite and general, in thanksgiving. Be specific in thanksgiving. See that your whole being is involved in thanksgiving as David instructed in **Psalms 103**. Count your blessings. "Forget not all His benefits" (v 2). This is a good time to remember the words of Rev. Johnson Oatman:

When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?
Count your many blessings, ev'ry doubt will fly,
And you will be singing as the days go by.

When you look at others with their lands and gold,

Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;

Count your many blessings, money cannot buy
Your reward in Heaven, nor your home on high.

So, amid the conflict, whether great or small,
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

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

When the Lord led our church to develop a prayer chapel ministry, with someone praying in the prayer chapel every hour around the clock, I prepared studies that were taught during the Training Union hour on Sunday nights. As I prepared copy for a study on Thanksgiving, I simply jotted down a list of things of specific things that came to my mind. The list is included in the **Prayer Seminar Workbook** (Session Seven): (a) my creation; (b) privilege of being alive in God's beautiful world; (c) forgiveness of sin; (d) new life in Christ; (e) God's constant presence; (f) God's patience; (g) health and strength: mental/physical/emotional; (h) abounding material gifts; (i) privilege of prayer and answers; (j) victories in life through God's power; (k) God's leadership; (l) God's discipline; (m) home: strength, security, love; (n) blessed fellowship of a local church; (o) Christian friends; and (p) glorious hope of everlasting life in heaven.

I cannot tell you why these were the items I jotted down. You can do the same. When you are thankful, you will be thankful—no doubt about it. You see the English words "think" and "thank" are from the same root.

It is a spiritual mistake to take normal things in your life for granted. Without thinking this

through, many Christians will do that very thing. My favorite practical idea is to thank God for His benefits in the key areas of life—physical, material, spiritual, people. Daily, **choose a blessing out of each category and tell Him why you are thankful.** This will keep your thanksgiving fresh and vital. Have you ever thanked God for your eyesight, your shoes, your heart for God, your family? Think of the blessing in each area AND TELL HIM WHY you are thankful. Your heart will sing and rejoice. Remember that the basic direction of thanksgiving is to express sincere gratitude for what His hand has provided.

In the workbook material, I included **1 Thessalonians 5:18**, Paul's instruction to give thanks in everything. This is an amazing statement that is easily illustrated by Paul's own life. In everything? That is what the Holy Spirit instructed Paul to write. Because God knows what He is doing, we can bring Him thanksgiving in everything. "I have a headache, but praise the Lord I still have a head to ache." Thanksgiving is thanksgiving.

The workbook section on thanksgiving ended with a suggestion. Use the letters of the alphabet to trigger thanksgiving: air, body, clothes, dwellings, education, food, government, health, inventions, job, kinfolks, language, medicine, nature, opportunities, parents, quiet times, rest, salvation, today, universe, victories, water. "x" unknown blessings from God, yesterday, Zion, our eternal home!

The sacrifice of thanksgiving

In the New Testament, no sin offering is imposed upon the Gospel. Rather, thank offerings are what God is looking for from believers today. The Lord Jesus Christ became our sin offering; in return, we bring our thank offerings. This is the will of God.

Notice the commands in **1 Thessalonians 5:16-19**: rejoice evermore, pray without ceasing, *In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you; quench not the Spirit.* Not only is it right and proper to give thanks in everything, believers who do not are out of God's will.

Incidentally, note the "in," which is different than "for." The commandment is not to give thanks for everything that happens, but give thanks in the midst of what is happening.

The psalmist stated clearly to God: "I will offer You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call upon the name of the Lord" (**Psalm 116:17**). It is time that we take this injunction seriously. We can live each moment with a thankful heart, but it is appropriate to include specific thanksgiving in our prayer-time. Adoration (praising God for who He is) does not change God. He will never be any greater than He already is. Thanksgiving (thanking God for what He has done) does not change God. Adoration and thanksgiving change us.

Yours in Calvary love,

J. Gordon Henry

Point of view

Matthew Henry, the famous Bible expositor, was once accosted by thieves and robbed of his purse. He wrote these lines in his diary:

Let me be thankful, first, because I was never robbed before; second, because, although they took my purse, they did not take my life; third, because, although they took my all, it was not much, and fourth, because it was I who was robbed, not I who robbed.

Scheduling 2007

We are currently scheduling prayer seminars for 2007. Currently seminars are scheduled in the first quarter in Hawaii, North Carolina, and South Carolina. In the second quarter, we will be in Venezuela April 1-15 and in Ecuador/Peru June 1-15.

If you would like to schedule a prayer seminar, send us three dates. Usually, we can schedule one of the three.

Many believe the one-day prayer seminar is worth more than a week of revival services. Do you want your church to be a praying church?

Learning to Pray

By paying attention to prayers formulated by others, you can gain insight in your own approach. The two prayers that follow will likely express your heart's desire.

Begin your day with God! Be natural as you spend time with your Father. You are not going to a stranger!). Speak from your heart. Your coming brings the Father pleasure.

Dear God, You are great and You are powerful. Show me the way, give me the insight, help me to know what to do and say to reach the lost around me. I pray for wisdom, for boldness, for the words to say, for understanding of their cultures, their situations, and their needs. Please give me the means and the knowledge to influence their minds, stir their emotions, engage their spirits, that Your Holy Spirit might prick their consciences and move upon them that they will call upon You to save their souls. Please examine my life and show me any unclean thing that I may repent and ask Your forgiveness. I do not want anything to stand in the way of Your working through me to make a difference in the lives of the lost and dying. I do not want to quench the Holy Spirit. Instead, I want to be a clean and willing vessel, ready for Your use; ready for the "God appointments" You send my way. Please have mercy Lord. May I be fresh in mind and spirit this day. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Behold, You God are my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; 'for YAH, the Lord, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.' Therefore with joy I will draw water from the wells of salvation. And I will praise You Lord, and call upon Your name; I declare Your deeds among the people, and make mention that Your name is exalted. I sing to You Lord, for You have done excellent things; this is known in all the earth. I cry out and shout, great is the Holy One of Israel in my midst! (adapted from **Isaiah 12:2-6**). Hallelujah and amen. In Jesus' name. Amen.

DOORKEEPER PRAYER CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2006

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



Basic principles
"Ask [and keep on asking]..."
Matthew 7:7

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Acts 1-4 (Andorra 71,201)
Wayne & Edie Aardsma (IL)
Burnace Abrams (OH)
Mae Adams (NC)
Marie Adams (VA)
Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)
Rosalee Adams (VA)
Norma Ailes (FL)
Guillermo Albarron (MD)
Leonor Avila (MD)
Lon & Denise Anderkin (FL)
Ron Anthony (MD)
Tom /Margaret Armstrong (VA)
Milcie Arnold (VA)
Solomon/Kriska Arrington (MD)
David & Jean Babick (NY)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Acts 5-7 (Angola 12.1M)
Kenneth Banks (NC)
Carolyn Barkley (NY)
Jack & Mary Barrett (VA)
Steven & Judi Bartelt (NJ)
Steven & Marie Basilici (KS)
Stan & Emily Baskin (TN)

John & Joan Bateman (PA)
Carter Mylam Baynes (NC)
Russell & Eleanor Beard (FL)
Jean Beasley (TN)
Tommy & Sue Bell (TN)
Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN)
Ruel & Elizabeth Bennett (NY)
Johnny & Juanita Bernard (FL)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Acts 8-9 (Anquilla 13,477)
Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL)
Bethesda Ministries
Jerry & Joan Crain (SC)
Dorothy Spickard Biddle (TN)
Stephen & Joyce Bishop (VA)
Bob/Beverly Blankenship (TN)
Paul & Doris Blevins (KY)
Roosevelt/Raye Blizzard (VA)
Edward/Deborah Blount (CA)
Everett/Deborah Boston (MD)
Bob & Jewel Bouchard (KY)
William/Debbie Bowden (MD)
Gordon/Chloe A. Bowyer (VA)
Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4
Acts 10-13 (Antigua 69,108)
Emilee & Kim Bradshaw (VA)
Mark Bradshaw (VA)
Mike Bradshaw (SC)
Nancy Bretz (PA)
Von M. Bridges (TX)
Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)
Shirley Brown (VA)
Jack & Arretta Bruce (KY)
Joe & Martha Bruno (AL)
Freddie/Yvonne Brunson (DE)
Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)
Myron Buchholz (NY)
Janice Bugg (TN)

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5
Caleb & Sara Buna (NC)
Ruby Burger (TN)
Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)
Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)
Lew & Mary Campbell (ID)
Cliff & Laura Cannon (NC)
Pat & Cindy Caporossi (MI)
Ron & Julia Carlin (AL)
Allen & Betty Carter (MD)
Marcos Castillo (MD)
Lloyd & Linda CdeBaca (AZ)
David & Martha Cecil (VA)
Central Baptist Church (CA)
Bruce Garner, Pastor

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5

Caleb & Sara Buna (NC)
Ruby Burger (TN)
Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)
Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)
Lew & Mary Campbell (ID)
Cliff & Laura Cannon (NC)
Pat & Cindy Caporossi (MI)
Ron & Julia Carlin (AL)
Allen & Betty Carter (MD)
Marcos Castillo (MD)
Lloyd & Linda CdeBaca (AZ)
David & Martha Cecil (VA)
Central Baptist Church (CA)
Bruce Garner, Pastor

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Acts 13-15 (Argentina 39.9M)
Merry J Chandler (MD)
Michael & Alice Chapin (WI)
Edith A. Charity (VA)
Mary Clarke (VA)
Margarie Coffee (VA)

Quentin/Vernia Coleman (MD)
Ted & Terry Cooper (SC)
Ron & Joanne Cottle (GA)
Joe & Carol Coulter (VA)
Foster/Georgia Covington (VA)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Acts 16-18 (Armenia 3M)
Ramona Cook (NC)
Terry & Sonja Craig (TN)
Phyllis Cross (NY)
Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC)
Johnny & Helen Crudup (NC)
Bill & Beverly Curtis (PA)
Lin & Barbara Custalov (VA)
Ida J. Davis (GA)
Lelia Dean (FL)
Bob & Virginia DeBoer (NE)
Harold & Tama Decker (NY)
Delmarva Evangelistic Ch (MD)
Ruth Chamberlain, Pastor
Ken & Zannie Dietrich (WA)
Jude Dike (Canada)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Acts 19-20 (Aruba 71,891)
Glenn & Joyce Dix (GA)
Pat & Analee Doney (SC)
Willard & Mary Dowd (NC)
Mary J. Dugans (LA)
Ronald/Barnedia Durrah (VA)
Ivy Early (NC)
Walt Edwards (NC)
Paul & Joyce Eggleston (VA)
Grace Eldridge (NJ)
Lynn Elkins (TN)
Evalena Enoch (VA)
Gene & Shirley Farley (CA)
Lynne Farrow (NJ)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Acts 21-23 (Australia 20.3M)
June Fisher (TN)
Josephine Fitzgerald (AL)
Claire/Mary A. Fredstrom (NE)
Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA)
James Fritz (KY)
Raymond/Estelle Gabbard (KY)
James & Patricia Gallo (NC)
Earl & Diane Garner (NY)
Frank & Pauline Garrett (NJ)
Ben & Colleen Garton (CO)
Frank & Doris Geiger (HI)
Robert & Sara George (GA)
Frances Glass (AL)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Acts 24-26 (Austria 8.2M)
Gloucester County Community Church (NJ)
Bruce Sofia, Pastor
Ronald & Maryann Gold (CO)
Cleo Goodman (NC)
Grace Baptist Church (GA)
Jeff Worley, Pastor

Terry & Linda Gregory (NJ)
 Tim & Merry Gregory (VA)
 Gulf Stream Baptist Association (FL)
 John Fleming, Executive Dir.
 Sue Hamm (KY)
 Sam & Donna Hancock (NJ)
 Elvin & Paula Hardy (GA)
 Barbara Harmon (NJ)
 Harris Memorial Church
 Robert Harris, Pastor

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11

Acts 27-28 (Azerbaijan 7.9M)

Sheila Harris (NC)
 Calvin /Winsome Hayden (CT)
 Jackie Hayes (VA)
 Elaine Heistad (CA)
 Jim & Joyce Hengood (FL/CT)
 Doug Henry (TN)
 J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA)
 Mark Henry (TN)
 Melody Henry (VA)
 Susan & Jamey Henry (TN)
 Joanna Holland (VA)
 John & Glenda Holland (VA)

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12

Jennifer Holmes (MD)
 Russ/Dorothy Hornbaker (MI)
 Mike & Sonya Hosick (VA)
 Lamar/Cindy Sue Houser (MD)
 Bonnie Houston (TN)
 Karen S. Howard (APO)
 Mark Huggins (GA)
 Coy Hunsucker (NC)
 Joyce Hunt (TN)
 Wilbert & Almaretha Hupp (PA)
 Ed Hurlow (IN)
 H. J. & Paula Hutchins (MS)
 Oliver & Janie Jackson (NY)
 Elizabeth Jefferson (VA)
 Jeffrey Jenkins (NY)
 Louis & April Jenkins (DC)
 Vernelle Jenkins (MD)

MONDAY NOVEMBER 13

Romans 1-3 (Bahamas 303,709)

Paul & Suzanne Jennings (TN)
 Peter & Millicent John (NY)
 Dannie & Jayne Johnson (KY)
 Erika Johnson (D.C.)
 Rodney & Tara Johnson (KY)
 Wilbur & Gwen Johnson (AZ)
 Paul & Deanna Jones (KY)
 W I & Eloise Jones (SC)
 Matthew & Susan Jordan (NY)
 Deborah Judd (NC)
 Howard/Suzie Kauffmann (GA)
 Shem Kaula (Nigeria)
 Harper & Shelia Keebaugh (PA)
 David & Monique Keller (CA)
 Joyce Kelley (OR)

TUESDAY OCTOBER 14

Romans 4-5 (Bahrain 698,585)

Kerby Knob Baptist Church (KY)
 Bruce Kirby, Pastor
 Alice Kern (NJ)
 Arleen Kernahan (NY)
 Archie & Mary King (TN)
 June King (AL)
 Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN)
 Clara Mae Klink (IN)
 Peter & Rhonda Klug (CO)
 Sherry Klutz (WA)
 Quentin & Mary Knauer (OH)
 Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY)
 Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI)
 Edith Kyser (MI)

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 15

Romans 6-8 (Bangladesh 147.4M)

Korean Branch:

Dr. Shin Kwang Suk
 David & Cathy Laing (FL)
 Craig & Molly Lampe (AZ)
 Phil & Loetta Landers (OK)
 Charles & Cynthia Larson (MI)
 Stephen Latong (Nigeria)
 Bob Lawrence (MD)
 Raymond & Janet Lemay (VT)

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16

Romans 9-11 (Belarus 10.8M)

Karl & Rebecca Leonard (NC)
 Glenn & Mary Littlepage (TN)
 Vincent/Mary Lobisco (MI/FL)
 Norma P. London (Canada)
 Ray & Bobbie Long (WV)
 Tony & Barbara Long (TN)
 Francis & Deirdre Lyons (ME)
 Manship Chapel (DE)
 Bud & Wilma Marcum (KY)
 Larry & Sue Mason (VA)
 George/Margaret Massey (NC)
 Dan & Meribeth Martin (VA)
 Reginald & Gloria Martin (OH)
 Deborah Mathais (NY)
 Murray & Loretta Mathis (TN)
 George & Sara Mathew (AZ)
 Bill & Shirley Maybin (SC)
 John & Cheryl McFall (NJ)
 Sid & Jane McLaughlin (AL)
 Jim & Lin McLean (MD)
 Leonard/Martha Meador (VA)

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17

Romans 12-16 (S. Africa 44.2M)

Don & Barbara Meduna (CO)
 Memorial Christian Ch (VA)
 Bill & Becky Mentz (FL)
 Ken & Betsy Miedema (MI)
 Christine F. Miles (CT)
 Lewis & Martha Miller (IN)
 Mike & Cherylann Miller (CO)
 Randy & Shirley Miller (CO)
 Earl & Marvel Mills (VA)
 Ryan & Eren Moore (NY)
 Katherine Morgan (VA)
 Mary Louise Morris (CA)

William/Annette Mosley (NC)
 Leslie & Tabitha Motsalane (South Africa)

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18

1 Cor 1-6 (South Africa 44.2M)

Adam & Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela)
 Bill & Lois Needham (WA)
 Bill & Carolyn Neeley (OH)
 Chet & Betty Nichols (WA)
 Rebekah Norman (TN)
 Craton & Helen Noyes (KY)
 Umezulike/Sheila Nwabiem (NC)
 Pius & Beatrice Opang (NY)
 Tom & Ann Palumbo (NJ)
 Michael Pavy (NY)

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 19

Skip & Georgia Peters (MD)
 Jim & Barb Peterson (MI)
 Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA)
 Luther & Leslie Poellnitz (MD)
 Ben Poplin (VA)
 Tom & Sue Powell (WA)
 Ayers & Nina Porter (TN)
 Greg & LaRue Porter (NC)
 Marshall & Lois Powell (KY)
 Brandon, Jeanne Pribble (VA)
 Maggie Pribble (VA)
 Maryann Primo (NJ)
 Phyllis Reed (NH)
 Brian & Rachel Reynolds (VA)
 JoAnn Richards (OH)
 Roscoe/Helen Richmond (GA)
 Earnest & Lucy Ricks (VA)
 Cynthia Roach (VA)
 Windi & Caleb Roach (OK)
 John & Sandra Roberts (FL)
 Roy & Patty Roberts (NY)

MONDAY NOVEMBER 20

1 Cor 7-10 (South Africa 44.2M)

A. K. & Lula Robinson (GA)
 Dudley & Isabel Robotham (NY)
 David & Cathie Rocke (IA)
 Clark & Marie Rogers (VA)
 Lona Rokser (WI)
 Fred & Jeannette Rolater (TN)
 Bob & Shirley Rose (MI)
 John Saint (PA)

St. Paul Baptist Church (IN)

C. L. Adams, Pastor
 Gracie Sanford (VA)

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 21

1 Cor 11-14 (South Africa 44.2M)

Don & Marie Satterwhite (MD)
 Tyler & Rebecca Scarlett (VA)
 David & Betty Schaum (NY)
 Dwayne Schmaltz (WI)
 Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA)
 Philip & Wendy Schrank (WI)
 John & Peggy Seibert (AL)

An amazing journey: Trusting God & telling the people

Since 1985, thousands of dollars have been given by our **Doorkeepers** and other interested friends to make our international ministry possible in forty-seven nations. Every continent except Antarctica has been included. As a result, multiplied hundreds have had help in their spiritual lives. A large number have themselves taught prayer seminars.

What is the explanation for God's children giving? The only one that I have is that the Lord has stirred hearts as prayers have gone forth for each trip. When the first invitation came to come to India, the budget was large since we not only provided a series of prayer seminars throughout India, but **Dr. Sam Simpson**, leading pastor in New York City, accompanied us to lead a great evangelistic crusade. As I faced the challenge of meeting the budget, the Holy Spirit impressed on my mind words I have never forgotten: "**Trust God and tell the people.**" That is exactly what we did on the initial trip to another nation, and that is exactly what I have done as invitations have been accepted in other nations. Every need has been met.

The Josephine model

To meet our needs, God has stirred hearts as He did in 1987 with **Doorkeeper Josephine Fitzgerald**, when she was seventy-eight. She took out her check book to prepare a contribution for our trip to India. She paused to pray about the amount. Then she started filling in the check. When she came to the amount, she said she wrote \$10 and the Holy Spirit said plainly, "Add another zero." She obeyed. Then He said, "Add another zero." A few days later, we received her check drafted for \$1,000 and her account of what happened. The Lord stirred her heart and He has done the same year after year. During the past six years, 210 families have provided the needed funds.

The Southern Africa story

JGHM has concentrated on southern Africa since 1998, establishing a branch of our

ministry there headed by **Leslie Motsalane**. Through your gifts, we have supplied him with an office, furniture & equipment, a vehicle, and funds to print workbooks in English and Sotho. A new Zula translation is ready to use during our **November 17—December 5** trip.

Following much prayer and planning, Leslie developed an itinerary. The budget is \$8,900. We are trusting God to stir hearts. On Tuesday, October 10, letters were sent to everyone on our **Doorkeeper** list "telling the people." Now we are waiting with eager anticipation. By Thursday, October 19, fifteen have given \$2,004.12. The largest gift received has been \$500; the smallest gift \$7. No gift is too large and no gift is too small. We are trusting God to touch at least 100 families to partner with us. Are you one of them? Do what Josephine, who is now ninety-seven, did in 1987. It may be that the Lord will speak to you to invest in South Africa. It may surprise you what He will tell you to do. We need your help and will be grateful. You can make a great difference in South Africa through your prayers & gifts.

Itinerary: 2006

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

2 Thessalonians 3:1

November

- 2-4 Beacon University: IOM
BCM
Massillon OH*
- 5 Preaching/mini-Prayer Seminar:
Marble Plains Baptist Church
Winchester TN
- 6 JGHM Board of Directors
Murfreesboro TN
- 17-30 **South Africa**

December

- 1-5 **South Africa**
VERY GOOD NEWS: LESLIE MOTSALANE, DIRECTOR, JGHM--SOUTHERN AFRICA BRANCH, HAS SHARED THAT A NEW ZULA TRANSLATION OF THE PRAYER SEMINAR WORK-BOOK WILL BE READY.

*Video prayer seminar (10 hours)

At home with the Lord

We have often reported over the years that **Doorkeepers** were "at home with the Lord." That number continues to grow. Around 2:30 Saturday morning, October 14,

Joe Beasley

December 3, 1938-October 14, 2006

God called **Doorkeeper Joe Beasley** (Murfreesboro TN). He had awakened his wife, Jean, and asked her to call 911. Then he said, "Honey, come kiss me good bye," and then he left for his home in heaven. Although he had been ill, his physicians felt he was doing well. We sorrow, but not as those who have no hope (1 Thessalonians 4:13).

The word "death" means separation. The person who lives inside the body (the house he lives in) leaves his body, goes through the first heaven where the birds fly, through the second heaven (where the stars and constellations reside), into the third heaven where Jesus is. "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:8). "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints" (Psalm 115:16).

Joe and Jean have been faithful **Doorkeepers** for many years. Both have served on the Board of Directors for J. Gordon Henry Ministries. **Jean** continues as one of our most valued board members. **Joe** worked hard and, as God blessed him, he blessed others. River Rock Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, worships in a new building, which came about through his vision and his work. He will be missed as a deacon. I can visualize his being greeting by a host of **Doorkeepers** who preceded him into heaven and their conversation about their partnership providing prayer seminars.

Jack McAlister

February 2, 1924-January 12, 2006

From his small garage in Saskatchewan, Canada, Jack founded World Literature Crusade in 1946. He was convinced that to reach a nation **CONTINUED ON PAGE ELEVEN**



NOTES from my BIBLE

Note 1051. "Why should anyone hear the Gospel twice before everyone has heard it once?" **Oswald J. Smith**

Note 1052. "He who prays as he ought will endeavor to live as he prays." **John Owen**

Note 1053. "Live as though Christ died yesterday, rose from the grave today, and is coming back tomorrow." **Theodore Epp**

Note 1054. "Without Christ, not one step; with Him, anywhere." **David Livingstone**

Note 1055. "Worry is weight that God never intended for us to carry." **Pastor Bruce Sofia Gloucester County Community Church, NJ**

DOORKEEPER REPORT

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

1 Thessalonians 1:2

September 22--October 19, 2006

	#	Amount
Regular	41	\$2,655
South Africa	15	\$2,054
Total	56	\$4,709



Welcome, New Doorkeepers!

Ted & Terry Cooper (SC)

Paul & Joyce Eggleston (VA)

James Fritz (KY)

Mike & Sonya Hosick (VA)

Ronald & Mazie Taylor (VA)

Carrol & Ouida Troutman (KY)

literally with the Gospel, the only certain way was to distribute Christian literature to every home in a nation. Every Home for Christ, the name WLC now uses, has a full-time staff of over 1,200 workers plus 14,000 volunteer associates, has systematically distributed over 2.1 billion gospel messages with response cards. Over 30 million response cards have been received and followed-up. Total home-to-home coverage has been completed at least once in ninety-two nations, including India. Working with more than 500 mission agencies and denominations, Jack's ministry has been one of the most amazing, far-reaching, and fruitful ministries in the world.

Jack's support and encouragement for the prayer seminar ministry was unwavering. In 1986, he shared a tape of the memorial service for **Oswald J. Smith** (1889-1986) at the People's Church, Toronto, Canada. Of the hundreds of tapes in my cassette library, I have listened to this one above all others. Oswald Smith's influence was tremendous. He authored many books and wrote 1,200 poems and hymn lyrics, over 200 of which were set to music. He traveled the world getting out the message. World evangelization was his burden. Jack, who spoke at the memorial service, and Oswald Smith literally worked together thousands of hours to disseminate Christian literature.

I first met Jack in India in 1985. From that time onward, we were fast friends. I learned much from Jack. He developed a praise and worship seminar that he led around the world. He wanted folks to understand the purpose of worship and practice it effectively. I often review his manual for my own edification.

During his last years, Jack raised financial support for our work in Cuba. He is the one responsible for our going to Pakistan, where hundreds are being impacted through the Urdu prayer seminar workbook. The last time we were together, he urged me to work with him in establishing a radio ministry as a vehicle to share truths from our prayer seminar. Jack promised to enlist the help of George Beverly Shea to provide music. Although we were unable to bring his dream to fruition, it is still in the back of my mind. There may be a time in

the future when this will happen. Now Jack is **at home with the Lord**, but his influence lives on in my own life and ministry.

Millicent Moucha (Mrs. Walter)

December 13, 1925-March 10, 2006

I have never met a person who took her walk with the Lord Jesus Christ any more seriously than **Millicent Moucha** (Menominee, Michigan). She was visiting her son on Staten Island and attended a prayer seminar at Gateway Cathedral. Before she left, she had a commitment from me to schedule a seminar in her church. Over the years, she was responsible for a number of additional seminars in that area. She not only sent her regular **Doorkeeper** gift, she included a note of encouragement each time. She saw prayer as a major ministry in her life. Each day, she began with Bible reading to hear what God was saying to her. She had one of the most extensive prayer lists that I have seen. She often reminded me that she prayed for Sue and me (along with Sue Bell, our long-time secretary/office manager) every day. She was one of a kind. She faithfully prayed for her husband's salvation. One day she called very excited with the news: "Walter trusted the Lord." I counted her as one of the greatest friends I have had in the prayer seminar ministry. Our hearts were knitted.

Alvin and Mary Skiles, Sawyer, Kansas, have been **Doorkeepers** for years and years. After a long illness, Alvin is now with the Lord. A few days ago, Mary ordered prayer seminar workbooks for her study group.

A number of these **Doorkeepers** often shared that they were praying for me and the prayer seminar ministry every day. Many of these were of the generation that knew the value of a written work of encouragement. I have missed their letters and often remember them with thanksgiving. The list is long. I visualize them in that great crowd of witnesses introduced to us in **Hebrews 12:1**. who, while basking in the glories of their heavenly home, continue to support the prayer seminar ministry.

Reflector

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ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, November 7, 2006

- ❖ Pray
- ❖ Listen to God
- ❖ Vote your values

"The greatest act of patriotism is prayer."

Lloyd Ogilvie, Chaplain, U. S. Senate

"The future of this republic

is in the hands of the American voter."

Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of USA

Many of us are concerned about abortion, gay marriage and the destruction of Christian values. But what are we willing to do about it? Some say that only one of every five evangelicals ever cast a vote. It very well may be that the 2006 election is the most important one that America has ever faced. We are a representative democracy and must elect leaders to represent us. On November 7, millions will go to the polls who do not share our concerns, needs, and values. It is crucial that you **pray, listen to God, and VOTE.**

Thrilling beyond words

Please include these names on your prayer list: **Martin Shikuku, Andrew Sakari, Alexander Asukuku, Mulumba Placide, & Alfred Loboko.** These are pastors who are touching lives conducting prayer seminars in Kenya and the Congo. Their enthusiasm and commitment are remarkable.

An example is the work of **Martin** conducting seminars in the North Rift Valley on August 10 (approximately 500 attendance) and in five different sites August 16-20 with 486 in attendance and seventy-eight professions of faith.

Alfred reports that Imani Baptist Church, Nairobi, has grown from seventy to one-hundred and attributes a great revival to the prayer seminar in his church in May.