

REFLECTOR

VOL.64, No.4

"Holding Forth the Word of Life"

April 2018

Jesus is the CRUCIFIED.

Our Father loved us so much that He sent His Son to carry our sins through death. **JESUS** says ... I am the blood that pursues you and the body that wants you. Come to Me and I shall keep you in My bosom.



Jesus is the RESURRECTION.

I SERVE A RISEN SAVIOR, HE'S IN THE WORLD TODAY, I
KNOW THAT HE IS LIVING, WHATEVER MEN MAY SAY; I
SEE HIS HAND OF MERCY, I HEAR HIS VOICE OF CHEER,
AND JUST THE TIME I NEED HIM, HE'S ALWAYS NEAR.

Alfred H. Ackley, 1934

PERSPECTIVES

For the past forty years, the theme of many issues of the **Reflector** has been Bible study and prayer—two primary disciplines in a successful Christian life. During 2018, it is my desire to again deal with these two issues. Articles in many **Reflectors** were clarion calls reminding the readers that the main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing. Attention was given to five emphases practiced by the early believers and the Jerusalem church: (1) the doctrine (the Word of God), (2) Spirit-filled [living], (3) prayer, (4) witnessing, and (5) stewardship.

In talking to Christians around the world, I have discovered that their greatest desire is to know how to pray. When a survey was conducted on "Sermons Americans Want to Hear," it was discovered that the people's first choice was "How can I make prayer effective?" Christians want to pray, but don't seem to know how. Subsequently, our spiritual lives are often at a low ebb.

Hard work. Why is it so difficult to pray? **Satan does not want you to pray.** In fact, he would rather you do anything than pray because prayer is the point where he is defeated. His favorite word seems to be tomorrow. He is always trying to keep us from praying today. In fact, that must be one of his main goals—to keep all Christians off their knees. He knows we already belong to God and there is nothing he can do about that. But he will do everything in his power to keep us from becoming effective, believing, praying Christians. He

knows the power God has made available to us through prayer, and he does everything he can to keep it from us. He is always saying, "You can pray tomorrow. You're so busy today." And when tomorrow comes, it is the same old story, "Pray tomorrow." It's always "tomorrow" with the devil. Tomorrow—and the next day—and the one following, until we reach the end of our lives and find we have missed much that God had waiting to give to us.

The flesh (the influence of the old man who was crucified with Christ when you trusted Christ as your Savior and Lord) **does not want you to pray.** The flesh says that you are too tired to pray. You need to rest and relax from your heavy duties of the day. You deserve a break. And so it goes. The flesh wars against the Holy Spirit continually. Maintaining a daily, consistent prayer life is **HARD WORK.**

Understanding prayer. What exactly is prayer? Is it really so complicated that Christians must spend a life time searching for an answer? Or are we making something confusing out of what God intended to be beautiful in simplicity?

In basic terms, you can think of **prayer** as **the talking part of relationship.** It is a conversation between two friends who love each other—a **friend talking to a friend** (**John 15:15**). Another way is to think of prayer as **a servant talking to his master** (**Colossians 3:24**). Further, prayer can be seen as a **bride talking to the bridegroom** (**Romans 7:4**)—and that's lovers' talk full of intimacy. It is through prayer that we see God's love and power at work in our lives

and in the lives of people for whom we are praying. As a result, prayer makes us come alive spiritually. Everyone knows that **verbal communication is necessary to develop healthy relationships**, so therefore, when you are praying you are developing your relationship with the Lord. You will never know God if you don't spend time in His presence.

Prayer is the key that opens the door to a whole new world—a world lived in active, conscious pursuit of the living God. It becomes the foundation of everything we do. We are to **order our lives around prayer and pray about everything**. When we pray, we see great things happen for God; when we don't pray, we don't see much happen.

The sin of prayerlessness. Many Christians acknowledge that they should pray more, but say they are simply neglecting it. God's position, however, is that prayerlessness is a sin (1 Samuel 12:23). Prayerlessness characterizes the life of many believers. It is that state in which one prays less than he ought, less than the Father desires, and less than that one himself knows that he should. Some studies have indicated that many Christians pray less than four minutes a day, if at all.

Did you ever think of not praying as a sin? We all know we should pray and yet so few of us do. The Bible plainly says that when we know to do right and fail to do it that the failure is a sin (**James 4:17**). A Christian living a prayerless life is robbed of all the power God intends for him to have. So, you see prayerlessness is more than an area of neglect. It is a sin. If I don't talk to God, then it is an

indication that He is really playing a secondary role in my life and a result of this, I will never be the person that God wants me to be.

Prayerlessness is costly. It costs the individual who isn't praying because prayer is what God has provided to help us grow, along with the Word of God. Through the Word of God, God speaks to us; through prayer, we speak to God. Prayerlessness also costs God because this is His ordained way to get His work done. Finally, prayer costs others who do not benefit from prayers that are not prayed.

God's plan. God has chosen to limit Himself to working through us. He has made us His partners and has even entrusted the lost into our care. Apart from us, He has no body in the world—no hands and feet or heart and voice to bring His message to a dying world. God wants to save the whole world, but He will only accomplish that goal through His children. God wants to answer prayer, but He doesn't unless we pray. All God wants to do in this world through His children, including you, can only be done through prayer. This is the one, unchanging condition that must be met if we want to see God move. Everyone agrees that God is able and willing. We must add "waiting" to the list. He is waiting for us to call upon Him (**Jeremiah 33:3, James 4:2b, Luke 18:1**).

Why should we pray? Because God answers prayer! Do we really believe that? Do we live as though we believe it? If we did, I think we would be spending more time on our knees in prayer. Our time with God would be the most important thing we did all day. Unfortunately, most of us do not

live that way. Year after year we pray only little prayers and get little answers.

The first step. Why do we pray so little? It isn't because we don't want to pray, because I believe most of us do. One reason is that we try to fit God in our schedule between other activities. We try to fit Him into our schedule rather than fitting our schedule around Him.

The **first step** on the learning-to-pray ladder is simple: we must **make time to pray**. Don't expect to awaken one morning and say, "Oh, great! I have time to pray today." It just doesn't happen that way. Our lives are so full of activities (many of them good), there just doesn't seem to be any time left over to pray. That's the first problem that must be overcome.

No one has any more time than anyone else. You and I have all the time there is. **We must decide how to use our time.** It boils down to deciding what is essential in your life. The reality is that we manage, always, to do the things we really want to do. We do what we think is important. A helpful exercise is to do a time study to see how we are using our time. Without fail, people who are willing to do this are surprised at how much time is spent on minor pursuits. Include attending to basic needs of grooming, eating, sleeping, working, but don't forget to include talking on the telephone, watching television, time on the computer, and such.

A study of the life of the **Lord Jesus Christ** during the three years of His active ministry will establish that He **made prayer top priority in His life.** To prioritize is to order according to importance. That is what

we must do. **To pray well, we must make time to pray.** We must set aside a time for prayer each day. We should try to make it as regular as possible because we all work better and are more efficient when we are on some sort of schedule. Our physical bodies work best when we eat at a regular time each day and when we go to bed at a regular hour. Our spiritual lives work best when we have a regular time to be alone with God each day, reading His Word and praying.

The ideal time is the **early morning.** A principle is simply to start your day with God. Don't wait until you have messed up your day and then bring the pieces to God to put back together. Jesus Himself followed early morning praying arising long before day for prayer (**Mark 1:35**). His teachings in the **Model Prayer** include praying for daily bread and to not be led into temptation. In His day, folks did not have refrigeration. Rather, the custom was to go to the market and get enough food for the day. When a person waits until night to pray, he could have gone hungry all day. Temptation does not come when we go to bed to sleep. Temptation comes when we are in the world. Look through your daily schedule and find the best time for you to pray. Then **make an appointment to meet God; keep the appointment.**

Being with Him. Remember this: Our highest calling in life, when all is said and done, is not in serving Jesus, but in being with Him. Our effective service and love for others can only come from being alone with God in prayer and in fellowship and in the reading of His Word. Isn't this what Jesus told Martha in **Luke 18:38-42?**

Martha was busy rushing around the kitchen, trying to get things ready. Mary was simply sitting at the feet of Jesus. Martha couldn't understand this and went into the living room to complain. "Do you think it is fair for Mary to be sitting there with You when there is so much work to be done?" And Jesus said to her gently, "Martha, Martha—there is really only one thing worth being concerned about, and Mary has discovered it." Have you learned, as Mary did, what is really of lasting value in your life?

No matter how busy and full your day may be, the most worthwhile thing you can do is to "sit" alone at the feet of Jesus. Sitting means taking time to be relaxed. Prepare your mind. Think. This is the most important part of your day. Don't rush. Determine to "wait upon the Lord" (**Isaiah 40:31**), to "be still and know He is God" (**Psalms 46:10-11**), to take the initiative to "draw nigh to God" knowing that when you do He will "draw nigh to you" (**James 4:8**).

Spiritual discipline. We have become a generation of soft, weak, undisciplined, prayerless Christians. **Spiritual discipline is the key to growth in the spiritual life.** It is the only key that will open the door to a full and joyous life with Christ. Why are there so many weak, frail, stumbling Christians today? Because we have ignored the only Source of our strength and power—the Lord Jesus Christ—and the importance of being with Him, loving Him, and sharing our

lives with Him in prayer. God being our Helper, we want to do something about this matter.

Future studies. It would be unfair for me to urge you to set aside time for daily prayer, without sharing some practical things you can do to make it so. For many years, I preached the Word of God telling people what to do, never sharing how they could do it. I simply sent them away on a guilt trip. Now I know better. In the next few issues, I am going to follow an outline developed by **Matthew Henry** in a series of lectures delivered in the year 1712. In May, the theme will be "How to Begin the Day with God;" in June, "How to Spend the Day with God;" and in July, "How to Close the Day with God." My prayer is that the 2018 perspectives will make a tremendous difference to many people.

J. Gordon Henry

Zechariah 8:21b

**April 18, 2018 is THE HENRY'S
61st Wedding anniversary.**

FOR NO OTHER FOUNDATION

CAN ANYONE LAY THAN THAT WHICH

IS LAID, WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:11

The promises of the Bible are very large. You can lie down and stretch out on them and you can't kick the headboard, nor touch the railing on either side.

CHECK-UP

If I knew I had to face my God and Judge tomorrow and give account of my life, I would spend my time today _____

YOUR CALL VITALLY IMPORTANT

Do we feel poor spiritually? If so, it is our fault. For God wants to bless us with "every spiritual blessing in Christ" (**Ephesians 1:3**). If we are willing to give ourselves fully to Christ as our Savior and Lord and then take time for increasingly close fellowship with Him, we can enjoy these spiritual blessings in abundant measure. Someone has said, "You can be as spiritual as you want to be." That is true.

Everything worthwhile in life is costly in some way. The finest things in life require mainly our time and devoted attention. Are we willing to pay that price? It is your call!

Be sure to read carefully this month's lead article entitled "Perspectives," which deals with the key disciplines of a Christian's life from the very heart of the prayer seminar.

What God Expects of a Christian

The important thing is not what the church or the minister expects of a Christian but what God expects. Here are some expectations that come straight from the Bible.

He expects us to **grow** (1 Thess 1:3).

He expects us to **go** (Mark 5:19).

He expects us to **glow** (Luke 8:16).

He expects us to **sow** (Mark 4:1-20).

He expects us to **show** (Psalm 92:1-2).

He expects us to **know** (2 Cor 5:1).

**GROW GO GLOW SOW
SHOW KNOW**



NOTES from my BIBLE

Note 4041.

There is no such thing as faith without trust; the object of our faith (trust) is God Himself.

Note 4042. Faith (trust) grows by being occupied with who God is, what He has said, what He has done and is doing.

Note 4043. The only faith that pleases God is obedience, trusting faith.

Note 4044. Christ is in the todays and the tomorrows that we will have to journey through our pilgrimage from earth to Heaven.

Note 4045. Never fear tomorrow; God is already there.

TRY JESUS, MAN OF GALILEE. LOVE THAT'S LIKE PURE GOLD, A FRIEND WHO NEVER GROWS OLD, TRY JESUS, MAN OF GALILEE.

DOORKEEPER REPORT

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

1 Thessalonians 1:2

February 22--March 23, 2018

Regular	70	\$6,849.00
Kenya-	<u>1</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Total	71	\$6,949.00



**THANK YOU, DOORKEEPERS!
THE PRAYER SEMINAR MINISTRY
IS SUPPORTED BY THE GIFTS
OF OUR PARTNERS & FRIENDS.**

PRAYER CALENDAR
April 2018
"Let's go pray"
Zechariah 8:21b

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

Mae Adams (NC)
 Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)
 Norma Ailes (NJ)
 H.L. & Janie Allen (NC)
 David & Eunjoo Andersen (VA)
 Tommy & Pat Apple (NC)
 Eldon/Gayle Armstrong (SC)
 Leonor Avila (MD)
 Bill & Karen Baker (OK)
 Mike & Joyce Baker (VA)

MONDAY, APRIL 2

1 KINGS 1-4 (Malaysia 30.9M)
 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)
 Dennis Hollandsworth, Pastor
 Beverly Blankenship (TN)

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

1 KINGS 5-8 (Mexico 123.2M)
 Ed & Loretta Bolen (VA)
 Everett & Deborah Boston (MD)
 William & Debbie Bowden (NC)
 David & Marna Boyd (OR)
 Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)
 Ed & Jean Bradshaw (VA)
 Kimberlee Bradshaw (VA)
 Lurlene Braud (VA)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

1 KINGS 9-11 (Mozamb 21.4M)
 Michal Breed (WI)
 Nancy Bretz (PA)
 Clint & Dorothy Brooks (VA)
 Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)
 Freddie & Yvonne Brunson (DE)
 Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)
 George & Janet Buck (NJ)
 Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)
 Dallas & Anne Campbell (VA)
 Cliff & Laura Cannon (FL)

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

1 KINGS 12-16 (Namibia 2.1M)
 Robin & Teresa Carlson (NJ)
 Robert & Anita Carroll (VA)
 Mary Columbus (VA)
 Kathie Connolly (VA)
 Foster Covington (VA)
 Barry & Melanie Cox (VA)

Terry & Sonja Craig (TN)
 Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC)
 Dufrene/Peggy Cummings (NC)

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

1 KINGS 17-19 N Zealand 4M)
 Barbara Custalow (VA)
 Harold & Tama Decker (NY)
 Robert & Janice DeLong (VA)
 Carolyn Dodd (VA)
 Jo Anne Dudley (VA)
 Katherine Eaton (ME)
 Bessie Eggleston (MD)
 Lynn Elkins (TN)
 Jeff & Leeann Englert (KY)
 Don & Mary Enoch (FL)

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

1 KINGS 20-22 (Nigeria 186M)
 Eric & Mary Farel (VA)
 Larry & Cara Fields (VA)
 John & Susan Finnessy (MD)
 James & Ruth Flanagan (GA)
 Nancy Fowser (NJ)
 Claire/Mary Ann Fredstrom (NE)
 Freedom Through Faith (MD)
 Bob Tribodeau, Pastor
 Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA)
 James Fugate (CA)

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

Travis & Emilee Fulcher (VA)
 John & Kim Gaines (DE)
 Pauline Garrett (NJ)
 Frank Geiger (HI)
 Sara George (GA)
 Gloucester Co. Community Church
 Bruce Sofia, Pastor (NJ)
 Ron & Carol Godwin (VA)
 Ronald & Maryann Gold (ND)
 Chad & Wendy Goodner (OK)

MONDAY, APRIL 9

2 KINGS 1-3 (N. Ireland 1.8M)
 Sam & Michele Graisbury (NJ)
 Dale & Mary Gray (IL)
 Odether Gray (GA)
 Linda Gregory (UT)
 Uel & Hazel Hartless (VA)
 Jim Hengoed (CT)
 Gina Henry (VA)
 Jack Henry (TN)
 J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA)
 Mark Henry (TN)

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

2 KINGS 4-8 (Okinawa 1.4M)
 Melody Henry (VA)
 Roger & Sara Henry (OH)
 Sean & Bethany Henry (KS)
 James & Kathryn Henry (MS)
 Steve & Donna Hensel (MN)

Ed & Donna Hindson (VA)
 Frank & Pat Hitchings (VA)
 Jeff Hodge (VA)
 Jerry & Sandra Hodge (VA)
 Joanna Holland (VA)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

2 KINGS 9-12 (Pakistan 200M)
 John & Glenda Holland (VA)
 Anita Horton (VA)
 Mike & Sonya Hosick (TN)
 Coy Hunsucker (NC)
 Joyce Hunt (TN)
 Wilbert & Almaretta Hupp (PA)
 Ed Hurlow (IN)
 Jide & Bunmi Iware (MD)
 Vernelle Jenkins (MD)
 Paul & Suzanne Jennings (TN)

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

2 KINGS 13-17 (Peru 28.8M)
 Jonathan & Julie Jobe (SC)
 Dan & Jayne Johnson (KY)
 Gwen Johnson (AZ)
 Jim & Penny Johnson (KY)
 Rick & Betsy Johnson (TN)
 James Jones (FL)
 Paul Jones (KY)
 W I & Eloise Jones (SC)
 Judy Jordann (VA)
 Mohan Katta (IL)

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

2 KINGS 18-21 (Philippines 102.6M)
 Suzie Kauffmann (GA)
 Harper & Shelia Keebaugh (PA)
 Harriet Kennedy (VA)
 Kerby Knob Baptist Church (KY)
 Daren Hisle, Pastor
 Larry & Janet King (NC)
 Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN)
 Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY)
 Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI)
 Korean Branch:

 Dr. Shin Kwang Suk

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

1 CHRON 1-9 (Puerto Rico 4M)
 Joel & Jackie Kramar (VA)
 Woodrow & Linda Kroll (NE)
 Craig & Molly Lampe (AZ)
 Phil & Edra Landers (OK)
 Del & Mary Leach (VA)
 Liberty University (VA)
 Jerry Falwell Jr., President
 Mike & Earlene Lips (MS)
 Vincent & Mary Lobisco (MI)
 Ray & Bobbie Long (WV)
SUNDAY, APRIL 15
 Don & Betty Lowry (SC)
 Manship Chapel (DE)

MONDAY, APRIL 16

1 CHR 10-16 (Romania 22 M)
 Nick & Pat Markham (VA)
 Reg & Gloria Martin (OH)
 Larry & Sue Mason (VA)
 Beau Ware Masonry (VA)
 Deborah Mathias (NY)
 Murray/Loretta Mathis (TN)
 Dan & Fay McConville (VA)
 R. O. & June McHaney (VA)
 Nancy McPherson (ME)
 Don & Barbara Meduna (CO)

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

1 CHR 17-21 (Russia 142.4M)
 Memorial Christian Ch (VA)
 Terry/Sandra Metzgar (TN)
 Betsy Miedema (MI)
 Roger & Nancy Minney (VA)
 Keith & Joan Mistretta (ME)
 Bill & Sharon Moody (VA)
 Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC)
 Joseph & Doris Moos (NJ)
 Drever/Roberta Morton (VA)
 Elaine Moser (MN)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

1 CHR 22-27 (Scotland 5M)
 Eileen Murphy GCCC (NJ)
 Bob & Diane Nichols (VA)
 NE Baptist College (VT)
 Mark Ballard, President
 Oconto Gospel Chapel (WI)
 Zack & Jackie Olcott (VA)
 Ann Palumbo (PA)
 Raleigh & Janet Parker (VA)
 Pecks Baptist Church (VA)
 Bryan Sheehan, Pastor

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

1 CHR 28-29 (Singapore 5.7M)
 Jim & Barb Peterson (MI)
 Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA)
 Barbara Powell (NY)
 Elbert/Barbara Powell (VA)
 Marshall & Lois Powell (KY)
 Jeanne/Maggie Pribble (VA)
 Marjorie Randall (TX)
 Dave Ricker (ME)
 Joyce Riley (KY)
 Calvin & Valarie Ritchey (VA)

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

2 CHR 1-5 (SAfrica 54.3M)
 Cynthia Roach (VA)
 John & Sandra Roberts (NC)
 Dorlos/Betty Robinson (MS)
 Isabel Robotham (NY)
 James & Shelly Rode (FL)
 Clark & Marie Rogers (VA)
 Fred & Wanda Rolater (TN)

Ron & Bonnie Smith (VA)

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

2 CHR 6-9 (Swaziland 1.5M)
 Sam & Jill Scott (VA)
 John & Peggy Seibert (AL)
 Dennis/Monica Shannon (OH)
 Shenandoah ValleyBapCH (VA)
 Mary Skiles (KS)
 Ron & Bonnie Smith (VA)
 Bob & Marlene Rose (MI)
 John Saint (PA)
 Don/Marie Satterfield (MO)

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA)
 Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA)
 Phil & Wendy Schrank (IL)
 Steve Schrank (IL)
 St. Paul Baptist Church (IN)
 C. L. Adams, Pastor
 Walt & Betty Sommers (VA)

MONDAY, APRIL 23

2 CHR 10-12 (SWITZERLD 8.2M)
 Helen Sourlis (MB)
 Randy/Cheryl Stauter (MN)
 Tim & Pam Steger (ID)
 Carol Snow Stewart (CT)
 Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA)
 Charles Stinson (VA)
 Johnny/Rose Street (TX)
 William Suttles (NC)
 Bob & Sandy Swain (VA)
 Brian/Janice Tarraferro (TX)

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

2 CHR 13-16 (Thailand 68.2M)
 Billy & Sharon Taylor (PA)
 Ron Taylor (VA)
 Stephanie Taylor (GA)
 Jimmy & Mary Thomas (VA)
 Mona Henry Thomas (VA)
 W. D./Jackie Thomason (TN)
 Larry Thompson (VA)
 Montez Thompson (WI)
 Cathy Tilton (VA)
 Paula Tipton (TN)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

2 CHR 17-20 (Trinidad 1.2M)
 William & Katie Toney (NC)
 Carrol/Ouida Troutman (KY)
 Clay & Lisa Troutman (KY)
 Kelly & Janice Troutman (KY)
 Joe & Benita Troutman (KY)
 Malcom Troutman (KY)†
 Marshall/Mary Troutman (KY)
 Frances Turpin (VA)

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

2 CHR 21-25 (Ukraine 44.2m)
 Sara Underwood (TN)
 Patrick & Patricia Vaden (TN)
 Sam & Rita Verghese (NJ)
 Harrs/& Jane Verkaik (MI/FL)
 George/Jeanette Vernarchik (NJ)
 Patsy Ann Voss (DE)
 Michael & Sandra Ward (IN)

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

2 CHR 26-28 (Venezuela 30.9M)
 Beau/Ashley/Willow/Will Ware (VA)
 Kay Warmerdam (TX)
 Joyce Warpoole (TEN)
 Holland & Mary Warren (VA)
 Rodger Watts (WI)

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

2 CHR 29-32 (Uruguay 3.4M)
 Naomi Webb (NJ)
 Frank & Nell Weer (KY)
 Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY)
 Paul & Diane Wieland (PA)

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

Reg/Mary Ann Wilburn (VA)
 Jeff Williamson (FL)
 Ken & Carol Willis (VA)
 Julie L. Wilson (PA)
 Neil & Melinda Wilson (VA)

MONDAY, APRIL 30

2 CHR 33-36 (Zambia 15.5M)
 Eva Winebarger (VA)
 Amos & Celia Wipf (GA)
 Jon & Selena Wood (PA)
 David & Lili Wykle (VA)
 Yeshua Ministries (TN)
 Frank Bell, Pastor
 Fred & Susan Zeller (VA)



**ONE PERSON
 CAN BE A
 LIGHTHOUSE
 OF PRAYER**

DAILY INTERCESSION

What is **intercessory prayer**? Prayer is coming to the Father through the Son in the power of the Holy Spirit on behalf of others. The fundamental principle is **focusing the power of God on a person or a situation**. Notice a believer is not alone when he prays. The moment a Christian begins to pray, both Jesus and the Holy Spirit join that person (**Romans 8:26-27**) as Helpers (the word is **Paracletos**, One called along side to help). The Son is seated in the Throne Room of Heaven at the right hand of His Father and the Holy Spirit lives within the believer.

Over the years, we have received many prayer requests. My own practice is to pray for the request right then holding the person's hand when possible. God often answers immediately but other times later. Many prayer requests are of such nature that they require daily intercession. Sue joins me and we pray in agreement.

The "Daily Intercession" page is reserved for pressing needs. Most relate to health issues. For God's glory, we ask for healing (**James 5:14**). You never have to bear your burden alone.

Another feature of the page is the list of a few representative missionaries/nationals to remind us to pray for them and their work.

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Zane & Burma Abbott (VA)
Dr. Jim Britt [Judy] (GA)
Don Campbell [Lucy] (VA)
Joe Bruno [Martha] (CO)
Pastor Peter Dorn [Marilee] (WI)
Edra Landers [Phil] (OK)
Barb Peterson [Jim] (MI)
Jean Smith [Jim] (KY)
Walt & Betty Sommers (VA)
Willie Troutman [Diane] (KY)
Harris Verkaik [Jane] (MI)
Dr. Harold Willmington [Sue](VA)

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KEEP IN YOUR BIBLE
FOR EASY ACCESS.

International:

Representative Missionaries

Ben & Judy Armacost (England/Europe)
Luciana Bongarra (Argentina)
Digmar & Lisbeysi Garcia (Cuba)
Shem & Deborah Kamla (Nigeria)
Mulumba Placide Kituta (DR Congo)
Leslie/Tabitha Motsalane (South Africa)
Enock & Patience Mulomba (Botswana)
Adam & Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela)
Andrew & Celestine Sakari (Kenya)
Martin & Anne Shikuku (Kenya)
Joseph & Esther Tan (Singapore)
Cliff & Marcia Vincent (China)
Roberto & Joana Waisman (Brazil)
Othnel Wakili (Nigeria)
Silas & Comfort Yashim (Nigeria)

GOD'S WAYS

Through sorrow and suffering God teaches us lessons we would not or could not learn any other way. "A ear without a tear will seldom hear." Walking by faith (trust) means never putting a question mark where God puts a period."

DEATH NOTICE

Doorkeeper

Stanley Mack Baskin

1/25/1953—2/17/2018

Murfreesboro, Tennessee



The primary purpose of an obituary is to serve as a death notice. The obituary contains pertinent information about the deceased, the family, details of a memorial service and interment.

The obituary of long-time **Doorkeeper Stan Baskin** is at the top of my list as a model for for a Christian's obituary. Stan and Emily Baskin have been **partners** in the worldwide prayer seminar ministry for many years.

Many of you have prayed with us for his healing on earth. We know that God could have cleared up the mass in his abdomen when the Vanderbilt doctors said that they could not, but this was not His will. His will was for this man of God to come into His presence. Seeing the faith of Stan and Emily certainly blessed my soul many times during his long illness. Now we pray for Emily and their wonderful family. The obituary excerpts that follow illustrate the powerful impact of this godly couple:

Because Stanley Mack Baskin (65) believed in and professed Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, on February 27th, he passed from death into eternal life. He is no longer seeing dimly but face to face in the presence of his Savior. Stan had one goal in life - to know God and make Him known. He did this in his home, his church, and his community. Stan was a devoted and caring husband to his wife, Emily, for 42 wonderful years. With his daughters, he was consistently loving and selfless. His marriage and home were an example of Christ to many. Stan loved to grow a vegetable garden every summer. His grandsons were especially fond of Papa's fried squash and zucchini.

Stan was a faithful member of Third Baptist Church in Murfreesboro for 45 years. He led the singing there

from 1973-1989. More recently, he taught 2nd grade Sunday School alongside his wife, served as a deacon, and played tuba in the orchestra. He was an integral part of many changes in the church throughout the years. Stan spent 34 years as an educator in Rutherford County in the roles of band director, assistant principal, and principal. He led in each of those roles with wisdom and grace. Shortly before his retirement, he became a licensed real estate agent. ...

Stan touched the lives of so many, and his legacy of faith and love will continue for generations to come. In keeping with Stan's passion for the gospel, the family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the International Mission Board SBC, Third Baptist Church mission fund, or Alive Hospice of Murfreesboro.



A World Vision

We are living in a remarkable era of history. Due to modern transportation and God's personal blessings, many believers are able to travel to other nations on what is called "short-term missions." It has been reported that some years over one million Christians from the United States have ministered in other nations in a single year. Without fail, they come back changed with a vision of the world, and their place in it, that they will never forget. The privilege of going personally, regardless of sacrifice required, and the sacrifice is often heavy, but is worth the effort. Have you gone to other nations for the Lord Jesus Christ?

Before you answer, let me remind you that you may not have the privilege and opportunity of going physically to missions fields of the world, but everyone of us can go individually with our prayers and our money. Through the prayer seminar ministry, many of you have been able to impact fifty-eight nations by your prayer and financial support. As Sue and I have served as your "missionaries" in other nations, there was not a day that passed when we did not remember that you are serving with us. You are our partners!



The photos above are from the second visit to **South Korea** in 1988 arranged by **Dr. Shin Kwang Suk**, the director of JGHM: Korean Branch. For security reasons, we are reluctant to show photos from visits to **Pakistan**. Neither will we use names or give dates and places for **2018 prayer seminars**.

The venues are set in four major cities (Karachi, Lahore, Quetta, Peshawar). Each venue will be set up for 100 pastors. We will provide 3,000 Urdu prayer seminar workbooks, which will replenish the supply and service the pastors. 2018's Biggest Challenge will be the Pakistan Budget--\$15,000. Generally we pray for 100 contributors for each major project. Many of you have received an informational letter and response envelope. If you did not receive the packet, use the enclosed envelope and designate your gift "**2018 PAKISTAN.**" **The greatest need is PRAYER SUPPORT.**

GOD CONTINUES TO BLESS OUR TEACHERS IN OTHER NATIONS: Martin Shikuku in Kenya and Tanzania, Adam Nathanson in Panama and Venezuela; and Digmar Garcia in Cuba have seminars scheduled to teach the purpose and power of prayer and mobilize prayer warriors.

"Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God." Ephesians 5:1-2. This is the verse that closed Stan's obituary. Hundreds attended the visitation and memorial service at Third Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Emily's last e-mail before Stan's passing was a request to pray that every step would bring honor to the Lord Jesus Christ.

HAVE FAITH IN GOD, HE'S ON HIS THRONE.

"Although the fig tree shall not blossom ... the flock be cut off from the fold ...yet I will rejoice" (Habakkuk 3:17-18)

Faith will not purchase for the Christian immunity from the sorrows and tragedies of life. It will, however, empower him to triumph in them. Scripture and experience teach that tragedy [trouble] strikes in the lives of just and unjust alike. There is no respect of persons. How else do we explain the tragedy of the cross? Here was the ultimate in tragedy, yet it was utterly powerless to shake the faith of **the Son of God** in His Father's love. In the darkness of Golgotha two momentous utterances affirmed His unwavering trust. "My God, my God, why didst Thou forsake Me?" and "Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit." Even in the hour of deepest suffering He claimed God as His Father. Knowledge had begotten trust.

In the dawn of human history, the most upright man of his day was beset by tragedy upon tragedy. **Job** was denuded of flocks and herds, sons and daughters, servants and wealth. He lost his health and even the supporting confidence of his wife. And his reaction? "Though He slay me yet will I trust in Him" (**Job 13:15**).

Stationed on his watchtower, the prophet **Habakkuk** was perplexed by unanswered prayer and an apparently inactive Providence. The affliction of the righteous and the prosperity of the evil-doer confused him until he receive a word from the Lord. "The righteous shall live by his faith"(2:4). With this assurance, he met stark tragedy no blossoms on the fig tree, no fruit on the vine; barren olive trees and parched fields; folds without flocks and stalls without herds. The whole economy of the nation foundered. And the answer of faith? "Yet I will I rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation (**3:17-18**). Since he had God, he had all and could survive tragedy and heartbreak.

—J. Oswald Sanders

THE WAY OF THE CROSS LEADS HOME.

"...let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, **whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead**—by this name this man stands before you in good health .. And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name, under heaven, that has been given among men, by which we must be saved." **Acts 4:10, 12.**