

REFLECTOR

VOL. 55, No. 8

"Holding Forth the Word of Life"

August 2009

Living a Life of Prayer by Day and by Night

The sweetest flower needs heaven's sunshine and dew to perfect its beauty and sustain its life. So does the holiest human life need God. A picture without sky in it is incomplete. A day on earth without a glimpse of heaven to brighten it dies without a blessing. We rob our own nature and impoverish our life if we do not avail ourselves of the help and renewal which we may get through prayer. Prayer lifts us into the very presence of God. It brings down upon us the power of Christ, according to measure of our need and the measure of our faith. He who lives without prayer lives without God. He who lives a life of prayer walks with God by day and by night. The more we have to do, and the more care we have, the more we need to begin and live our days in prayer.

J. R. Miller

For many years, the late **Dr. George Ragland** was the distinguished pastor of First Baptist Church, Lexington, Kentucky and professor of Greek at the University of Kentucky. When he died, he left an extensive library. In August 1971, his children **Alice**, **David**, and **Elizabeth** (one of my faculty members at the Model School, Eastern Kentucky University) gave me first pick of books from his library collection with the remainder going to **Clear Creek Baptist College, Pineville, Kentucky**.

Some of the choice books in my library came from Dr. Ragland's collection. Ideas from some of the books provided the genesis of my interest in what has been called *the deeper Christian life movement*. Some of his books on prayer are among the best that I have ever read.

A number of the books were written by **Dr. J. R. Miller (1840-1912)**, a 19th century pastor. **Pastor Bill Shishko** notes that "his writing style is delightfully smooth, his insights are spiritual diamonds on every page, and his pastoral applications are delivered with the skill of a well-seasoned physician of souls."

I have profited from the labor of this great man of God, a popular Christian author. He was born near Frankfort Springs, Pennsylvania.



Dr. Miller served as the Editorial Superintendent of the Presbyterian Board of Publications and was pastor of several churches in Pennsylvania and Illinois.

The JGH Library

One of our projects the past year has been cataloguing my personal library following the Dewey Decimal system of classification. The intention is to one day, the Lord willing, give it to an English-speaking Bible college in a third world country. Currently, thanks to **Selena Cao** from China (a recent master's graduate from **Liberty University**), we have over 2,200 volumes on the shelf properly catalogued. We might be half-way through. The value of books is the value of words that can be passed on as illustrated by the **George Ragland Library**. To do so is sound Christian stewardship.

Perspectives

When **John Newton** chose words to describe God's "Amazing Grace," he included a phrase that all of us who have trusted Christ as Savior understand: "*How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.*"

An initial thrill of having sins forgiven is an unparalleled moment in the Christian life no doubt about it. The burden is lifted, one that we are often unaware that we are carrying until it is lifted. As I look back on my own experience, I have often commented that when I walked home from the service that I don't believe my feet touched the ground!

In my book, **Notes from My Bible**, I selected twenty-five favorite poems that I have used in sermons over the years. One poem with which I identified personally was written by **Wade Robinson** expressing a new believer's joy: "Heaven above is softer blue, Earth around is sweeter green; Something lives in every hue, Christless eyes have never seen! Birds with gladder songs overflow, Flowers with deeper beauties shine, Since I know, as now I know, I am His and He is mine." A new believer is clearly on the mountain top. We are now in the family of God and the joy bells are ringing.

Warfare begins

It is not long, however, until reality sets in and warfare begins. You see, Satan has battle plans to defeat us and seeks to implement them. Paul calls these plans "wiles" in the warfare passage in **Ephesians 6:10-18**. It is important to realize that you and I are incapable of meeting Satan in our own strength. So God has provided armor to protect His children. But He does not put the armor on for us. We must learn what the armor is and put it on piece by piece. We must "be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might" (**v 10**). Not only do we need His armor on during prayer time, we need it on throughout the day. Be sure your mind (helmet) is protected. If you and I are defeated, it will be in our minds. Victory comes when we take the victory of Calvary as our own (**1 Corinthians 15:57-58**).

Three references

There are three references that will help us understand that we do not have to be defeated. We are reminded in **1 John 4:4** that the Holy Spirit, who is living in us, is stronger than Satan, the one who is in the world seeking to defeat God's children. **Ephesians 4:27** literally means that Satan does not have a place to stand in a Christian unless the Christian gives Him that place. **James 4:7** not only tells us how to live victoriously moment by moment, it tells us how to get ground back that we have yielded to Satan **submitting to God** (which involves dealing with sin/conviction, godly sorrow leading to repentance, confession, receiving forgiveness/cleansing, having direction changed) and then yielding to the Holy Spirit. After we have submitted to God, we can **resist the devil** who must then flee from us at that very moment.

Spending a day with God

Matthew Henry (1662-1714), the renowned theologian, delivered three discourses in a morning lecture series in 1712. Since March, I have been dealing with the issue of **spending a day in prayer**. In the past two issues of the **Reflector**, I shared thoughts from his first lecture. "How to Begin the Day with God." Many believers have learned the value of beginning the day with God. Certainly, **King David** (the sweet singer of Israel and the man after God's own heart) practiced early morning praying. "In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice; in the morning, I lay my requests before You and wait in expectation" (**Psalms 5:3**). To do so requires a firm decision to discipline. The secret of a close relationship with God is to pray to Him earnestly each morning. In the morning our minds are free from pressing problems and then we can commit the whole day to God.

During this study, I want to share some thoughts Henry delivered in his second lecture "**How to Spend the Day with God**." Using David's expression, "On Thee do I wait all the day" (**Psalms 25:5**), he dealt with how to keep our hope in Him all day long. I will share more thoughts from this lecture in the

September **Reflector**. As I prepared my mind on how to begin the study, the Holy Spirit brought a refrain from **Fannie Crosby's** hymn, **Redeemed**: "I think of my blessed Redeemer, I think of Him all the day long, I sing for I cannot stay silent, His love is the theme of my song." To think seriously and often about Him is to **meditate**. **Meditation** will make a difference!

Prayer is the talking part of a relationship. Everyone knows that verbal communication is necessary for healthy relationships. Is this true? What about earthly relationships? Take the "husband-wife" relationship, a marriage. It is true that a marriage will go wrong without verbal communication. "Parent-child" relationship constitutes a home; a home will fall apart when the parents and the children don't talk. Then there is "employer-employee" relationship in a business; the business will go bankrupt if employer-employees don't talk. It is true in earthly relationships that verbal communication is necessary.

What about biblical relationships? In **John 15:15**, "friend" is the relationship. Friends need to talk. Prayer is basically a friend talking to his Friend. You don't even have to change the tone of your voice when you pray because you are simply talking to a Friend. The relationship in **Colossians 3:24** is "servant-master." Prayer is a servant talking to his Master. Don't forget **Romans 7:4** that reminds us of a "bride-bridegroom relationship." What is prayer? It is the bride talking to the Bridegroom, intimate talk, lovers' talk. We need to communicate with God daily--all day long. Regular communication helps each friendship and is certainly necessary for a strong relationship with the Lord.

God knows us. He wants to have genuine communication with us. Often, however, patterns of superficial communication spill over into our talks with God. We easily slide through well-worn lines recited for decades, or we quickly toss a cliché or two at God and call it prayer. There is no doubt that God hears and understands these feeble attempts, but by limiting the depth of our communication, we become shallow in our relationship with Him in the same manner as neglected verbal

communication in earthly relationships.

All-day meditation

Matthew Henry began his discourse again referring to David as he did in his first lecture. "On Thee do I wait all the day" (**Psalms 25:5**). We are to understand this expression as implying an expectation that God is going to work in our lives. Anyone versed in Scriptures related to waiting could call this **GREAT EXPECTATIONS**. In his prayer, **David** cried out: "Guide me in Your truth and teach me. My hope is in you all the day long." He called Him the "God of my salvation," the Being whom he regarded as his Deliverer from various pending dangers and difficulties. He expressed his willingness and his purpose to wait for Him all the day until God moved.

Focus on God Himself


David cried out: "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation" (**Psalms 62:5-6**). **Meditate** often upon God. This instruction is clear in **Psalms 1** and runs throughout the hymn book of Israel. **We are instructed to meditate upon His Word**: "Oh the joys of those who do not follow evil men's advice ... But they delight in doing everything God wants them to, and day and night are always **meditating** on His laws [biblical truths] and thinking about ways to follow Him more closely" (**Psalms 1:1-2 LB**). God had earlier given directions to His leader, **Joshua**, "This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall **meditate** on it day and night, that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success" (**Joshua 1:8**). David had internalized this injunction: "Oh, how I love Thy law! It is my **meditation** all the day" (**Psalms 119:97**).

We, too, are to **meditate** upon His precepts (or instruction) all day long. "I will **meditate** on Thy precepts, and fix my eyes on Thy ways" (**Psalms 119:15**). We are to **meditate** on His mighty works: "I will **meditate** on all Thy work, and meditate on Thy mighty deeds" (**Psalms 77:12**); "I will **meditate** on all that Thou hast

done" (**Psalm 143:5**).

It is not enough for us to begin the day with God, we are to wait upon Him throughout the day. In this second lecture, **Henry** showed how and why we should wait on our God all day long every day from early morning to late night. A believer must settle for nothing less than God Himself in the manifestation of His glorious attributes, not simply the good things that He can bestow. The idea is most fully conveyed in the psalmist's own language: "O God, You are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for You, my body longs for You, in a dry and weary land where there is no water" (**Psalm 63:1**). "My soul clings to You; Your right hand upholds me" (**Psalm 63:8**). "You guide me with Your counsel" (**Psalm 73:24**). "Earth has nothing I desire besides You" (**Psalm 73:25**). "But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge" (**Psalm 73:28**). Henry said: "The devout believer waits on Him as the beggar waits on his benefactor, with earnest desires to obtain medical supplies, or as the diseased at the pool of Bethesda waited for the stirring of the water and for the expected cure . . . upon the wings of holy desire should our souls be ever soaring toward God, and pressing toward the attainments of heaven. We should ever strive to know more of God, to become more like Him, to be brought into closer fellowship and into more active and useful service."

In the September **Reflector**, I will share Henry's outline on how to spend the day with God. Remember that the three lectures were delivered in 1712, two years before he died. He is sharing from the crucible of long experience in the Word and in walking with God over a lifetime. We can learn much from this great man of God's lectures, delivered almost three hundred years ago.

Yours in Calvary love,


Being with Him

Our highest calling in life is not in serving Jesus, but in being with Him. He chose twelve disciples that they might "be with Him" (Mark 3:14). Our effective service and love for others can only come from being alone with God in His Word and in prayer.

Jesus Himself said the best was being alone with Him each day in prayer. Do you remember the story of **Mary** and **Martha** in the New Testament (**Luke 10:38-42**)? **Jesus** went to their home one day for dinner. **Martha** was busy rushing around the kitchen, trying to get a meal prepared and everything ready. **Mary** was simply sitting at the feet of **Jesus**. **Martha** couldn't understand this and went into the living room to complain to Jesus, "Do You think it's fair for **Mary** to be sitting there with You when I have so much work to do?" 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. **Mary** didn't go rushing hurriedly into the presence of **Jesus** with a lot of urgent things she wanted Him to do for her and then rush out again. No, she took time out, in the midst of all she had to do, to sit down at His feet. She chose God's best for her life. She made time to *cherish* Him. One can surmise that after dinner **Mary** washed the dishes and cleaned up the kitchen so **Martha** could learn the joy of sitting at the feet of **Jesus**. What do you think?

Spend time with **Jesus** to begin your day. Then practice the presence of God the remainder of the day. Walk with Him; talk with Him. Order your life around prayer. He is there and you can communicate with Him. Lean on Him in your thought life. Your actions will reflect your being with Him. It is then that those around you will see Jesus in you and you will "be" a witness.

God's marvelous ways

Two months ago, we reported the Homegoing (May 12) of one of the heroes of the faith, **Archie King**. Everyone marveled at the strength of his wife, **Mary**, his care-giver.

Although she was eighty-five, she stood by his side as she had through years of ministry and was stalwart in her care for him for the several years of declining health. He wanted to be home when many were convinced that "Miss Mary" could not take care of him; she did. His every need was met. Now she is in Heaven (July 8) with her husband. It seemed that God said, "Mary, your work on earth is finished. Come on Home. Archie and I are waiting for you." One can only imagine the reunion.

Isn't God good? He is worthy of special praise in regard to the Kings and we gladly give time and space in the **Reflector** to recognize this and to praise Him.

Give me

God, please give me

- **eyes** that I might see the work that can be done by me;
- **ears** that I might hear the cry of those who need me near.
- **lips** that I might speak comfort and peace to all who seek.
- **a mind** that I might know how to help those who need me so.
- **hands** that I might do some large or simple task for you.
- **a prayer** that I might pray Thy help and guidance everyday.

And this one thing, above all else, God,
**GIVE ME A HEART THAT I MAY LOVE
YOU SUPREME, MY FAMILY AND
OTHERS. This is my desire.**

**I ask and make my plea IN THE NAME
OF JESUS for Your glory alone. Amen.**

—Anonymous

Day to day

Oh, could I find, from day to day,
A nearness to my God,
Then would my hours glide sweet away
While leaning on His Word.

Lord, I desire with Thee to live
Anew from day to day,
In joys the world can never give,
Nor ever take away.

Do it well

In the Tuesday, November 15, 1960 issue of the **Reflector**, I wrote an article of encouragement to the members of Rosedale Baptist Church, Richmond KY, where I was pastor. At that time, the church was paying off a note that had a balance of \$7,998.72. We had made a \$380 payment using a fifth Sunday offering. I said, "As a church works TOGETHER on a task, very quickly we see progress." I continued, "A poet once said: 'If a task is once begun, never leave it until it's done. Be the labor great or small, do it well, or not at all'." I concluded by saying, "Our people are certainly doing WELL in our giving fifth Sundays to lessen our debt."

"Do it well" is a reminder that all Christians need to hear. Whatever our capacity, we need to give Christ our best. Our talents may be few or small, but unto Him is due our best our all.

I graduated from **White Pine High School (Tennessee)** with twenty-one in the graduating class. During our senior year, we chose a class motto that has in many ways guided my life since that time:

"Good, better, best.

**Never let it rest
until your good is better,
and your better best."**

I am glad that I learned that and could say to our congregation in Kentucky so long ago, "do it well." **Ralph Waldo Emerson** said it nicely: "The satisfaction of a job well done is to have done it."

IN LOVING MEMORY

DOORKEEPER

SHIRLEY HOLMES ROSE (MRS. BOB)

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

3/26/1933 7/15/2009

Twenty-five years ago (March 11, 1984), I was invited to conduct the first of four prayer seminars in the **Unity Reformed Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan**. My hosts were **Bob and Shirley Rose**, who met me at the airport during a snow storm. We became close friends immediately. After all, Shirley was born at **Paint Lick, Kentucky**, a small village in Garrard County located right out of **Berea** where Sue and I attended college. Although the **Holmes family** moved to Louisville when she was a year old, the affinity of location was there always. Each time I returned to Unity, **Shirley** and **Bob** took care of me.

For the past few years, **Shirley** has struggled mightily with health issues, but no more. On Wednesday morning, July 15, she moved into her Heavenly Home to enjoy being with her Savior and Lord and to await the arrival of the rest of us. "Absent from the body, present with the Lord" (**2 Corinthians 5:8**).

Even in the worst of times, Shirley's faith and simple trust in the Lord Jesus Christ shone through. When Bob called, he shared a statement Shirley wrote last Thanksgiving listing things for which she was thankful. She stated: "I have so much to be thankful for. I'm thankful for the prayer seminar with Dr. Henry. He taught me to see the beauty of being in the Throne Room with the King of kings wherever and whenever I pray. He shared so many things that God continued to use in my life."

Need I say that I am thankful for the friends whom God has given me around the world--who not only received me personally, but above all received the Word that I brought. I thank God for every opportunity to share with folks just like **Shirley Rose** who put into their every-day lives what they learn.

May God comfort **Bob** and his wonderful family in a very special way.

NOTES from my BIBLE



Seek ye out of the book of the Lord, and read.
ISAIAH 34:16

Note 1121. Never boast about tomorrow because you do not know what will happen between now and then.

Note 1122. His heart isn't pure whose tongue isn't clean; guard your thoughts and words.

Note 1123. Faith looks forward in anticipation, but fear looks back in anxiety.

Note 1124. A happy home does not just happen.

Note 1125. How wonderful when the "law of kindness" rules the tongue.

DOORKEEPER REPORT

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

1 Thessalonians 1:2

April 20-May 20, 2009

Regular	47	\$3,565.00
Peru	16	1,050.00
Martin-Van	<u>23</u>	<u>1,365.00</u>
Total	86	\$5,980.00



THANKS, DOORKEEPERS!



THE HENRYS WITH DR. HENRY MORRIS
CELEBRATING TRACS' RECOGNITION
BY THE US DEPT OF EDUCATION IN 1991.

PRAYER CALENDAR

AUGUST 2009

"I will give myself to prayer..."

Psalms 109:4b



SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

JEREMIAH 1-6 (Lebanon 4M)

Wayne & Edie Aardsma (IL)
Burnace Abrams (OH)
Marie Adams (VA)
Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)
Wayne & Jennie Agee (VA)
Norma Ailes (NJ)
Clyde & Kathryn Allen (VA)
Tommy & Pat Apple (NC)
Milcie Arnold (VA)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

Leonor Avila (MD)
Bill & Karen Baker (VA)
Carolyn Barkley (NY)
Stan & Emily Baskin (TN)
Carter Mylam Baynes (NC)
Jean Beasley (TN)
Tommy & Sue Bell (TN)
Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN)
Johnny & Juanita Bernard (FL)
Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL)

MONDAY, AUGUST 3

JEREMIAH 7-10 (Lesotho 2.1M)

Charles & Andrea Black (VA)
Ed & Loretta Bolen (VA)
Everett & Deborah Boston (MD)
Bob & Jewel Bouchard (KY)
William & Debbie Bowden (MD)
Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)
Emilee & Kimberlee Bradshaw (VA)
Nancy Bretz (PA)
Clint & Dorothy Brooks (VA)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

JEREMIAH 11-15 (Liberia 3.3M)

Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)
Shirley Brown (VA)
Jack & Arretta Bruce (KY)
Joe & Martha Bruno (AL)
Freddie & Yvonne Brunson (DE)
Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)
Janice Bugg (TN)
Ruby Burger (TN)

Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)
Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)
Mary Campbell (ID)
Cliff & Laura Cannon (FL)
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5
JEREMIAH 16-20 (Libya 6.2M)

Joreatha Capers (FL)
David & Martha Cecil (VA)
Mary Clarke (VA)
Harry & Nancy Coffee (VA)
Margarie Coffee (VA)
Jim & Kathy Connolly (VA)
Joe & Carol Coulter (VA)
Foster & Georgia Covington (VA)
Terry & Sonja Craig (TN)
Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC)
Dufrene Cummings (NC)
Bill & Beverly Curtis (PA)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

JER 21-25 Liechtenstein 34,498)

Lin & Barbara Custalow (VA)
Ida J. Davis (GA)
John & Margaret Davis (VA)
Mark & Charmaine Davis (VA)
Lelia Dean (FL)
Harold & Tama Decker (NY)
Nick & Wilma DeGroot (IL)
Delmarva Evangelistic Church (MD)
Ruth Chamberlain, Pastor
Alan & Rebecca Dockrey (KY)
Mary J. Dugans (LA)
Walt Edwards (NC)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

JER 26-29 (Lithuania 3.6M)

Paul & Joyce Eggleston (VA)
Grace Eldridge (NJ)
Lynn Elkins (TN)
Evalena Enoch (VA)
Lynne Farrow (NJ)
Larry & Cara Fields (VA)
June Fisher (TN)
Makeva Flowers (VA)
Claire & Mary Ann Fredstrom (NE)
Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA)
Raymond & Estelle Gabbard (KY)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

JER 30-33 (Luxembourg 486,006)

Frank & Pauline Garrett (NJ)
Frank Geiger (HI)
Robert & Sara George (GA)
Frances Glass (AL)
Gloucester Co. Community Church
Bruce Sofia, Pastor (NJ)
Ronald & Maryann Gold (ND)

Odether Gray (GA)

Linda Gregory (NJ)

Charles M. Hale (VA)

Uel & Hazel Hartless (VA)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

Jim & Joyce Hengoe (FL/CT)
Bruce & Gina Henry (VA)

Doug Henry (TN)
J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA)
Jacqueline Henry (VA)
Mark Henry (TN)
Melody Henry (VA)
Roger Henry (OH)
Sean Henry (VA/Iraq)
Susan & Jamey Henry (TN)
Wendy Henry & Caleb (OK)
MONDAY, AUGUST 10
JER 34-36 (Macau 480,823)
Jerry & Sandra Hodge (VA)
Joanna Holland (VA)
John & Glenda Holland (VA)
Jayson & Marylynn Hooker (VA)
Russ & Dorothy Hornbaker (MI)
Mike & Sonya Hosick (VA)
Sam & Linda Hough (VA)
Bonnie Houston (TN)
Coy Hunsucker (NC)
Joyce Hunt (TN)
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11
JER 37-39 (Macedonia 2M)
Wilbert & Almaretta Hupp (PA)
Ed Hurlow (IN)
Oliver & Janie Jackson (NY)
Louis & May Jenkins (DC)
Vernelle Jenkins (MD)
Paul & Suzanne Jennings (TN)
Peter & Millicent John (NY)
Dan & Jayne Johnson (KY)
Gwendolyn Johnson (AZ)
Jim & Penny Johnson (KY)
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12
JER 40-45 (Madagascar 20M)
Paul & Deanna Jones (KY)
W I & Eloise Jones (SC)
Mohan Katta (IL)
Howard & Suzie Kauffmann (GA)
Harper & Shelia Keebaugh (PA)
Joyce Kelley (OR)
Kerby Knob Baptist Church (KY)

Bruce Kirby, Pastor
Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN)
Sherry Klutz (WA)
Quentin & Mary Knauer (OH)
THURSDAY, AUGUST 13
JER 46-52 (Malawi 13.9M)
Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY)
Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI)
Korean Branch:

Dr. Shin Kwang Suk
Joel & Jackie Kramar (VA)
David & Cathy Laing (FL)
Phil & Loetta Landers (OK)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

LAM 1-5 (Israel 7.1M)

Charles & Cynthia Larson (MI)
Bob Lawrence (MD)
Raymond & Janet LeMay (VT)
Mike & Earlene Lips (MS)
Vincent & Mary Lobisco (MI/FL)

Ray & Bobbie Long (WV)
 Brian & Stacey Loomis (VA)
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15
EZEKIEL 1-6 (Malaysia 25.3M)
 Kenneth & Debra Magee (SC)
 Manship Chapel (DE)
 Bud & Wilma Marcum (KY)
 Dan & Meribeth Martin (VA)
 Reginald & Gloria Martin (OH)
 Larry & Sue Mason (VA)
 Bill & Mirle Matheny (VA)
 Dan & Fay McConville (VA)
 Leonard & Martha Meador (VA)
 Murray & Loretta Mathis (TN)
SUNDAY, AUGUST 16
 Don & Barbara Meduna (CO)
 Mona Merry (SC)
 Memorial Christian Church (VA)
 Ken & Betsy Miedema (MI)
 Terry & Sandra Metzgar (VA)
 Lewis & Martha Miller (IN)
 Lowry & Marjorie Miller (VA)
 Mike & Cherylann Miller (CO)
 Earl & Marvel Mills (VA)
 French & Laura Moore (VA)
 Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC)
MONDAY, AUGUST 17
EZEKIEL 7-11 (Peru 29.2M)
 Katherine Morgan (VA)
 Chet & Betty Nichols (WA)
 Craton & Helen Noyes (KY)
 Ann Palumbo (NJ)
 Jim & Barb Peterson (MI)
 Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA)
 Luther & Leslie Poellnitz (MD)
 Ben Poplin (VA)
 Ayers Porter (TN)
 Marshall & Lois Powell (KY)
TUESDAY, AUGUST 18
EZEKIEL 12-15 (Peru 29.2M)
 Brandon/Jeanne/Maggie Pribble (VA)
 Paul & Donna Quetsch (VA)
 James & Jeannette Ralph (VA)
 Mike & Joyce Riley (KY)
 Cynthia Roach (VA)
 Dudley & Isabel Robotham (NY)
 Clark & Marie Rogers (VA)
 Fred & Jeannette Rolater (TN)
 Bob Rose (MI)
 David & Amy Ross (KY)
 Sandra Rumore (VA)
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19
EZEKIEL 16-19 (Peru 29.2M)
 Denise Russell (OR)
 John Saint (PA)
 Tyler & Rebecca Scarlett (VA)
 Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA)
 Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA)
 Philip & Wendy Schrank (IL)
 John & Peggy Seibert (AL)
 Dennis & Monica Shannon (OH)
 Shenandoah Valley Baptist Ch (VA)

Eric Farel, Pastor
THURSDAY, AUGUST 20
EZEKIEL 20-24 (Peru 29.2M)
 Nellie F. Shepard (CT)
 Mary Siegner (VA)
 Sam & Lola Simpson (NY)
 His Highest Praise (HI)
 Lori Siri, Pastor
 Mary Skiles (KS)
FRIDAY, AUGUST 21
EZEKIEL 25-28 (Peru 29.2M)
 Paul & Mary Smith (TX)
 Walt & Betty Sommers (VA)
 John & Helen Sourlis (MD)
 Leroy & Suk Hi Standifer (WA)
 Marion J. Stansell (TX)
 Tim & Pam Steger (ID)
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22
EZEKIEL 29-32 (Peru 29.2M)
 Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA)
 Charles & Irene Stinson (VA)
 Johnny & Rose M. Street (AR)
 Clarence/Roselin Stringfield (VA)
 Bob & Sandy Swain (VA)
 Tabernacle Baptist Church (DC)
 William Stroman, Pastor
SUNDAY, AUGUST 23
 Taylor's Chapel Bapt Church (TN)
 Ron & Mazie Taylor (VA)
 Stephanie Taylor (GA)
 Temple of Praise (TX)
 Gilbert Perez, Pastor
 Earlene Thigpen (TN)
MONDAY, AUGUST 24
EZEKIEL 33-36 (Peru 29.2M)
 Mona Henry Thomas (VA)
 Mildred V. Thompson (GA)
 Paula Tipton (TN)
 Virginia Trask (VA)
 Carrol & Ouida Troutman (KY)
 Clay & Lisa Troutman (KY)
 Kelly & Janice Troutman (KY)
 Malcom Troutman (KY)
 Marshall & Mary Troutman (KY)
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25
EZEKIEL 37- 39 (Peru 29.2M)
 Tommy & Frances Turpin (VA)
 Sara Underwood (TN)
 Patrick & Patricia Vaden (TN)
 Harris & Jane Verkaik (MI/FL)
 George & Jeanette Vernarchik (NY)
 Sam & Rita Verghese (NJ)
 Doris Snyder Verrall (FL)
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26
EZEKIEL 40-43 (Peru 29.2M)
 Horace & Becky Ward (NC)
 Michael & Sandra Ward (IN)
 Beau Ware (VA)
 Kay Warmerdam (TX)
 Don & Joyce Warpoole (TN)
 Rodger & Jean Watts (WI)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27
EZEKIEL 44-48 (Peru 29.2M)
 Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY)
 Allan & Judy Whitmore (VA)
 George & Virginia Whitner (FL)
 M/M Herbert Wice (TN)
 Paul & Diane Wieland (PA)
 Edward Williams (NC)
 Elijah Williams (NJ)
 Julie L. Wilson (PA)
 Neil & Melinda Wilson (VA)
FRIDAY, AUGUST 28
DANIEL 1-6 (Peru 29.2M)
 Tim & Merry Gregory (Thailand)
 Mulamba Placide Kituta (Congo)
 John & Egberta McSween (Trinidad)
 Leslie/Tabitha Motsalane (S. Africa)
SATURDAY, AUGUST 29
DANIEL 7-9 (Peru 29.2M)
 Adam/Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela)
 Andrew J.Sakari (Kenya)
 Martin & Anne Shikuku (Kenya)
 Onesimus Sule (Nigeria)
 Cliff & Marcia Vincent (Brazil)
 Silas & Alice Yashim (Nigeria)
SUNDAY, AUGUST 30
 Roy & Eva Winebarger (VA)
 Dot Winfield (MD)
 The Word Church (NJ)
 Buz Offenbacher, Pastor
MONDAY, AUGUST 31
DANIEL 10-12 (Peru 29.2M)
 Bert & Teresa Worley (VA)
 Greg & Lori Worley (GA)
 Lili Wykle (VA)
 Robin & Deborah Yohee (PA)

**BEGIN NOW TO PRAY
 FOR THE MINISTRY IN
 NIGERIA SCHEDULED
 FOR DECEMBER 3
 THROUGH 21.**

**PLEASE USE THE
 DOORKEEPER PRAYER
 CALENDAR DAILY.
 SOMEONE IS
 COUNTING
 ON
 YOUR PRAYERS.
 WHAT A PRIVILEGE
 TO INTERCEDE FOR
 THE NEEDS OF
 THE DOORKEEPER
 FAMILY.**

TRACS **Celebrating Thirty Years**

For eleven years (1984-1995), some portion of my waking hours each day was devoted to developing **Transnational Association of Colleges and Christian Schools (TRACS)**, a postsecondary accrediting agency **formed to serve institutions that believe literally the first eleven chapters of Genesis, including creation, not evolution.** This included drafting and sharpening policies and procedures to guide the accreditation process, developing standards and evaluative criteria comparable to other accrediting agencies already approved by the U. S. Department of Education, conducting staff visits to campuses and preparing comprehensive staff reports, training evaluators from many colleges to serve on evaluation teams, scheduling and carrying out team visits, preparing a team report that could be shared in the exit interview on a campus, and bringing the team recommendation to the Accreditation Commission for their action.

My work included planning meetings of the Board of Directors and the Accreditation Commission and two meetings a year inviting representatives from the colleges. I edited a monthly twelve-page booklet entitled **Update** in which we shared news and articles to help the leaders of the various colleges to improve their work on their campuses.

A major portion of time was invested in meeting the requirements of the U. S. Department of Education for approval as a nationally recognized accrediting agency, an effort that encompassed several years and meetings that consumed many hours. **Sue Bell** was my assistant who managed the office and developed an expertise in accreditation matters that enabled her to answer the questions that came into our office by mail or by phone.

Our **Doorkeepers** played a major role by providing the prayer support that undergirded our daily work and provided covering for us during all key meetings in Washington D.C. We kept our partners apprised through the monthly **Doorkeeper Reports** and through the **Reflector**. There were times when we sent out

information letters, as well. It was a great day on July 28, 1991 when **Lamar Alexander**, U. S. Secretary of Education recognized **TRACS**. Many of you remember the opposition that formed against approving an accrediting agency that took the stand **TRACS** did. A review of the paper trail formulated over these years will reflect God's protection time and time again. Instead of being defeated, **TRACS** came out victorious with numerous commendations for the accreditation process and the degree of excellence that **TRACS** reflected.

For the next five years after my retirement from **TRACS**, I served a number of institutions seeking accreditation as an educational consultant. In applying the standards and evaluative criteria that we so carefully developed, I found that there was redundancy in abundance. Amazingly, I found that there was no way that many institutions could meet some of the standards regardless of their resources.

As I look back, I continue amazed at the dedication of the dozens of educators who worked with us at great sacrifice, many now in Heaven, as board members, accreditation commission members, and team members. Among these men are the late **Dr. Henry M. Morris**, a founder of **TRACS** and board chairman for most of my tenure, and **Dr. James Hengood**, who served as the chair for the Accreditation Commission for years.

This fall, **TRACS** celebrates its 30th anniversary. The agency is in good standing with the U. S. Department of Education and is an active member in the Council of Higher Education Accreditation.

After my retirement, the two men who joined me as Associate Executive Directors assumed the leadership--**Dr. Earl Mills** and **Dr. Russell Fitzgerald**. When Dr. Mills retired, Dr. Fitzgerald became the Executive-Director and still functions in that role. Both men provided outstanding leadership.

Continue to pray for **TRACS**. As the nation becomes increasingly secular, **TRACS** will be needed as never before. Pray that **TRACS** will remain true to its founding principles because the pull is always to accommodate to the world order.

PRAY FOR US

Itinerary: 2009

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

2 Thessalonians 3:1

August

- 2-5 Prayer Revival
Pecks Baptist Ch, Bedford VA
- 6-8 CLST Institute of Ministry
Church of God New Bern NC*
- 22 Areawide- Chapin United Meth Ch
Chapin, South Carolina
- 23 A.M. Teaching-Chapin U.M. Church
- 24-31 Prayer Seminars- PERU

September

- 1-9 Prayer Seminars - PERU
- 29-30 Sue Henry: Macau China

October

- 1-9 Sue Henry: Macau China
- 3 Prayer Seminar
First Congregational Church
Reidsville NC
- 4 A.M. Preaching, Reidsville NC
- 16-18 Areawide Prayer Seminar
Buffalo, New York

November

- 26-28 CLST Institute of Ministry
Brossard, Quebec, Canada*

December

- 3-21 Prayer Seminars—Nigeria

***Video course ten hours**

Prison seminars

Beginning in the early days of our ministry, there have been prison prayer seminars. The first one was on August 21, 1982, in **Rahway**, a maximum security prison in **New Jersey** where the movie "Scared Straight" was filmed. The last was on July 24 at the **Green River, Central City, Kentucky**. Each prison seminar has been well received. Prisoners are allowed to receive a copy of the **Prayer Seminar Workbook** and a pen to make notes. Prisoners from death row

were allowed to attend a seminar at Eddyville State Prison in Kentucky.

Another memorable seminar was at **Marion State Prison, Ohio**, where a spiritual awakening began and still continues, according to a retired pastor from that area. Sixty inmates attended. There was discernable interest to become prayer warriors. I warned them that if this was their decision that Satan would put them on his "hit list" and attack. I said: "I can almost hear the conversation. Satan will say, 'what did you say you were going to be?' When you say, 'a prayer warrior,' he will respond: 'You've got to be kidding. Don't you remember?'" and then he will bring your past up. He is the accuser of the brethren." I encouraged them to learn **1 John 2:1** spoken to Christians "My little children, these things write I unto you that you sin not [literally don't get into a lifestyle of sin], but if any man sins [miss the mark], we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus." Advocate means a defense attorney. I said, "Jesus is your defense attorney. When Satan comes to accuse you, and he will do that quickly, simply tell him that if he wants to talk about your past that he will have to talk to your attorney. Send him to Jesus who will defend you; you don't have to defend yourself."

Not only is this good for prisoners to know, it is good for all believers to know. The word translated "Advocate" is "Paraclete" (One called along side to help; the Helper) in **1 John 2:1**, the same word used for Holy Spirit in **John 14:16**. A Christian has the Holy Spirit living inside and the Lord Jesus Christ interceding for him at the right hand of the Father. What more do we need?

During our time in Piura, Peru August 26-30, we will use some of the mornings to teach prayer seminars at a prison. There are now three churches organized within the prison. Many are being saved. It will be a blessing to teach these prisoners to strengthen their prayer lives. Pray for the Peru prison prayer seminars.

Equipping Peruvian believers

The first visit to any nation is an opportunity to become acquainted with believers and make some judgments about the prevailing needs and the most effective ministry to help. At the same time, it is an opportunity for the people to make a judgment about the worth of the proffered ministry to their needs.

When I first went to **Peru** in June 2006, I found pastors and believers ready to receive the prayer seminars. We had the privilege to travel to many sections of the nation. Not only were the seminars well received in each venue, the new Spanish prayer seminar workbook was viewed as a God-send.

I knew what to expect in the second visit in 2007. Based on what we learned on the first trip, the focus was directed toward pastors. The intention was to take an approach in teaching that would equip pastors to teach their own people. Many pastors gathered in **Piura** (north) and in **Lima**, the capital. Several hundred pastors received the instruction. We helped equip the pastors to teach their people.

I feel at home in Peru and have expectations for each seminar scheduled for the third trip--August 24--September 9.

Seminars are scheduled for **Piura, Trujillo, Chimbote, Paramonga, and Chinche**. Each participant will be provided a Spanish prayer seminar workbook. A **budget** has been developed to cover (1) international travel, (2) domestic travel, (3) lodging/food, (4) an interpreter, and (5) 2,000 Spanish workbooks. The interpreter will be traveling with me and we will cover his expenses. The budget is \$5,080.

AGAIN, WE NEED PRAYER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT. From the crucible of experience, I have learned that when we have one-hundred partners that we meet the budget. This is not the first time that we have faced a severe economic downturn in our nation. Times are hard. Many of you will have to sacrifice to be partners. I have learned that where God guides, He provides. I believe He will touch hearts to join with us.



2006



2007

Once we complete the 2009 seminars, we will have touched most parts of the nation. In all probability, I will likely never return to Peru personally. Nevertheless, a large number of pastors will be teaching the prayer seminar materials (which has been the case since the very first trip) which is certainly encouraging.

Through the help of **Doorkeepers** and other partners, we have been able to travel the world (fifty-five nations) conducting prayer seminars in many languages and providing workbooks in each language. Thanks for your prayer and financial support. You will know in your heart if God wants you to be one of the one-hundred to meet the need. If one out of ten **Reflector** readers participate, we will meet our budget. We need your help. Thank you for entrusting us with the task of representing the Lord Jesus Christ and you around the world. This is a great joy--one that is beyond words. **Above all, pray!**

Martin's van - Kenya

We have transmitted \$5,000 toward a van for **Martin Shikuku** and deposited in a bank in **Eldoret, Kenya**. The banker has agreed that three months from now, the bank will tender a loan to purchase a van. Of course, Martin is thrilled beyond measure. This will help his dream for transportation come true. One can imagine the difference having a van will make in the amazing work that Martin, his church, and his ministry are doing. Not only are folks being won to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, but they are being discipled as well. We are grateful, as well, for the **Doorkeepers** who have given to this special project.

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LYNCHBURG VA
PERMIT #857

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Reflector
ISSN 0885-8538
J. Gordon Henry Ministries
1127 Lakeview Drive
Lynchburg, Virginia 24502-2807
(434) 239-8837 \E-mail:jghm84@aol.com
www.jgordonhenryministries.org



**NIGERIA-THE MOST FRUITFUL
NATION FOR THE
PRAYER SEMINAR MINISTRY
RETURN DECEMBER 3-21**

Heaven

Oh, talk to me of heaven! I love
To hear about my home above:
For there doth many a loved one dwell
In light and joy ineffable.
Oh, tell me how they shine and sing,
While every harp rings echoing,
And every glad and tearless eye
Beams like the bright sun gloriously.
Tell me of that victorious palm
Each hand in glory beareth;
Tell me of that celestial calm
Each face in glory weareth.
Oh, happy, happy country, where
There entereth not a sin;
And Death, who keeps its portals fair,
May never once come in.
No grief can change their day to night,
The darkness of that land is light.
Sorrow and sighing God has sent
Far thence, to endless banishment,
And never more may one dark tear
Bedim their burning skies;
For every one they shed while here
In fearful agonies,
Glitters a bright and dazzling gem
In their immortal diadem.

—Caroline Bowler

In September 1980, I led a “prayer conference” in **Madison Baptist Church, Madison, New Jersey**, our home church when I was president of Northeastern Bible College the beginning of the prayer seminar ministry. **It is an incredible blessing to see prayer seminars scheduled for 2010** marking the thirtieth year for the prayer seminar ministry. How many more years will we have? I do not know. I do know that countless churches and believers around the world have experienced renewal and revival through a prayer seminar. Before 2009 is over, the Lord willing, we will pass the 1,400 mark (46 states, the District of Columbia, and fifty-five other nations) with over 2.3 million miles traveled. I’m more excited today than ever before about prayer. **Let me know when your excitement leads you to schedule a seminar. I am ready.**