

(Christmas program first used in 1958)

"TELL THE GOOD NEWS"

"TELL THE GOOD NEWS"

WORDS & TUNE BY GENE BARTLETT, 1968



It's Christmas! Time to Ponder: The Best-Known verse!

"For God so loved the [people of] the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." **John 3:16**

Words closely associated with "believe" that brings salvation are "faith" and "trust." It is more than mere intellectual belief. **John 3:16** very well may be the best-known verse in the Bible. It may be the most important. It is a prescription for salvation. It has been called the "gospel in a nutshell" because it sums up so many central truths:

- ◆ God's motive: an intense love for the people of the entire world.
- ◆ God's action: He gave His only begotten Son.
- God's invitation to any and all: "whoever."
- God's gift: eternal life.
- Our part: believe in His Son.

The verse is more than a prescription for salvation. It is a striking revelation of God's living nature and the lengths to which He has gone to bring His love to us No one who ponders on **John 3:16** can doubt God's concern for the people of the world or imagine that we do any more or less than joyfully trust ourselves to Him.

Do you **believe** in Him? Have you exercised your **faith** in Him by **trust**ing Him as your Savior? If so, you can answer a simple question: "Where were you when you **trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord?"** I was in a tent on a Saturday night in September 1948 situated in White Pine, Tennessee, a small town in the foothills of the Great Smokies, a mountain chain in the eastern part of the United States. Where were you? Many

God the Father

The usual focus during the Christmas season is Jesus, After all, Christmas celebrates His advent the Word made flesh to dwell among men. Sermons are preached and lessons are taught on the meaning of the Incarnation, God in the flesh in a human body. We honor His coming into the world as an innocent baby, but we know the rest of the Story. We know that redemption comes through what He did as an adult. Paul's summary statement was "[the Father 1 made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us , that we might be the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Corinthians 5:21). A small lad explained the verse by saying "He traded places with us" and that is true.

As Jesus came to the close of His earthly ministry, He told His disciples that He had come to reveal the Father. In the Old Testament, the title "Father" was used just 15 times and usually in the formal sense of the "Father of the Hebrew people." In the New Testament, however, everything changes. God is addressed as Father no less than 245 times!

Jesus referred to God as "Father" throughout His ministry 14 times in the Sermon on the Mount alone! In fact, every time we pray, "Our Father who are in Heaven," we follow His example and obey His command. It is only because of Christ that we have this great privilege. As Jesus Himself declared "no one comes to the Father but through Me" (**John 14:6**).

Because Christ paid the penalty for our sins, we are able to enter into a personal relationship with the Almighty. We have the right, totally unearned, and only by His grace, to call Him Father and what an awesome privilege it is. Often Jesus used "Abba" in talking to His Father. "Abba" is an Aramaic term of endearment for "father," The combined use of the Aramaic and Greek means something like "dear Father" or even "Papa," an intimate term. It was actually the word used by Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane (Mark 14:35-36).

Unlike most of his other epistles, Galatians includes no prayer requests from Paul nor any commendations of the churches or their ministers. However, Paul said "And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying "Abba, Father." The cry of the Spirit in our hearts is thus, "Abba, Father," using both an intimate name and a respectful name for one's father.

As we once again see the enormity of what God did for us, let us remember what Jesus taught His disciples. We can do something that was not possible before Jesus returned to His Father. We can come to the Father through His name and call Him "Abba Father." We must cherish the **amazing privilege** of experiencing God as a loving Father. During this Christmas season, keep your eyes on the Father and see the long-term difference this makes in your outlook.

Americans answer "in a church."Others say in their homes and can be specific to point out the exact location in the house. Belief that leads to trusting the Son of God brings eternal life. Wherever you are, you can become a Christian.

During the past thirty years, it has been my personal joy to travel up and down the United States and in six continents "preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence ..." (Acts 28:31). Time after time, the Holy Spirit has been faithful to bring the Word alive in the hearts of participants in the prayer seminar and in preaching services. Miles traveled now total 2,556,447. Thousands have heard, believed and placed their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. God's amazing grace has changed lives.

Some say they love Jesus and cannot remember when they were not Christians. This is the ruse of Satan himself, the great deceiver. The truth is that when Adam sinned his spirit died to God and everyone born since Adam is born dead to God. I was born dead to God; you were born dead to God. The very moment that a person hears the Gospel, believes it, and by faith trusts Jesus as personal Savior, there is a New Birth, not physical, but spiritual. "Jesus answered and said to [Nicodemus], 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). As you reflect on your life and find that you cannot say where you were when you trusted Jesus, there is a simple solution. You do not have to go to a church or any other location. Wherever you are, you

can come to Christ. You do not have to have anyone else with you. You can come to Christ right down! You can have new life!

A helpful passage of Scripture is Romans 10:8-13. You can read for yourself and know the Word from God. "But what does it say? 'The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart' (that is the Word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, 'Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." His name is Jesus, "He who saves." Ask Him to save you. By faith, trust Him now. That is the Biblical belief that saves. Then quickly tell others that you are a believer saved by the Blood of the Lamb.

Now go back to the passage that precedes John 3:16 and the passage that follows it to see the context of the best-known verse in the Bible: "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (vv 14-15); "For God did not send His Son into the world, to condemn the world, but that [the people of] the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (vv 17-18).

Then close your meditation with the summary verse in this chapter: "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on Him" (**v 36**).

During Christmas 2013, reflect on the true meaning of this celebration. In a private place, bow and express thanksgiving for God's Gift that has made your salvation possible and placed you on the road to Heaven.

Yours in Calvary love, J. Gordon Hong

Alone with God

It requires much courage to be alone with God. It is then that all of self, all subtle egotism, is searched and hunted out of the soul. Selfishness cannot live in His presence.

The praise of men becomes as dust beneath the feet, and the soul trembles even to receive any honor of men, or to be recognized in this world as of any worth.

Amy Carmichael

Wait in expectation

Many a ship passes in the night, touching at our wharf with the precious freight which we have been praying for, but we are not there to receive it. Many a dove comes to our window from the weltering waste of waters, but we are too immersed in other things to notice its light tap.

We pray, but we do not wait. We ask, but we often do not expect to receive. We knock, but we are gone before the door is opened.

Selected

YEAR-END GIFTS

As we enter the last month of 2013. we are grateful for those who pray, give, and tell others about the availability of the prayer seminar ministry. Your prayers are the most important way to support us in this ministry. We are grateful for the dedicated prayer support we receive. Often someone tells us that he/she prays for us each day. We are grateful, also, for those who support us with contributions. We remain a faith ministry depending on our friends who have never failed us. Consequently, we have been able to take the prayer seminars to six continents: Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America. My commitment is to continue the prayer seminars as long as God opens doors, gives me a measure of physical health, and touches hearts to provide the financial need.

Each year, we have been generously blessed by end-of-the-year giving. All gifts postmarked by December 31 are deductible this calendar year. Thank you for letting me be your missionary!



Martin Shikuku and Dr. Henry
10-17-2013

Martin leaving the Henrys for Dulles Airport, Washington D.C. and his flight home to Eldoret.

Now Martin is now back in his work as pastor of Glory Baptist Church,
Eldoret, Kenya and as director for JGHM--East/Central Africa Branch.



NOTES from my BIBLE

TELL THE GOOD NEWS!

Note 2146. Jesus is the central focus of the Christian faith.

Note 2147. Jesus is UNIQUE, deity bonded with humanity, God in the flesh who has come to save us from our sins.

Note 2148. From eternity Jesus was God, equal with the Father.

Note 2149. Jesus voluntarily lived a human life and experienced every pressure growing out of human vulnerabilities (**Hebrews 4:15**).

Note 2150. Believing Jesus is God in human flesh is essential to Christianity (**1 John 4:2-3**).

CHRISTIANS NEVER HAVE TO BE SHY IN TELLING THE GOOD

DOORKEEPER REPORT

"YOU ALSO HELPING TOGETHER IN PRAYER FOR US" 2 Cor. 1:11a September 19--October 15, 2013

Regular 55 \$3,685



THANKS, DOORKEEPERS!
Partners with God 1 Corinthians 3:9

WELCOME, NEW DOORKEEPERS Joseph & Doris Moos (NJ)

PRAYER CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2013

"I will give myself to prayer..."

Psalm 109:4b

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

Wayne & Edie Aardsma (IL)
Zane & Burma Abbott (VA)
Mae Adams (NC)
Marie Adams (VA)
Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)
Wayne & Jennie Agee (VA)
Norma Ailes (FL)
H. L. & Janie Allen (SC)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

1 THES (Philippines 103.8M)

Tommy & Pat Apple (NC) Milcie Arnold (VA)

Leonor Avila (MD) Bill & Karen Baker (OK)

Consuela Baker (NC) Mike & Joyce Baker (VA) Marilyn Barry (VA)

Stan & Emily Baskin (TN)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

2 THES (Pitcairn Islands 48)

Jean Beasley (TN) Tommy Bell (TN)

Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN) Johnny/Juanita Bernard (FL) Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL)

Beverly Blankenship (TN) Ed & Loretta Bolen (VA)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

1 TIM 1-3 (Poland 38.4M)

Everett/Deborah Boston (MD) Bob Bouchard (KY) William/Debbie Bowden (MD)

David & Marna Boyd (OR)
Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)
Ed & Jean Bradshaw (VA)
Emileo & Kim Bradshaw (VA)

Emilee & Kim Bradshaw (VA) Nancy Bretz (PA)

Jim & Judy Britt (GA)
Clint & Dorothy Brooks (VA)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

1 TIM 4-6 (Portugal 10.8M)

Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ) Arretta Bruce (TN) Joe & Martha Bruno (CO) Freddie/Yvonne Brunson (DE) Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)

George & Carol Buck (NJ) FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

2 TIM 1-4 (Puerto Rico 4M) Janice Bugg (TN/Chin) Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)
Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)
Mary Campbell (ID)

Laura Cannon (FL)

Joeretha Capers (FL) Robert & Anne Carroll (VA) Bob & Evelyn Casey (FL)

David & Martha Cecil (VA)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

TITUS (Qatar 2M)
Gus & Janice Christofield (VA)
Harry & Nancy Coffee (VA)
Vernia Coleman (MD)
Kathie Connolly (VA)
Larry & Sue Cooper (DE)
Foster/Georgia Covington (VA)

Terry & Sonja Craig (TN)
Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC)

Dufrene/Peggy Cummings (NC)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

Lin & Barbara Custalow (VA)
Ida J. Davis (GA)
John Davis (VA)
Harold & Tama Decker (NY)
Alan & Rebecca Dockrey (KY)
Mary J. Dugans (LA)
Ivy Early (NC)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

PHILEMON (Romania 21.8M)

Paul & Joyce Eggleston (VA) Lynn Elkins (TN) Gene & Shirley Farley (CA) Fellowship Baptist Church (FL) William/Shirley Farley Larry & Cara Fields (VA)

James & Ruth Flanagan (GA) **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10**

HEB 1-2 (Russia 138.1M)

Claire/Mary Ann Fredstrom (NE) Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA) Estelle Gabbard (KY) John & Kim Gaines (DE) Mike & Lerlyne Garcia (VA) Frank & Pauline Garrett (NJ)

Frank Geiger (HI) Sara George (GA)

WED., DECEMBER 11

HEB 3-4 (Rwanda 11,7M)

Gloucester Co. Community Ch Bruce Sofia, Pastor (NJ) Ron & Carol Godwin (VA) Ronald & Maryann Gold (ND) Chad & Wendy Goodner (OK) Sam & Michele Graisbery (NJ) Velma Graven (KY) Dale & Mary Gray (IL) Odether Gray (GA)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

HEB 5-7 (St Barthelemy 7,332) Linda Gregory (UT)

Charles Hale (VA)

George & Joy Harper (VA) Bruce & Vivian Harris (TN)

Uel & Hazel Hartless (VA)
Jim Hengoed (FL/CT)
Gina Henry (VA)

J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13 HEB 8-10 (St Helena 7,728)

Jacqueline Henry (VA)
Jack Henry (TN)
James & Kathryn Henry (MS)

James & Kathryn Henry (MS)

Mark Henry (TN) Melody Henry (VA)

Roger & Sara Henry (OH)

Sean & Bethany Henry (VA) Steve & Donna Hensel (MN)

Jerry & Sandra Hodge (VA) Joanna Holland (VA)

John & Glenda Holland (VA)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

HEB 11-13 (St Kitts 50,726) Russ/Dorothy Hornbaker (MI)

Anita Horton (VA)
Mike & Sonya Hosick (VA)

Sam & Linda Hough (VA) Coy Hunsucker (NC) Joyce Hunt (TN)

Wilbert/Almaretta Hupp (PA) Ed Hurlow (IN)

Jide & Bunmi Iware (MD)

Betty Jackson (OH)

Oliver & Janie Jackson (NY) Gene/Rose Marie Jeffries (AR)

Vernelle Jenkins (MD)
Paul & Suzanne Jennings (TN)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Millicent John (NY)
Dan & Jayne Johnson (KY)
Gwen Johnson (AZ)
Jim & Penny Johnson (KY)
Dave & Debbie Jones (VA)

James Jones (FL)

W I & Eloise Jones (SC) Mohan Katta (IL)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16 JAMES (St Lucia 162,178)

Howard/Suzie Kauffmann (GA) Harper/Shelia Keebaugh (PA) Kerby Knob Baptist Church (KY), Bruce Kirby, Pastor Larry & Janet King (NC) Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN) Robert & Rose Klous (VA) Sherry Klutz (WA) Ouintin & Mary Knauer (OH) Mark & Lois Knolls (DE) Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17 1 PETER (St Pierre 5,831)

Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI) Korean Branch:

Dr. Shin Kwang Suk Joel & Jackie Kramar (VA) Woodrow & Linda Kroll (NE) Craig & Molly Lampe (AZ) Phil & Edra Landers (OK)

Charles & Cynthia Larson (MI) Bob Lawrence (MD)

Del & Mary Leach (VA) Raymond & Janet Lemay (VT) WED., DECEMBER 18

2 PETER (St Vincent 103,537)

Gaylen & Linda Leverett (VA) Liberty University (VA) Jerry Falwell Jr., President Mike & Earlene Lips (MS) Vincent/Mary Lobisco (MI/FL) Ray & Bobbie Long (WV) Don & Betty Lowry (SC) Rachel Mann (NC) Manship Chapel (DE)

Bruce & Vickie Tribbett Wilma Marcum (KY)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

1 JOHN (Samoa 194,320) Reg & Gloria Martin (OH) Larry & Sue Mason (VA) Deborah Mathias (NY) Murray & Loretta Mathis (TN) Dan & Fay McConville (VA) R. O. & June McHaney (VA) Don & Barbara Meduna (CO) Memorial Christian Church (VA) Virgil & Sue Knipp, Pastors Terry & Sandra Metzgar (VA)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

Betsy Miedema (MI)

Gwen Miller (VA)

2 JOHN (San Marino 32,140)) Earl & Marvel Mills (VA)

Roger Minney (VA) French & Laura Moore (VA) Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC) Robert & Doris Moos (NJ)

Elaine Moser (MN)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

3 JOHN (Sao Tome 183,176)

Bob & Diane Nichols (VA) Chet & Betty Nichols (WA) Ann Palumbo (PA) Roger & Kay Pede (VA)

Sandy Pederson (MN) Jim & Barb Peterson (MI) Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA) Mildred Pittman (NC)

Ben Poplin (VA) Avers Porter (TN)

Marshall & Lois Powell (KY) Jeanne & Maggie Pribble (VA)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 Dave & Marilyn Rainey (VA) Jeannette Ralph (VA) Marjorie Randall (TX) John Reed (NH) Dave Ricker (ME) Alice Riddick (NC) Mike & Joyce Riley (KY) Cynthia Roach (VA)

Clark & Marie Rogers (VA) **MONDAY, DECEMBER 23**

JUDE (Saudi Arabia 26.5M) Fred & Jeannette Rolater (TN) Bob & Marlene Rose (MI) Sandra Rumore (VA) John Saint (PA) Don & Marie Satterwhite (FL) Gary & Sandy Schnittier (PA)

Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA) **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24**

REV 1-3 (Saudi Arabia 26.5M) Phil/Wendy/Steve Schrank (WI)

John & Pegav Seibert (AL) Dennis/Monica Shannon (OH) Shenandoah Valley Baptist Ch (VA), Gene Jones, Pastor Nellie F. Shepard (CT)

Walter & Pearl Shields (VA)

WED., DECEMBER 25

REV 4-5 (Scotland) Faye Skaggs (KY)

Mary Skiles (KS) Paul & Mary Smith (TX) Walt & Betty Sommers (VA) John & Helen Sourlis (MD)

Leroy/Suk Hi Standifer (WA) Tim & Pam Steger (ID)

Carol Snow Stewart (CT) Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

REV 6-8 (Senegal 13M)

Charles & Irene Stinson (VA) Johnny & Rose M. Street (AR) William Suttles (NC) Bob & Sandy Swain (VA) Tabernacle Baptist Church (DC) William Stroman, Pastor Brian & Janice Tarraferro (TX)

Billy & Sharon Taylor (PA)

Ron & Mazie Taylor (VA) Stephanie Taylor (GA)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

REV 9-13 (Serbia 7.3M) Mona Henry Thomas (VA) W. D & Jackie Thomason (TN) Montez Thompson (CO) William & Katie Toney (NC) Virginia Trask (VA)

Carrol & Ouida Troutman (KY) Clay & Lisa Troutman (KY) Jor & Benita Troutman (KY) Kelly & Janice Troutman (KY)

SATURDAY DECEMBER 28 REV 14-16 (Seychelles 90,024)

Malcom Troutman (KY) Marshall/Mary Troutman (KY) Willie & Diane Troutman (KY) Tommy & Frances Turpin (VA) Sara Underwood (TN) Patrick & Patricia Vaden (TN) Harris & Jane Verkaik (MI(/FL) George/Jeanette Vernarchik (NJ) Sam & Rita Verghese (NJ) Keith/Doris Snyder Verrell (FL)

Walter/Mary Ann Voss (DE) SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

Horace/Becky Ward (NC) Michael/Sandra Ward (IN) Beau/Ashley/Willow/Will Ware (VA) Kay Warmerdam (TX)

Don & yce Warpoole (TN) Rodger & Jean Watts (WI) Frank & Nell Weer (KY) Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

REV 17-19 (Sierra Leone 5.5M) Kay Wice (TN) Paul & Diane Wieland (PA) Reg/Mary Ann Wilburn (VA) Ken & Carol Willis (VA)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

Julie L. Wilson (PA)

REV 20-22 (Singapore 5.4M)

Kay Wice (TN) Neil & Melinda Wilson (VA) Amos & Celia Wipf (GA) Greg & Lori Worley (GA) David & Lili Wykle (VA) Fred & Susan Zeller (MD)



INTERNATIONAL

Representative missionaries/ National workers

Ben & Judy Armacost (England)
Janice Bugg (China)

Shem & Deborah Kamla (Nigeria)

Mulumba Placide Kituta (DR Congo)

Nuhu & Mercy Leo (Nigeria)

Leslie/Tabitha Motsalane (South Africa)

Enock/Patience Mulomba (Botswana)

Adam/Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela)

Andrew & Celestine Sakari (Kenya)

Martin & Anne Shikuku (Kenya)

itili & Allile Silikuku (Keliya

Onesimus Sule (Nigeria)
Paula Tipton (Thailand)

Cliff & Marcia Vincent (Brazil)

Silas Yashim (Nigeria)

Daily intercession

Intercession focuses the power of God on a person or circumstance. The "Daily Intercession" list is for pressing needs. Most relate to health issues. For God's glory, let's ask for healing (James 4:2b-3). Life is dynamic and no one, except God, knows what a day will bring forth.

Carter Mylam Baynes (NC)
Margarie Coffee (VA)
Lin Custalow [Barbara] (VA)
Deanna Jones [Paul] (KY)
Lowry Miller [Marjorie] (VA)
Katherine Morgan (VA)
Isabel Robotham [Dudley] (NY)
Sam Simpson [Lola] (NY)
Jean Smith [Jim] (KY)
Virginia Whitner (FL)
Eva Winebarger [Roy] (VA)

Contact us IMMEDIATELY when a pressing need arises. Call any hour of the day or night (JGH): (434) 851-4721 (SUE): (434) 851-4722. E-mail: jghm84@aol.com or suethenry@aol.com. You do not have to bear your burden alone. We will pray with you and then supply needed prayer support daily. Always keep us updated.

HAVE YOU TOLD?

Have you shared the Christmas story? Have you told its message true? There are others who would gladly Hear the word of Life from you.

Have you told them how the angels To the humble shepherds came? Have you given them the tidings That the herald did proclaim?

Have you told them how the radiance From the Christmas star did guide The band of seeking Magi To the little Christ-child's side?

Have you told them how this Jesus Was the Savior long-foretold And to Him they brought rich tribute Of myrrh, frankincense and gold?

Have you told them He's the Savior Who alone redeems from sin? Have you told them He can give them Peace and joy and love within?

If you have, then you will surely Know the bliss of love sublime, And, if not, oh, haste to share it While the bells of Christmas chime.

Author Unknown

IN LOVING MEMORY

ROBERT GEORGE 3/11/1933-11/11/2013

Fortson, Georgia PSALM 116:15

A faithful Doorkeeper since 1995. A "best friend" and professional colleague. He and Sara, his beloved wife, had China

their hearts and impacted this giant-of-

a-country with
a hands-on ministry. His
great spiritual legacy will
live on. He made a difference.

Spiritual decisions in Venezuela

October 19-November 4, 2013
"Preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things
which concern the Lord Jesus Christ"
(Acts 28:31)

Since 1996, "Adam Nathanson" has been a prominent name in our cadre of best friends and fellow ministers. As a recent graduate of Maryland Bible College, he and his wife, Dianna, were serving as missionaries in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. On my agenda notes for the week of December 29, 1996, I have the following notation: "Nathanson Fax confirmed Brazil July 17-August 3, 1997." Although Adam was unable to attend a prayer seminar at his college during his senior year, he heard from those who did the impact. He was the catalyst for what happened in 1997: nine prayer seminars, six leadership conferences, and two sermons. Sue spoke to three women's groups. Over the years, Adam has traveled with me serving as Portuguese or Spanish interpreter in Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, Cuba as well as Spanish prayer seminars in the U.S.

Once again, Adam, who now serves as a missionary to Venezuela and is founder-pastor of Grace Community Church in Caracas, and I teamed up for prayer seminars in three areas: Caracas (capital city with five million people), Amazonas State (about the size of Texas and home to 150,000 native Indians living in the jungle), and the Santa Elena region along the Brazilian border and home to two major Indian tribes. In a sense, the latter two venues are among the hard regions. Seventeen



Adam Nathanson, Interpreter



Leading Caracas pastors

tribes live in the Amazonas jungle. Although many churches have been established throughout the jungle, there is constant warfare among the tribes. Many of the churches were established by New Tribes Mission, an entity that has been expelled from their jungle work and is no longer welcomed. The contrast between Puerto Avacucho and Santa Elena is remarkable. Both are striking, but Santa Elena with an elevation of 2,500 feet surrounded by picturesque flattopped mountains is one of the most beautiful areas that I have visited anywhere in the world. This was my eighth visit to Venezuela (1992, 2007, 2008, April 2010, August 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013).

During this visit, there were ten prayer seminars and I preached three times. **Hundreds committed themselves to become Lighthouses of Prayer** (necessary to penetrate

the spiritual darkness that abounds in Venezuela). 149 were saved. Certainly Adam and I were blessed beyond words. However, we had a major disappointment. Plans were for us to go into the **Amazonas jungle** among the tribes. The focus of the invitation was for us to travel from **Puerto Ayacucho** by river (four hours on the mighty Oronoco River) to a small town, San Fernando, where an annual conference is held for 350-500 pastors. We considered this one of the most extraordinary invitations we have received. Upon our arrival, we were informed that there was aggressive querrilla activity and that it would be unsafe for white Americans to travel. Although disappointed, we placed this under the category of Isaiah 55, God's ways are not our ways; His are better. We were strongly urged to return to these areas. Perhaps this will be God's will at some future date. We have tentatively agreed to return in July 2014 to Puerto Ordoz to work with seventy-five churches and to Caracas to provide a series of prayer seminars.

On behalf of each person touched, we express thanks to the **Doorkeepers** who provided prayer and financial support. Ninety contributed, significantly over-subscribing the budget. "The Lord repay your work, and a full reward to be given you by the Lord God of Israel, under whose

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Pastor of Six Indian churches



New converts



New Indian School built by Baptists



Beautiful Santa Elena

REFLECTOR

VOL . 59, No. 12 "Set thee up waymarks" Jeremiah 31:21 December 2013

"Take My Life, Lead Me, Lord"

WORDS & TUNE BY R.Maines Rawls,1968



A new Baptist hymnal was released in 1975. Soon thereafter, Pleasant View Baptist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia, where I was serving as pastor, adopted the new hymnal celebrating a century of ministry. Included were some of the newer hymns that had grown popular the past few years. We already loved "Because He Lives" and "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in this place." Now we had them and many others in our hymn book. Since PVBC was a singing church, we made full use of our new hymnal.

Two of the new hymns fit our emphases, so we used them often: "Tell the Good News" (written by Gene Bartlett who wrote "Victory in Jesus,") and "Take my life, Lead Me, Lord," written by R. Maines Rawls. Both are reminders that we must be busy Telling the Good News this Christmas Season.