

SUE HENRY WITH ESTELLE GABBARD

OLD FRIENDS

1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957 THE BEREA YEARS

Returning to **Berea College** (Kentucky) for my 60th Class reunion afforded an opportunity to visit with a few "old friends." However, the number left is surprisingly small as attested by the small number attending the 2017 Summer Class Reunions from the Class of 1957. **Don and Gayle Buchanan**, perhaps our very oldest friends from campus, came for a visit. However, we were blessed by a visit with **Estelle Gabbard**, now 90, in nearby Richmond.



OLD FRIENDS AT KERBY KNOB LOIS WILLIAMS POWELL & PAUL JONES

We overnighted with a special friend, Paul Jones, in Berea and Lois Williams Powell and her husband Marshall at Kerby Knob. Many times over the years, I have spoken of the seven wonderful years serving as pastor of Kerby Knob Baptist Church where I taught and preached on Sunday, June 11. We praise God for "Old Friends" as well as "new friends" who bless our lives.

In August 1953, I returned home from Berea College to preach before my home church, White Oak Baptist Church, Valley Home, Tennessee, in view of licensing me to preach. My message was from **Deuteronomy** 6 and was entitled "Lest Ye Forget." I have the sermon notes from that message. In later years, each time I preached this message, I reworked the sermon notes. The sermon will appear in **Favorite Sermons**, a book that I hope to release in the future featuring fifteen favorite sermons from my years as a pastorevangelist. Other than this sermon, the oldest sermon notes that I have is a message from Genesis 3:9 entitled "Where Art Thou?" which I preached three times: twice in May 1954 at Pilot Knob Baptist Church (Big Hill KY) and Westside Baptist Church, (Berea KY), and in June 1954 at Oak Hill Baptist Church (Crossville TN). Actually those notes are skimpy and I wonder how I got a message out of them. I was eighteen years old. My license was granted and Ayers Porter, a long-standing Doorkeeper, moderated the business meeting and signed the license. He lived to be in his nineties. Until his recent death, he was one of my most ardent supporters.

I have twenty-one dated sermon notes of messages that I preached in 1954 at Liberty Avenue Baptist Church, Berea KY—beginning on February 19 and ending on July 30. I was called as pastor on April 9 (a Saturday night!). My ordination was at Liberty Avenue on July 31, 1955. O. B. Mylum, pastor, Berea Baptist Church, served as Moderator for that service. Morris Calico, a member of Berea Baptist Church, was designated as clerk and H. B. Harris, my Tennessee pastor/mentor preached the ordination sermon.



LIBERTY AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH BEREA, KENTUCKY

Since Berea College did not allow students to have cars on campus, I depended on church members and friends to provide transportation. Later, special permission was granted to allow me to have a car, ONLY for pastoral duties. It was during 1955 that the Reflector came into being. Since my time for visitation was limited, the void could be filled by a paper. I prayed, "Father, if you will allow me to have a typewriter, I will prepare a paper each week to get into the homes of families in my church field." With ten dollars down and ten dollars a month, I purchased a manual Underwood typewriter for \$100. I not only felt blessed, I WAS blessed! Helen Gill from Liberty Avenue assisted in its production on a mimeograph machine in the Dean of Men's office in the Draper Building at Berea College.

Not only did I have a wonderful church family at Liberty Avenue who loved me, many Berea College students came to the services and a number became members. On one of my sermon notes, I noted: "Jimmy Wright was saved." He was a Berea College student who later became a United Methodist pastor. I learned relatively recently that he is now in Heaven. Several area churches invited me to preach two-week revivals, several in 1955. Out of those Liberty Avenue days came five

Ig 1955 and tangible results recorded. Sue Troutman was accepted on was a student in the Berea College School of Nursing in 1955. She if you became my wife on Thursday, April writer, 18, 1957, a short time before my week to graduation. After graduation, I was

employed as a secondary teacher at Berea City Schools teaching history (Western Civilization and U. S. History), Civics (American government), and freshmen English. I directed both the junior class play and the senior class play. Sue and I served as chaperones for the senior trip to Washington D. C. We were blessed with our first child, Mona Lee, on April 24, 1958. The seniors were as excited about this event in our lives as we were. I continued my ministry at Liberty Avenue. Truly the years at Liberty Avenue were blessed years. I cannot think of one negative associated with this pastorate. Most of our friends from the Berea days are now residing in a city called "Heaven," awaiting a grand reunion day.

pastors. I have a number of undated

sermon notes that obviously came

from the Liberty Avenue days based

on type and paper style similar to the

dated sermon notes. Starting in the 1960's, my sermon notes are all dated

Yours in Calvary love,

J. Gordon Hen

IN LOVING MEMORY Doorkeeper Donna Thompson (Mrs. Larry) 3/21/1949--5/20/2017 Forest, Virginia

'absent from the body,present with the Lord" 2 Cor 5:8 LET PRAYER BE A DIALOGUE, NOT A MONOLOGUE. THINK! PREPARE YOUR MIND AS YOU APPROACH YOUR DEVOTIONAL TIME.



Westside Baptist Church

THE CHURCH THAT WAS "BORN" IN A CHICKEN HOUSE

16 June 2017

Rev. Allen Livingood, Pastor Westside Baptist Church Berea, KY 40403

Dear Pastor Livingood,

Sue and I were in Berea last weekend to attend the 60th reunion celebration of our graduation from Berea College. We decided to drive by and see Westside Baptist Church only to find that another congregation was using those facilities. A neighbor shared with us where to find the present building. We rejoiced to see the new facilities.

Upon returning home, I found your website. As I reviewed the "brief history," I realized that you might be interested in knowing more about the genesis of the congregation. I am the "17-year old Rev. Jim Henry" cited in the first sentence.

In 1953, Berea College offered a summer work program for incoming freshmen. A few students participated. Since I was quite committed to the church, I attended the Baptist Student Union led by Rev. Bill Cusack and his wife, Kitty. One Sunday, Bill explained that there was interest in organizing a children's Sunday school in west end of Berea. A student nurse (Mary Jane Hennessee, Parkersburg WV) and I agreed to assume that responsibility. A correction in your history is not a "group of students" but "two students."

It is true that we conducted Sunday afternoon classes in the chicken house! Further, interest grew to have services for adults. One Sunday afternoon, Dewey Rose and I were sitting on the front porch of their beautiful house swinging and talking. He raised the issue of our offering services for adults in the area and requested that I lead the services. One would have to say the only explanation of what happened as an "anointed event." I presume the November 22nd date is valid. My good friend and professional colleague at the Berea City Schools, where I later served as principal, and at Eastern Kentucky University, where I served as a department chairman in the College of Education, the late Dixie Lee Mylum, did considerable research in writing the history of the church. Her late husband was cited as the chairman of the official organizing meeting the next summer. He was my mentor and a man whom I admired highly.

After the basement meeting house was completed, my pastor from Tennessee, the late H. B. Harris, came to conduct revival services at the church. Brother Mylum attended most services. During the revival, a very bad incident occurred in the community. An elderly man was accused of sexually abusing a little girl. His wife, Pearl, had become a dear friend. Brother Harris, Brother Mylum, and I went to the Madison County Jail to talk with Mr. Campbell (who later committed suicide). The next night the father of the little girl came to the revival to shoot the three of us. He later testified that he stood at the window with a beer and a gun ready to do the deed. When he decided to take a drink of the beer, the can had become so cold that he could not hold it. When he reached for his gun to get ready to shoot us, the gun became so cold that he could not hold it in his hands. Several came to Christ during the revival including the parents of the little girl.

Since my time was quite limited in those days and my experience in leading a church was nil, I encouraged the congregation to find a mature Baptist pastor to assume the leadership. A godly man, Charley Lunsford, became pastor. Since I was being invited to preach revivals around Berea, I did not attend Westside too often. A few months later, I was sitting in my briefs in my corner room on the Fourth Floor of Pearson Hall, when a knock came on my door! Oops! It was a pulpit committee from Liberty Avenue Baptist Church and I was soon called as pastor and served there 1954-1958. When I graduated in 1957, I joined the faculty at Berea City Schools.

Of course Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Rose were stalwart members. Ethel Hurley, Ellen Johnson and others were very faithful. We trust that Westside is full of God's children who have commitment at the level of these early members of Westside. Sue and I were back for a Homecoming at Westside a few years ago, but because of our responsibilities in our own work, we did not make it a point to attempt to attend class reunions at Berea College very often. Perhaps in God's grace there will be an opportunity one day to return to Westside.

Last Sunday morning, I preached at Kerby Knob Baptist Church situated on the highest cleared hill in Jackson County, where I served as pastor for seven years during my tenure with Berea City Schools and then with Eastern Kentucky University. As I entered the pulpit I thought of you folks gathering at Westside and those gathering at nearby Liberty Avenue. I have often referred to those years as my "boot training years." Our memories are vividly precious. May God bless and use both churches in a great and mighty way preaching and teaching the things that pertain to the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 28:31).

God bless you, my friend. Keep up the good work. Thanks for reading.

Yours in Calvary love, Jim and Sue Henry 1 Corinthians 3:6-9 Paul's Secret of Friendship 1 Thessalonians 1:2 "We give thanks to God always for you, making mention of you in our prayers."

Paul prayed for all his new converts. They were in many different cities, yet he prayed for them all. Even more, he let them know he prayed for them on a regular basis. If you want to make friends, let people know you pray for them, especially new converts.

Do you pray for your friends by name? Do you have a prayer list? Generally it is true that "no prayer list, no prayer life." Imagine being on Paul's prayer list! Many friends from around the world have assured Sue and me that we are on their daily prayer list! What a blessing!

Do you make a special point to pray for both "old friends" and "new friends? This will strengthen your friendships and your spiritual life!

If you find it difficult to speak to others about Christ, try speaking to Christ about others. Soon it will become much easier for you to speak to others about Him.

"A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." Proverbs 18:24

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NOTES from my BIBLE

Note 3096. The only thing the Lord Jesus Christ left on earth when He returned Home to Heaven was a praying church.

Note 3097. The church was not born while someone was preaching, but while someone was praying. Acts 1. Note 3098. Jesus' clear intention was that His church on earth would always be known as a praying church.

Note 3099. In the here and now worldwide, one seldom finds a praying church; many actually advertise that they are a praising church.

Note 4000. It is a fact that a church will never be a praying church until her members are praying people. Are you one?



Partners with God 1 Corinthians 3:6-9

PRAYER CALENDAR

JULY 2017 "I will give myself to prayer..." Psalm 109:4b

SATURDAY, JULY 1 Proverbs 1-4 (Kiribati 104,711) Mae Adams (NC) Marie Adams (VA) Robert & Susanne Adams (TN) Wayne & Jennie Agee (VA) Norma Ailes (FL) H. L. & Janie Allen (SC) David & Eujoo Andersen (VA) Tommy & Pat Apple (NC) Eldon/Gayle Armstrong (SC) Leonor Avila (MD)

SUNDAY, JULY 2

Bill & Karen Baker (OK) Mike & Joyce Baker (VA) Tim Bash-GCCC (NJ) Linda Beard (MD) Jean Beasley (TN) Tommy Bell (TN) Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN) Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL) Beulah Baptist Church (VA) Dr. Dennis Hollandsworth Beverly Blankenship (TN)

MONDAY, JULY 3

Proverbs 5-9 (N. Korea 24.9M) Ed & Loretta Bolen (VA) Everett/Deborah Boston (MD) William/Debbie Bowden (NC) David & Marna Boyd (OR) Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ) Ed & Jean Bradshaw (VA) Kim Bradshaw (VA) Michal Breed (WI) Nancy Bretz (PA) Clint & Dorothy Brooks (VA)

TUESDAY, JULY 4

Proverbs 10-13 (5 Korea 49.1M) Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ) Arretta Bruce (TN) Joe & Martha Bruno (CO) Freddie/Yvonne Brunson (DE) Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY) George & Janet Buck (NJ) Janice Bugg (TN/England) Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL) Eileen Camarena (NJ) Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)

THURSDAY. JULY 6

Proverbs 18-21 (Kuwait 2.7M) Mary Campbell (ID) Cliff & Laura Cannon (FL) Joeretha Capers (FL) Robin & Teresa Carlson (NJ) Robert & Anne Carroll (VA) Mary Columbus (VA) Kathie Connolly (VA) Larry & Sue Cooper (DE) Terry & Sonja Craig (TN) Jerry & Joan Crain (SC) Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC)

FRIDAY, JULY 7

Proverbs 22-24 (Kyrgyzstan 5.6M Dufrene/Peggy Cummings (NC) Barbara Custalow (VA) John Davis (VA) Harold & Tama Decker (NY) Thomas DeWindt (WI) Alan & Rebecca Dockrey (KY) Paul & Joyce Eggleston (VA) Jeff & Leeann Englert (KY) Lynn Elkins (TN) Don & Mary Enoch (FL)

SATURDAY, JULY 8

Proverbs 25-29 (Laos 6.9M) Gene & Shirley Farley (CA) Larry & Cara Fields (VA) John & Susan Finnessy (MD) James & Ruth Flanagan (GA) Nancy Fowser (NJ) Claire/Mary Ann Fredstrom (NE) Freedom Through Faith (MD) Robert Tribodeau, Pastor Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA) James Fugate (CA) Travis & Emilee Fulcher (VA) SUNDAY, JUNE 9

SUNDAY, JUNE S

Estelle Gabbard (KY) John & Kim Gaines (DE) Mike & Lerlyne Garcia (VA) Pauline Garrett (NJ) Ron & Kay Gavette (VA) Frank Geiger (HI) Sara George (GA) Gethsemani Evang Ctr (MD) Robert & Ann Lara, Pastors Gloucester Co. Community Ch (NJ) Bruce Sofia, Pastor Ron & Carol Godwin (VA)

MONDAY, JULY 10

Proverbs 30-31 (Latvia 2M) Ronald & Maryann Gold (ND) Chad & Wendy Goodner (OK) Sam/Michele Graisbery (NJ) Velma Graven (KY) Dale & Mary Gray (IL) Odether Gray (GA) Linda Gregory (UT) Charles Hale (VA) Mike Hall (IN) TUESDAY, JULY 11 Ecclesiastes 1-6 (Lebanon 6.2M) Bruce & Vivian Harris (TN) Sadie Harris (VA) Hazel Hartless (VA) Jim Hengoed (CT) Gina Henry (VA) J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA) Jack Henry (TN) James & Kathryn Henry (MS) Mark Henry (TN) Melody Henry (VA) Roger & Sara Henry (OH)

Joy Harper (VA)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

Ecclesiastes 7-12 (Lesotho 1.9M Sean & Bethany Henry (VA) Steve & Donna Hensel (MN) Ed & Donna Hindson (VA) Frank & Pat Hitchings (VA) Jeff Hodge (VA) Jerry & Sandra Hodge (VA) Joanna Holland (VA) John & Glenda Holland (VA) Anita Horton (VA) Mike & Sonya Hosick (TN)

THURSDAY, JULY 13

Song of Solomon (Liberia 4.2M) Coy Hunsucker (NC) Joyce Hunt (TN) Wilbert/Almaretta Hupp (PA) Ed Hurlow (IN) Jide & Bunmi Iware (MD) Gene/Rose Marie Jeffries (AR) Vernelle Jenkins (MD) Paul & Suzanne Jennings (TN) Jonathan & Julie Jobe (SC) Millicent John (NY)

FRIDAY, JULY 14

Isaiah 1-4 (Libya 6.4M) Dan & Jayne Johnson (KY) Gwen Johnson (AZ) Jim & Penny Johnson (KY) Rick & Betsy Johnson (TN) Dave & Debbie Jones (VA) James Jones (FL) Paul Jones (KY) W I & Eloise Jones (SC) Mohan Katta (IL) Suzie Kauffmann (NC)

SATURDAY, JULY 15

Isaiah 5-7 (Liechtenstein 37,624 Harper/Shelia Keebaugh (PA) Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY) Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI) Korean Branch: Dr. Shin Kwang Suk Joel & Jackie Kramer (VA):

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Kerby Knob Baptist Ch (KY) Darren Hisel, Pastor Larry & Janet King (NC) Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN)

Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY)) Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI)

SUNDAY, JULY 16 Korean Branch:

Dr. Shin Kwang Suk Joel & Jackie Kramar (VA) Woodrow & Linda Kroll (NE) Craig & Molly Lampe (AZ) Phil & Edra Landers (OK) Bob Lawrence (MD) Del & Mary Leach (VA) Raymond & Janet Lemay (VT) Liberty University (VA) Jerry Falwell Jr., President Mike & Earlene Lips (MS)

MONDAY, JULY 17

Isaiah 8-12 (Lithuania 2.5M) Vincent/Mary Lobisco (MI) Ray & Bobbie Long (WV) Don & Betty Lowry (SC) Rachel Mann (NC) Manship Chapel (DE) Bruce & Vickie Tribbett Wilma Marcum (KY) Reg & Gloria Martin (OH) Larry & Sue Mason (VA) Beau Ware Masonry (VA) Deborah Mathias (NY)

TUESDAY, JULY 18

Isaiah 13-16 (Macau 592,252) Dan & Fay McConville (VA) R. O. & June McHaney (VA) Don & Barbara Meduna (CO) Memorial Christian Ch (VA) Virgil & Sue Knipp, Pastors Terry & Sandra Metzgar (TN) Betsy Miedema (MI) Marjorie Miller (VA) Roger & Nancy Minney (VA) Bill & Sharon Moody (VA) French & Laura Moore (VA) Joseph & Doris Moos (NJ)

TUESDAY, JULY 19

Isaiah 17-20 (Macadonia 2.1M) Elaine Moser (MN) NE Baptist College (VT) Mark Ballard, President Bob & Diane Nichols (VA) Oconto Gospel Chapel (WI) Peter Dorn, Pastor Zack & Jackie Olcott (VA) Ann Palumbo (PA) Raleigh & Janet Parker (VA)

Jim & Barb Peterson (MI) Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA) THURSDAY, JULY 20 Isaiah 21-23 (Madagascar 23.8M) Barbara Powell (NY) Elbert & Barbara Powell (VA) Marshall & Lois Powell (KY) Jeanne & Maggie Pribble (VA Marjorie Randall (TX) Dave Ricker (ME) Calvin & Valerie Ritchey (VA) Cynthia Roach (VA) John & Sandra Roberts (NC) Dorlos & Betty Robinson (MS) FRIDAY, JULY 21 Isaiah 24-27 (Malawi 30.5M)

Isabell Robotham (NY) Clark & Marie Rogers (VA) James & Shelly Rode (FL) Fred Rolater (TN) Bob & Marlene Rose (MI) Sandra Rumore (VA) John Saint (PA) Don/Marie Satterwhite (MO) Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA) Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA)

SATURDAY, JULY 22

Isaiah 28-30 (Malaysia 30.5MPhil/ Wendy/Steve Schrank (WI) John & Peggy Seibert (AL) Dennis/Monica Shannon (OH) Shenandoah Valley Baptist Ch (VA) Gene Jones, Pastor Nellie F. Shepard (CT) Ray Shields (VA) Mary Skiles (KS) Ron & Bonnie Smith (VA) Helen Sourlis (MD)

Randy & Cheryl Stauter (MN) SUNDAY, JULY 23

Tim & Pam Steger (ID) Carol Snow Stewart (CT) Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA) Charles Stinson (VA) Johnny & Rosie Street (TX) William Suttles (NC) Bob & Sandy Swain (VA) Brian/Janice Tarraferro (TX) Billy & Sharon Taylor (PA) Ron & Mazie Taylor (VA)

MONDAY, JULY 24

Isaiah 31-35 (Maldives 393,595) Stephanie Taylor (GA) Rose Tengstrand (VA) Mona Henry Thomas (VA) W. D./Jackie Thomason (TN) Larry Thompson (VA) Montez Thompson (WI) Cathy Tilton (VA) William & Katie Toney (NC) Virginia Trask (VA) Carrol/Ouida Troutman (KY) Clay & Lisa Troutman (KY)

TUESDAY, JULY 25

Isaiah 36-39 (Mali 16.5M) Kelly & Janice Troutman (KY) Joe & Benita Troutman (KY) Malcom Troutman (KY) Marshall/Mary Troutman (KY) Terri & Debra Turbin (MD)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26 Isaiah 40-43 (Malta 413,985)

Frances Turpin (VA) Sara Underwood (TN) Patrick/Patricia Vaden (TN) Sam & Rita Verghese (NJ) Harris/Jane Verkaik (MI)

THURSDAY, JULY 27

Isaiah 44-48 (Marshall Is 72,191) George/Jeanette Vernarchik (NJ) Walter/Mary Ann Voss (DE) Horace & Becky Ward (NC) Michael/Sandra Ward (IN) Willow & Stone Ware (VA)

FRIDAY, JULY 28

Isaiah 49-51 (Mauritania 3.6M) Kay Warmerdam (TX) Joyce Warpoole (TN) Rodger Watts (WI) Naomi Webb (NJ) Frank & Nell Weer (KY)

SATURDAY, JULY 29

Isaiah 52-57 (Mauritius 1.3M) Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY) Kay Wice (GA) Paul & Diane Wieland (PA) Reg/Mary Ann Wilburn (VA

SUNDAY, JULY 30

Isaiah 58-62 (Mexico 121.7M) Jeff Williamson (FL) Ken & Carol Willis (VA) Julie L. Wilson (PA) Neil & Melinda Wilson (VA) Eva Winebarger (VA)

MONDAY, JULY 31

Isaiah 63-66 (Micronesia 105216) Amos & Celia Wipf (GA) Jonathan & Selena Wood (PA) Greg & Lori Worley (GA) David & Lili Wykle (VA) Betty Yates (WI) Yeshua Ministries (TN) Frank Bell, President Fred & Susan Zeller (MD)

Sandy Pederson (MN)

DAILY INTERCESSION

Burma Abbott [Zane] (VA) **Carrol & Milcie Arnold (VA)** Stan Baskin [Emily] (TN) Dr. Jim Britt [Judy] (NC) Georgia Covington [Foster] (VA) Ruth Henry (OH) Sam Hough [Linda] (VA) Bruce Kirby [Wanda] (KY) Murrav* & Loretta Mathis (TN) Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC) Sam Simpson [Lola] (NY) Jean Smith [Jim] (KY) Walt & Betty Sommers (VA) Mazie Taylor [Ron] (VA) Willie Troutman [Diane] (KY) *Chairman, JGHM Board since 1984.

We are eager to pray with you and then supply needed prayer support daily. Keep us updated. You do not have to bear your burden alone.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Call or text: 434-239-8837 (JGH) or 434-239-8836 (STH). E-mail: jghm84@aol.com or suethenry@aol. com.

Mailing address: 1127 Lakeview Drive, Lynchburg VA 24502.

INTERNATIONAL [Representative]

Ben/Judy Armacost (England/Europe) Digmar & Lisbeysi Garcia (Cuba) Shem & Deborah Kamla (Nigeria) Leslie/Tabitha Motsalane (South Africa) Enock & Patience Mulomba (Botswana) Adam & Dianna Nathanson (Venezuela) Andrew & Celestine Sakari (Kenya) Paula Tipton (Thailand) Cliff & Marcia Vincent (Brazil/China) Robert & Joana Waismam (Brazil) Othnel Wakili (Nigeria) Silas & Comfort Yashim (Nigeria)

40 YEARS LATER

"The world has yet to see what God can do in and with and through a church wholly devoted to Him in prayer." -Armin Gesswein

As did many others including Billy Graham, Bill Bright, and David Bryant, I counted Armin Gesswein my friend and my mentor. Actually, he was a mentor and inspiration to many of the Christian leaders of our generation.

In 1977, a small booklet was placed on my desk at Liberty University (then Liberty Baptist College). It was written by an author whom I did not know--"Armin Gesswein."

To my joy Armin encapsulated many of the longings that were boiling up in my own spirit at that point of time as the Holy Spirit was calling me to a new direction and a new emphasis in my life and ministry.

In 1983, this brother was sitting in my office at Northeastern Bible College. From that day, I counted Armin as my friend and mentor. His newsletters, coupled with monthly personal letters, were invaluable in motivating me to keep my focus on not only developing my own prayer life but mobilizing others. Thank God for "old friends."



KERBY KNOB BAPTIST CHURCH Jackson County, Kentucky

9

A Prayer for all Americans

O God, Whose name was on the lips of the men who founded this nation, and on the lips of men who died for us—be with us yet. Guide us through this period of crisis, confusion, and insecurity. Keep us steadfast in remembering the trust that our forefathers lived by. Restore our innocence, renew our vision, enter our hearts and keep us brave. Give us, as Americans, the strength to do Your work and to make this country worthy of Your blessing. [In Jesus' name]. Amen

The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.

I saw this poignant statement for the very first time in the pastor's study at **First Baptist Church of Centerpoint, Birmingham, Alabama.** It immediately captured my full attention and caused me to conduct a quick self-examination. Am I keeping the main thing the main thing? Do I even know what the main things are?

As I was writing copy for what is now the Prayer Seminar Workbook thirty-seven years ago, it was to prepare those who would pray one hour each week in the 24/7 prayer chapel ministry at Immanuel Baptist Church, Newport News, Virginia. As I prepared weekly lessons to teach during the Church Training Hour on Sunday evenings, one hour prior to the evening worship service, I knew that the effort would not be successful unless each prayer warrior had **a** personal prayer life. Consequently, one study must dealt with personal praying. That material is Session 7 in the Prayer Seminar Workbook.

Although I am not sure how many Sunday evenings were devoted to "personal praying," I knew that mastering this material would likely determine the success or failure of the prayer chapel ministry. If any of our readers do not have a copy of the **Prayer Seminar Workbook**, please request one. Those who have a workbook would do well to review the material related to "personal praying" (pages 23-29).

Measuring the Condition of the Church

The condition of the church may be very accurately guaged by its prayer meetings. So is the prayer meeting a grace-ometer, and from it we may judge the amount of divine working among a people. If God be near a church, it must pray. And if He be not there, one of the first tokens of His absence will be a slothfulness in prayer.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon



KENYA SPECIAL 2017

JGHM first began work in Kenya in April 2006. Dr. Henry taught a course on prayer at the Bible Institute at Brackenhurst outside Nairobi. There were 106 pastors. Martin Shikuku, one of the pastors from west Kenya, felt God's call to teach prayer seminars throughout East and Central Africa (Tanzania, Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and D.R. Congo. In preparation, he translated the English prayer seminar workbook into Swahili. He did not have a vehicle so one of the first things that we did was to pray for one. Prior to this he either walked, traveled by taxi or by bus. Martin took the call from God seriously. Not only did he lead in building one of the largest Baptist churches in the Rift Valley, he served in the Kenya Baptist Convention and in the local pastors' group in Eldoret. God blessed the work of Martin's hands.

Martin had his first plane trip when we flew down to Burundi, He later organized seminars in Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and the Congo. On another trip, we covered Uganda with a number of prayer seminars. On another trip, we worked in **Tanzania** and among the Muslim communities around Mombasa. He became the Director for the newly formed JGHM: East/Central Africa Branch. He developed a detailed strategy to reach Kenya's counties with prayer leaders in each county. Further, he has been training the leaders to teach prayer seminars in their areas.

When the U. S. State Department discouraged travel to **Kenya**, we decided to keep the established schedule that had been developed with Martin teaching. This venture was very successful. It was then that we understood that it is unnecessary for Dr. Henry to lead a team covering a country. Many have benefited from prayer seminars. Many are teaching the prayer seminar under Martin's capable leadership.

Thank you for providing the needed funds for Kenya Special 2017. The goal is to mobilize 1,000 prayer warriors to focus first on the August 8, 2017 presidential election and then to mobilize ongoing prayer Lighthouses of Prayer for each area. The dates are July 10-22 beginning at Mombasa on the Indian Ocean and crisscrossing Kenya with nine prayer seminars.

July

10	Travel	Fldoret to Mombasa
11	P.S. #1	Mombasa (Coastal Region)
12	Travel	Mombasa to Machakos
13	P.S. #2	Machakos (Eastern Region)
14	Travel	Machakos to Nairobi
	P.S. #3	Narobi
15	P.S. #4	Nyeri (Central Kenya)
16	Travel	Nyeri to Nakuru
17	P.S. #5	Nakuru (Central Rift Valley)
18	Travel	Nakuru to Kericho
19	P.S.#6	Kericho (South Rift)
20	P.S.#7	Kisumu-Nyanza
21	P.S.#8	Kakamega (Western)
22	P.S.#9	Kitale (North Rift Valley)

Pray for funding, traveling grace, participants with teachable spirits and willing hearts, unction of the Holy Spirit upon each word taught, and spiritual awakening in each heart & church represented. Provide prayer covering for the nation during the August 8 presidential election.

THANKS! ROPEHOLDERS FOR KENYA SPECIAL 2017. KEEP PRAYING!

