

REFLECTOR

VOL. 55, No. 9

“Holding Forth the Word of Life”

September 2009

“[Jesus] answered and said, ‘It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God’” (Matthew 4:4).

September is my month the month of my physical birth (September 30, 1935), my spiritual birth (September 24, 1948), the month that I began my work as a pastor (September 1953), and the month that I conducted the first prayer seminar outside my own pastorates (Madison Baptist Church, Madison NJ September 5-8, 1980).

Once it dawned on me how significant September has been in my life, I have used the month for celebration and for self-examination. My life as an educator and as a minister has been satisfying and fulfilling in every way. I have few regrets and would do few things differently. **As I look back over fifty-six years of ministry, I believe that the prayer seminar ministry surpasses all other ministry and work.**

Although there have now been 1,374 prayer seminars throughout the world, I find myself more excited about the next seminar than I was the first! I have learned from experience to expect the Holy Spirit to move mightily using the Word of God to provide the help needed in the lives of those who attend a seminar. I continue eager to share as often and as widely as possible the message that God has given me on the many facets of the Christian life, majoring on the purpose and power of prayer.

As I look back across over one-half century of ministry and service, it is with a deep sense of gratitude to the Lord for His faithfulness step by step.



Agape love delights in giving attention, rather than attracting it. Agape love finds the element of good and builds on it and does not magnify defects. It is a flame that warms, but never burns. Agape love knows how to disagree without becoming disagreeable. Agape love rejoices at the success of others instead of being envious.

Agape love is possible only through yielding completely to the Holy Spirit since it is the fruit of the Spirit (**Galatians 5:22-23**). Out of love comes other needed qualities for success in the Christian life: joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Agape love is worth pursuing moment by moment.

FRIENDSHIP means to identify in thought, heart, and spirit. Communicating with one another helps friendship grow. **I am thankful to call you “friend”** and want you to know how I feel. In **Philippians 1**, Paul told his fellow believers that he had them in his mind (**vv 3-6**), his heart (**vv 7-8**), and his prayers (**vv 9-11**). This is a great evidence of friendship. Let’s stay in close touch as days, weeks, months, and years go by. Thank you for being my friend.

**“By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us,
O God of our salvation, You who are the confidence of all
the ends of the earth, and of the far off seas” (Psalm 65:5).**

Perspectives

It is not enough for us to begin the day with God; but during and throughout the day we are to wait upon Him. In reviewing **Matthew Henry's** second lecture delivered in 1712 entitled "How to Spend the Day with God," he built his thoughts around "waiting upon the Lord." We should wait upon Him all day long from early morning until late night. We must cast our daily cares upon Him. We must manage our daily business for Him waiting upon Him as our daily Benefactor.

Daily needs

The temptations of every day are to be resisted, and the duties of every day are to be undertaken in reliance upon divine grace for the strength required. Henry pointed out, further, that *daily afflictions must be borne with a pious submission to God's will*. The tidings and events of every day are to be awaited with a cheerful resignation to divine providence. Citing various situations in which a believer will find himself, he illustrated how to apply the principle of waiting on the Lord: (1) in the family; (2) in the education of a family; (3) in our places of daily business; (4) in our reading; (5) at our tables; (6) in our social visits; (7) in acts of charity to the poor and wretched; (8) in inquiring after or reading the public news; (9) in reference to undertaking a journey; and (10) in the hours of solitude.

There is no doubt that we are to live each day, actually each moment, of our waking hours conscious that we are in the presence of God. Life is fragile, so we must handle it with prayer routinely. Paul's instruction was to "pray without ceasing" face the affairs of life with an attitude and spirit of prayer depending on the Lord. That is wise counsel keeping so in tune with God that we can lift our hearts in request or praise anytime throughout the day.

An emphasis is made in the prayer seminar of the practice of a quiet time or morning watch. Schedule a time at the beginning of your day. Make an appointment with God; keep the appointment without fail.

A special hour

But is it profitable to schedule a "retreat" away from the normal duties and routines of a day and spend that day with God? What I am writing will be as much a challenge to me personally as it might be to anyone who reads what I have to say. Indeed, these are busy times.

Several times over the years, I have advocated in the **Reflector** and in messages (teaching/preaching) spending one hour with God without interruptions. Many of the thoughts were built on the question of Jesus to His disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane: "Could you not pray one hour?" Many, even some of the college students with whom I have worked, have followed this approach. **But what about the whole day?**

A special day

Our former pastor, **Jack Barrett**, would occasionally schedule some days to spend with God. He found a place to be alone with God, away from people, away from distractions. As I understand it, he took along his Bible and little else. He returned renewed and invigorated with cleared vision ready to serve the Lord and the people. One of the greatest writers on prayer was **E. M. Bounds**. The nuggets found in his treatises are many and meaningful. He said, "God acquaintance is not made hurriedly. He does not bestow His gifts on the casual or hasty comer and goer. To be much alone with God is the secret of knowing Him and of influence with Him." **Billy Graham** counsels: "Avail yourself of the greatest privilege this side of heaven. Jesus Christ died to make this communion and communication with the Father possible."

Why a day of prayer

A logical question for anyone to ask is simply *why have a day of prayer* beyond a morning quiet hour. It is helpful **to have extended fellowship with God** with time for being with and thinking about God. Prayer is the talking part of a relationship. Everyone knows that verbal communication is necessary for healthy relationships. God has called us into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ

(**1 Corinthians 1:9**). Like many personal relationships, this fellowship is nurtured by spending time together. God takes special note of times when His people reverence Him and think upon His Name (**Malachi 3:16**). When you are praying, you are developing your relationship with the Lord. You will never know God if you don't spend time in His presence.

No believer's prayer life will rise to stay above his view of prayer thus the need to constantly keep a **proper perspective on prayer**. In a world that is constantly attempting to transform us into its image, we need a renewed perspective that keeps us in harmony with God's expectations for us. When "we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For ... what is unseen is eternal" (**2 Corinthians 4:18**), our spiritual defenses are strengthened. When we see the world from God's point of view, the pressing, immediate, tangible things are strengthened.

We need to **see ourselves as God sees us**. An extended time with God allows prayerful consideration of our own lives before the Lord. There is time to take personal inventory and engage in meaningful evaluation. A person is wise to take a day of prayer when facing important decisions. He is even wiser when he has special time with God on a periodic basis. In times alone with God, there is an opportunity to get direction from the Lord through His Word. Promises are there for you and me and we need a time when we can pray the promises. It is in times alone with God that He speaks sweet peace and gives inner assurance that His promises are for us, as well as others.

A major benefit of a day with God is to **catch up on our intercession**. Those in our immediate family have spiritual needs that only God can meet. Some are struggling in their Christian lives. Some have never trusted Christ as personal Savior and Lord. We need to bring them before the Lord. We have relatives and friends who are unsaved and we need to pray for their salvation. Few people are ever saved until someone starts praying for them. A protracted time in prayer enables us to do prayer work that seldom is done during our quiet time. Through prayer we can touch earth, focusing the power

of God on people and circumstances, which "work." On occasion, you should turn to the Greater Works Passage included in the Upper Room Discourse (**John 14:12-14**). I never cease to be amazed at the expression "greater works than I have done," which came from the lips of the Lord Jesus Christ during His last hours on earth. If you do not read further, you will not have a clue as to what He meant. You see, Jesus said as His followers ask in His name that the greater works will be forthcoming. **Prayer is the work that must come before all other work**. Most would agree that little "work" is done during our prayer time. In my youth, a hymn that was often sung in our church was "To the Work."

Two notable quotations highlight the truth that prayer is the work that must come before all other work. **Oswald Chambers** said: "Prayer does not fit us for greater works; prayer is the greater work." Prayer is work and without prayer there is no work. **E. M. Bounds** put it like this: "Prayer is not the foe of work; it does not paralyze activity. It works mightily; prayer itself is the greatest work." An expression that relates to Paul's praying "striving in prayer" is found in **Romans 15:30**. **Colossians 2:1-2**, **Colossians 4:12**. The expression literally means "to the point of exhaustion." Learning to pray with intensity should be our goal. The hour is late.

In the account of the church gathering in a special prayer meeting to pray for **Peter**, the expression "without ceasing" was used. **Dr. R. A. Torrey** translates "without ceasing" as literally meaning "stretched-out-ed-ly." This represents the soul being stretched by earnest and intense desire. THAT IS WORK! There are times when it is profitable to an individual to go aside and devote himself to prayer work unhurried and without interruption. **Watchman Nee** said: "Let us understand that the church's noblest work, the greatest task she could ever undertake, is to be the outlet for God's will. For the church to be the outlet for God's will is for her to pray." When a believer sets aside a day for prayer, the spirit of this great reminder is coming to fruition.

Finally, life presents us with circumstances

where prayer is our only **adequate preparation**. **Jesus** spent a night in prayer (**Luke 6:12**) before He appointed His disciples. After learning that the walls around **Jerusalem** were in disrepair, **Nehemiah** spent “certain days” seeking the Lord in prayer. He was called in before the king who asked him “For what dost thou make request?” He prayed to the God of heaven (an arrow prayer) and outlined the plan that God had put into his heart (**Nehemiah 2:4-5, 12**). Spending a day in prayer provides an opportunity for God to put His plans into our hearts. Then we will be ready when opportunities arise or when an attack comes. Preparation is enhanced when we get alone with God.

I had thought when I began writing this copy that it would conclude the study on **how to spend a day in prayer**. Now I have used up my space and will need one more month to finish. After this, we will see what **Matthew Henry** said in his morning lecture in 1712 on **how to end the day with God**.

There are two things to remember. First, for several days before I begin writing I begin to pray for wisdom and guidance as to what I should say; further, I have been assured by many of our **Doorkeepers** that they pray for me daily. Second, as I write, I constantly keep readers in mind asking God to anoint the words and let them speak to His children a message that will strengthen them. Thank you for allowing me to come into your life each month to say a few words for Jesus.

Yours in Calvary love,

J. Gordon Henry

**THE MAIN THING IS TO
KEEP THE MAIN THING THE
MAIN THING. REMEMBER:
MAINTAINING A DAILY, CON-
SISTENT PRAYER LIFE IS
HARD WORK. SATAN DOES
NOT WANT YOU TO PRAY. HE
TREMBLES WHEN HE SEES
THE WEAKEST CHRISTIAN
ON HIS KNEES.**

Eternity will be “today”

I stood with God on the edge of the world, and my hand was in His hand. I looked down the road of the past, as it stretched away in the dim distance, till it was shrouded in the mists of time. And I knew it had no **beginning**, and a little chill wind of fear blew about my head.

God said, “Are you afraid?” And I said, “Yes, because I cannot understand how there can be no **beginning**.” And God said, “Let’s turn and face the other way.”

And I looked into **glory**, and my heart rejoiced with joy unspeakable. And then my mind went **ahead** a billion years, and I knew there would no **end**, and again, that little chill wind of fear began to blow.

And God asked me again, “Are you afraid?” And I answered, “A little, because I cannot understand how there can be no **end**.”

So God asked me tenderly, “Are you afraid now, today, with your hand in mine?” And I looked up at Him in love, smiled, and replied, “O, my Father, no!”

And God said, “**Every day in eternity will be today**. You will never need to be afraid!”

Jesus said it best as He brought assurance to the eleven disciples in the **Upper Room** prior to His crucifixion: “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid” (**John 14:27**).

He leadeth me, oh, blessed tho’t!
O words with heav’nly comfort fraught!
Whate’er I do, wher-e’er I be,
Still ‘tis God’s hand that leadeth me.

Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine,
Nor ever murmur nor repine;
Content, whatever lot I see,
Still tis my God that leadeth me.

HE LEADETH ME, HE LEADETH ME,
BY HIS OWN HAND, HE LEADETH ME;
HIS FAITHFUL FOLLOWER I WOULD BE,
FOR BY HIS HAND HE LEADETH ME.

Joseph H. Gilmore, 1859

A page of notes

Since the late 1970s, I have taken a page of notes during my daily Bible reading. This practice has been helpful. I read systematically following a Bible reading program that I adopted over twenty-five years ago. Some of you follow that same program that is included in the monthly **Doorkeeper Prayer Calendar**. The note sheets (5.5 x 8.5 inches) are prepared a year in advance ready to be used. The sheet is entitled **SPIRITUAL JOURNAL** and has the date stamped on it, the Scripture passage to be read that day, my name (to signify ownership and personal accountability), and a Scriptural prayer: "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law" (**Psalm 119:18**).

Notes from 7-29-06

ISAIAH 52. A New Day. Time for God's people to WAKE UP! V7 "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of them who bring good news.

- Proclaims peace
- Brings good tidings
- Who says to Zion: "Your Lord reigns"

V9 Break forth into joy. SING TOGETHER. The Lord has comforted His people.

ISAIAH 58.

V2 "Yet they seek Me daily and delight to know My ways.

Characteristics of those who have real religion:

- They seek Me daily
- Delight to know My ways
- Want to do God's will.

"They did righteousness and forsook not the ordinance of God."

V10 They delight to share.

You can see my simplistic approach. The notes are filed in binders. Often I go back and review a few sheets to see what I was reading and the points for meditation that I wrote. I encourage you to feed from the Word of God each day. Unless you PLAN to do so, you will

never develop a lifestyle of listening to God through His Word. If you need ideas to help you get started, you might want to read my book **A Christian's Necessary Food** (available through our office).

Letters

Although **September** is *Letter-Writing Month* for the prayer seminar ministry, we appreciate hearing from our **Doorkeepers** and other friends any month. **Ken Miedema**, Grand Rapids, Michigan, has been a frequent letter-writer for many years.

We thank God for E-mail, which provides almost instantaneous communication. A recent E-mail came from **Cliff Vincent**, our long-time friend who serves as a missionary in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, written to Sue. He shared: "The [August] **Reflector** came today [July 30] and I enjoyed it very much. The first two articles were very good, one on prayer and the other on being with God. Dr. Henry quoted **Mark 3:14**. That is a coincidence because **Pastor Reinaldo Brown**, my former colleague, did a message based on that verse at the Nashville [Tennessee] conference that [my wife] Marcia went to and she brought home the CD with all the messages that I transferred to my MP3 player. So I was listening to his message the other day and he started with that verse with the same subject. He mentioned that God gives us trials so that we will walk more intimately with Him. And that is of more value than the pain that we suffer or of more value than the absence of pain that we seek or the material prosperity that would make such a trial an improbability in our lives. Even [Dr. Henry] mentioned the supreme value of "being with Him." Another pastor was preaching that the condition of being in an intimate relationship with Christ was a must for evangelizing."

**WHEN GOD'S HAND
IS ON YOU, YOU RUN
MUCH FASTER THAN
YOU ARE ABLE.**

A sense of expectancy

Catherine Hensley was a special friend to Sue and me. I had the privilege of being her pastor for several years at the **Pleasant View Baptist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia**. She said many memorable things. Often she said: "I can hardly wait for Sunday." She expected God to anoint the services and bring blessings to His children. It was not very long until that was my attitude as well. God never sent us away from the Sunday services disappointed--not once.

Learn to live expectantly, looking forward to the Lord's return, looking forward to each new day as an opportunity to serve Him, and looking forward to new accomplishments for His kingdom on earth. A sense of expectancy will keep your walk with Him fresh and vibrant. Folks will see in your face what I saw in **Mrs. Hensley's** face every time that I was in her presence. Others will see Jesus in you. Count on it! Catherine now resides in Heaven.

A willing mind

"For if there is first a willing mind, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what he does not have" (2 Corinthians 8:12).

A will to learn, a will to do,
 A will to fight each battle through;
 A will to be courageous strong,
 A will to do no other wrong;
 A will to tread life's rugged road,
 A will to share a brother's load;
 A will to work, as well as pray,
 A will to serve as best I may;
 A will to be sincere and true,
 A will the Father's will to do.

- Fred Scott Shepard

**JESUS, CONFIRM MY HEART'S DESIRE
 TO WORK AND SPEAK AND THINK FOR
 THEE;
 STILL LET ME GUARD THE HOLY FIRES
 AND STILL STIR UP THY GIFT IN ME.**



NOTES from my BIBLE

Note 1126. God's Word is flawless and never needs to be corrected.

Note 1127. "God gave us His Word to mind, not mend." -- **John Wesley**

Note 1128. Arrogance described: "Those who are pure in their own eyes" --**Proverbs 30:12**

Note 1129. When your temper gets the best of you, it reveals the worst in you."

Note 1130. Jesus said it, thus it is true: God is SEEKING individuals who will worship Him in Spirit and in Truth. You and I can be ones who answer His search.

DOORKEEPER REPORT

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

1 Thessalonians 1:2

July 20--August 10, 2009

Regular	29	\$1,885.00
Peru	45	4,470.00
Martin-Van	2	<u>125.00</u>
Total	76	\$6,480.00



THANKS, DOORKEEPERS!

WELCOME NEW DOORKEEPERS!

Mary Ann Brown (GA)
 H.L. Allen, Jr. (SC)

**PARTNERS TOGETHER
 WITH GOD
 1 Corinthians 3:9**

PRAYER CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2009

"I will give myself to prayer..."

Psalm 109:4b



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

HOSEA 1-3 (Peru 29.2M)

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)
H.L. Allen, JR (SC)
Tommy & Pat Apple (NC)
Milcie Arnold (VA)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

HOSEA 4-6 (Peru 29.2M)

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)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

HOSEA 7-8 (Peru 29.2M)

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)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

HOSEA 9-11 (Peru 29.2M)

Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)
Shirley Brown (VA)
Jack & Arretta Bruce (KY)
Joe & Martha Bruno (AL)
Mary Ann Brown (GA)

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)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

HOSEA 12-13 (Peru 29.2M)

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)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

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)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

JOEL 1-3 (Peru 29.2M)

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)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

AMOS 1-2 (Peru 29.2M)

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)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

AMOS 3-5 (Peru 29.2M)

Jim & Joyce Hengoed (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)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

AMOS 6-7 (Peru 29.2M)

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)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

AMOS 8-9 (Peru 29.2M)

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)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

OBADIAH (Maldives 379,174)

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)
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
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)
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
JONAH 1-4 (Mali 12.3M)
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)
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15
MICAH 1-2 (Malta 403,532)
 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)
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16
MICAH 3-5 (Marshall Isl 63,174)
 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)
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
MICAH 6-7 (Mauritania 3.4M)
 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)
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
NAHUM 1-3 (Mauritius 1.3M)
 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 & Shirley Rose (MI)
 David & Amy Ross (KY)
 Sandra Rumore (VA)
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
HABAKKUK (Mayotte 216,306)
 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
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
 Nellie F. Shepard (CT)
 Mary Siegner (VA)
 Sam & Lola Simpson (NY)
 His Highest Praise (HI)
 Lori Siri, Pastor
 Mary Skiles (KS)
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
ZEPHANIAH 1-3 (Mexico 110M)
 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)
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
HAGGAI 1-2 (Micronesia 107,665)
 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
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
ZECHARIAH 1-2 (Moldova)
 Taylor's Chapel Baptist Church (TN)
 Ron & Mazie Taylor (VA)
 Stephanie Taylor (GA)
 Temple of Praise (TX)
 Gilbert Perez, Pastor
 Earlene Thigpen (TN)
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
ZECHARIAH 3-4 (Monaco 32,796)
 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)
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
ZECHARIAH 5-6 (Mongolia 3M)
 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)
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
ZECHARIAH 7-8 (Montenegro 678,177)
 Horace & Becky Ward (NC)
 Michael & Sandra Ward (IN)

Beau, Ashley, Willow Ware (VA)
 Kay Warmerdam (TX)
 Don & Joyce Warpoole (TN)
 Rodger & Jean Watts (WI)
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
 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)
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
ZECH 9-11 (Montserrat 9,638)
 Tim & Merry Gregory (Thailand)
 Mulamba Placide Kituta (Congo)
 Stephen Latong (Nigeria)
 John & Egberta McSween (Trinidad)
 Leslie/Tabitha Motsalane (S. Africa)
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
ZECH 12-14 (Morocco 34.3M)
 Adam & Dianna Nathanson
 (Venezuela)
 Andrew J. Sakari (Kenya)
 Martin & Anne Shikuku (Kenya)
 Onesimus Sule (Nigeria)
 Cliff & Marcia Vincent (Brazil)
 Silas & Alice Yashim (Nigeria)
 Roy & Eva Winebarger (VA)
 Dot Winfield (MD)
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
MALACHI (Mozambique 21.3M)
 The Word Church (NJ)
 Buz Offenbacher, Pastor
 Bert & Teresa Worley (VA)
 Greg & Lori Worley (GA)
 Lili Wykle (VA)
 Robin & Deborah Yohee (PA)

**PLEASE USE THE
 DOORKEEPER
 CALENDAR DAILY.
 SOMEONE IS
 COUNTING
 ON
 YOUR PRAYERS.
 GOD IS SEEKING
 INTERCESSORS.
 LET'S INTERCEDE
 FOR THE
 DOORKEEPER
 FAMILY.**

Sooner or later

During the early years of Liberty University, there were daily chapel services. Often the founder, **Dr. Jerry Falwell** (1933-2007) spoke. His charisma was such that spiritual power was felt even when he was making an announcement. Amazing! You can imagine what it was like when he turned to the Word of God to read his text and begin to speak. His avowed purpose was to train champions for Christ.

My custom was to take notes to preserve nuggets for meditation later. I'm glad I did. Down through the years in the quietness of my own heart, I have often reviewed some of them that brought encouragement. **ISAIAH 52. A New Day. Time for God's people to WAKE UP! V 7 "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of them who bring good news.**

I entitled one note simply "Sooner or later." **Dr. Falwell** urged each of us to be a witness for the Lord Jesus Christ wherever and whenever we had an opportunity. Some will be eager to receive the message, but others will be reluctant even to the point of rudeness. **Dr. Falwell** said our task is to share even with those who are in the latter category. "Sooner or later there will be circumstances that will arise to cause even the most calloused person to come to a spirit of dependence. What is shared will often bring the person to the point of looking toward God.

Itinerary: 2009

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

2 Thessalonians 3:1

September

- 1-9 Prayer Seminars:
PERU
- 19 Board of Directors
Murfreesboro, Tennessee
- 29-30 Sue Henry: China

October

- 1-9 Sue Henry: China
- 3-7 Prayer Revival

Prayer God's way

A careful study of the Scriptures will verify that prayer is not new. Start with **Genesis 4:26b**. Prayer has been God's way from the beginning. We are not only to seek His face (for worship), but we are to seek His hand. His way is for us to pray for His hand to move in everything. We are to order our lives around prayer. For prayer to be effective, a believer must be on praying ground with sins confessed and forsaken. The motive for what we ask Him to do must be in the context of His getting glory for whatever answer He gives.

Satan does not want us to pray. He would rather we do anything than pray, so he has stratagems tailor made for each person as soon as he trusts Christ as Savior. Satan's attacks focus on our mind. The Christian needs to know that Satan has been defeated already and does not have a place to stand in a Christian (**Ephesians 4:27**). The only way he can stand is for a Christian to give him the ground to stand on. When that is the situation, it is critical that the Christian know how to get the ground back by submitting to God and resisting the devil (**James 4:7**).

The goal of the prayer seminar is to provide biblical instruction to enable a believer, not only to have victory in his own life, but to become a prayer warrior standing against Satan and his mighty princes. The battle is fought in prayer. Through our efforts, many believers around the world have learned what God's provisions are for His children and walk in daily victory. The joy that comes in seeing participants gain insights about how to live for Christ in a total sense is indescribable. Thank you for making the prayer seminar ministry possible.

Pecks Baptist Church
Bedford VA

17 Prayer Seminar
First Congregational Church
Reidsville NC

18 A.M. Preaching, Reidsville NC

**“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,
and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for
instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be
complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work”
(2 Timothy 3:16-17).**

Thoughts about the Bible

Here's what great leaders thought

The Bible is God's chart to steer by to show you where the harbor is and how to reach it without running on rocks and bars. **Henry Ward Beecher**

The Word of the Lord is a light to guide you, a counselor to counsel you, a comforter to comfort you, a staff to support you, a sword to defend you, and a physician to cure you.

Thomas Brooks

Give time to the reading of the Bible and the recreating effect is as real as that of fresh air physically. **Oswald Chambers**

The Bible is a love letter; it reveals God's heart to us, and the more carefully, frequently, and thoughtfully we read it, the more we will grasp of His loving heart. **Nancy Leigh DeMoss**

In all my perplexities and distresses, the Bible has never failed to give me light and strength. **Robert E. Lee**

The Bible is an inexhaustible fountain of all truth. The existence of the Bible is the greatest blessing which humanity ever experienced.

Immanuel Kant

He who has the Holy Spirit in his heart and the Scriptures in his hands has all he needs. **Alexander MacLaren**

Someone asked a great Shakespearean scholar years ago, "How do you study Shakespeare?" His answer was very terse, "Read Shakespeare." Do you want to know what the Bible has to say? Read the Bible. Over and above what any teacher may give you, it is all-important to read for yourself what the Bible has to say. If you don't get it the first

time, read it the second time. If you don't get it the second time, read it the third time. Keep reading it. We need to read the Bible. We need to get into the Word of God not just reading a few favorite verses, but reading a few favorite verses, but reading the entire Word of God. That is the only way we are going to know it, friend. That is God's method. **J. Vernon McGee**

The study of God's Word brings peace to the heart. In it, we find a light for every darkness, life in death, the promise of our Lord's return, and the assurance of everlasting glory. **D. L. Moody**

Make it the first morning business of your life to understand some part of the Bible clearly, and to obey it in all that you do understand. **John Ruskin**

I hold one single sentence out of God's Word to be of more certainty and of more power than all the discoveries of all the learned men of all ages. The Bible is a harbor where I can drop down my anchor, feeling certain that it will hold. By the grace of God, from this confidence I shall never be moved. **Charles H. Spurgeon**

What do YOU think?

If you need ideas about more effective Bible reading, you might want to read my book, **A Christian's Necessary Food**, available through our office.

**The Bible is the asking book and
the answer book. We should never
pray without reading the Bible
and never read the Bible without
praying.**

**Armin Gesswein
1907-2001**

Peru and beyond

Thanks for the prayer covering for our work in Peru. **The Lord willing, I will be home on September 9.** During our international ministries, my thoughts are often on the **Doorkeepers** who are faithful partners in making such ventures possible and how blessed I am in having such a ministry.

Never once during the first half of my ministry did I think about a world-wide ministry. The high spots of my life present themselves in retrospect as a series of surprises many happy surprises from the hand of a gracious God who has become my Father. When I attended the September 1948 tent revival meeting, I did not anticipate that I would leave the service with my name written in the Lamb's Book of Life. Becoming a pastor during my first year of college was unanticipated. Combining a career of education and ministry was clearly the Lord's doing. Finally, the evolution of the prayer seminars into a prayer seminar ministry has been one of the biggest surprises.

Looking ahead

Sunday Bwanhot is working out details for our return to **Nigeria** December 4-22. There will be five prayer seminars, five training institutes for prayer warriors, and a nation-wide conference on prayer. Our most visible impact on any one nation has been in **Nigeria**. The prayer ministry that came out of our 1988 seminars has been nothing short of phenomenal. Thousands upon thousands have been taught using the prayer seminar workbook translated into the different Nigerian languages.

2010 A SIGNIFICANT YEAR

2010 will be a significant year for my life and ministry. My first overseas ministry was in **Placetas, Cuba** January 13-20, 1960. I led an evangelistic/revival crusade in **First Baptist Church**. Ninety persons came to Christ during these days. Although **Adam Nathanson** and I have taught hundreds in Cuba the past few years, I would like to return with prayer seminars in **Placetas** and in the **Santa Clara region** to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of international ministry.



GOD AT WORK IN CUBA



GOD AT WORK IN PERU

2010

**A SPECIAL YEAR
30TH ANNIVERSARY
FOR THE PRAYER
SEMINAR MINISTRY**

2010 will be the thirtieth year for the prayer seminar ministry. The first seminar beyond my own pastorates was at Madison Baptist Church, Madison, New Jersey, in 1980. Already, we have been scheduling seminars for 2010. A remarkable venue has been scheduled for **Venezuela** in March with seminars in five states working with the Baptists. Nothing would please me more than having a banner year sharing the word of God in churches whose people are yearning to be taught to pray more effectively. **SHOULD YOUR CHURCH HAVE A SEMINAR?**

Moving into my 74th year of life (Sept. 30), I look forward to additional surprises from the hand of God. Very frankly, I am praying that this year will be the most fruitful ever and that many prayer warriors will be mobilized. **Prayer is the work that must come before all other work. The sooner this truth is acknowledged & practiced, the sooner we will see the spiritual awakening for which we are longing. God is able, willing, and waiting.**

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September: Letter-Writing Month

For many years, JGHM has declared September *Letter Writing Month*. Some of the most encouraging comments that we have received have come from the September letters. With the coming of September 2009, I celebrate the 56th anniversary of my ministry.

In God's providence, He has given us an amazing cadre of **Doorkeeper** partners whose prayer and financial support has enabled us to touch the world (forty-six states, the District of Columbia, and fifty-five nations). God is good. The **Reflector** provides a monthly contact so that you can keep up with what we are doing through our joint ministry. I hope the content of the monthly report has provided inspiration and encouragement to you.

Won't you take time to participate in September Letter-Writing Month? It won't take ten minutes! It need not be long! It will be a joy for us to fellowship with you through a letter during my special month, September. You might give an update on your own spiritual journey and let me know how you are getting along. Do you have suggestions for the **Reflector**? Let us know!

Share any prayer request on your heart! As a member of the **Doorkeeper** family, your needs are important to us. You may have some burden you would like to share with someone else in God's family. We'd like to pray for you. We will keep each prayer request confidential.

God is not far off. He is very near and He loves us. Remember that He has encouraged us to pray with others because He said that He is aware of two or three who come to Him in agreement (**Matthew 18:19**). You may want to share your single most important need.

As we go to the mailbox in September, We will look for your letter. Would it not be wonderful to be able to report that every single **Doorkeeper** family participated in Letter-Writing Month? Help make this a reality!

**GOD NEVER INSPIRES DOUBT AND FEAR
BUT RATHER FAITH AND COURAGE.
ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!
TRUST AND OBEY! ONLY BELIEVE!**



**PRAY DAILY FOR THE
MINISTRY IN NIGERIA
SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 3-21
SUNDAY BWANHOT, COORDINATOR**