

House of Prayer  
CHRISTIAN CHURCHES  
OF AMERICA, INC.

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Reaching the Lost Through the Power of Prayer

# Prayer **FORCE**

VOLUME 5 † Nov-Dec 2004

## THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE UNASHAMED

Works of  
the Flesh

*The die has been cast.  
The decision has been made. I have stepped over the line.  
I won't look back, let up, slow down, or back away.*

*My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, my future is secure.  
I'm finished and done with low living, sight-walking, small planning,  
smooth knees, colorless dreams, tamed visions, mundane talking,  
cheap giving, and dwarfed goals.*

*I no longer need preeminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudits,  
or popularity. I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised,  
regarded, or rewarded. I now live by faith, lean on His presence,  
walk with patience, live by prayer, and labor with power.*

*My face is set, my gait is fast, my goal is Heaven, my road is narrow,  
my way is rough, my companions are few, my Guide is reliable,  
my mission is clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured,  
lured away, turned back, deluded, or delayed.*

*I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of the  
adversary, negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the  
pool of popularity, or meander in the maze of mediocrity.*

*I won't give up, shut up, let up, until I have stayed up, stored up,  
prayed up, paid up, spoken up for the cause of Christ.  
I am a disciple of Jesus Christ.*

*I must go until He comes, give until I drop,  
preach until all know, and work until He stops me.  
And when He comes for His own, He will have  
no problem recognizing me.  
My banner will be clear!*

*I am part of the fellowship  
of the unashamed!*

The School  
of Prayer

Martyred While  
Praising God

Warrior in  
the Background

## THIS WE'LL DEFEND

House of Prayer Christian Churches of America, Inc.

# General Board

God the Father

God the Son

God the Holy Ghost

## OUR ★ MISSION

### **"De Oppresso Liber"**

*Latin for "To Liberate the Oppressed."  
The Lord has proclaimed it to us in the  
clearest of terms:*

*"to preach the gospel to the poor,  
to heal the brokenhearted,  
to preach deliverance to the captives,  
and recovering of sight to the blind,  
to set at liberty them that are bruised,  
to preach the acceptable year of the Lord."*

## OUR ★ CREED

*Do All We Can NOW  
Love all the souls we can NOW  
Do all the good we can NOW  
To all the people we can NOW  
In all the ways we can NOW  
In all the places we can NOW  
At all the times we can NOW*

The Good News is that a sister in one of our churches was diagnosed with what the doctors thought was cancer, but prayer was made during the last conference and when the final test results came back, the doctors determined that she did not have cancer.✧

The Good News is that a brother in one of our churches had become infected with Hepatitis C after receiving a blood transfusion with contaminated blood in 1984 (since then a test has been developed to prevent infections from blood transfusions). The infection was not discovered until December 2003 and the tests showed dangerously high levels of the virus. The brother immediately began to pray for the Lord to heal him. In June 2004, the doctors ran the tests again and were astonished to find that the viral levels had decreased drastically and the liver biopsy came back almost completely normal. The brother stated, "The doctors are surprised at the change and asked what I've been doing. I said, 'Praying a lot.' They said, 'Keep doing it, it's working.'"✧

The Good News is that there is a Pastor of a church of a different denomination that has been a great blessing to the House of Prayer church in his city; and this Pastor has also stated that he was encouraged in his faith after reading the Prayer Force magazine. Thank God that there is such unity in the body of Christ!✧

The Good News is that the House of Prayer Church in Tacoma has recently opened their new Servicemen's Home and several brethren have already moved in. They are excited about all that God is doing and all that He will continue to do in Washington. ✧

The Good News is that God is still restoring prodigals! A young man raised in Church heard and answered the siren song of the world. Praying parents kept him before the throne of God and thru several years of trials and testing, the prayers of faith prevailed. During this past conference he and his wife were touched by the Spirit of God as He ministered to hearts. While driving home from Conference, the two often spoke of giving their hearts to Christ. Today they are saved, filled with the Holy Ghost and have answered God's call upon their lives.✧



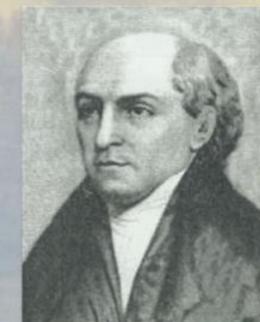
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**D**evotion is neither private nor public prayer, but a life given to God. He is the devout man, therefore, who considers and serves God in everything and who makes all of his life an act of devotion by doing everything in the name of God and under such rules as are conformable to His glory. We readily acknowledge that God alone is to be the rule and measure of our prayers. We are to pray only in such manner, for such things, and for such ends as are suitable to his glory. Now there is not the least shadow of a reason why we should make God the rule and measure of our prayers but what equally proves it necessary for us to make him the rule and measure of all the other actions of our life. For any way of life, any employment of our time, our talents, or our money, that is not strictly according to the will of God is an absurd failure. It is just the same as uttering prayers that are against the will of God. For there is no other reason why our prayers should be according to the will of God but that we may live unto God in the Spirit.

It is for lack of this consistency that we see such confusion in the lives of many people. They strictly observe all the times and places of devotion, but when the service of the

church is over they are like those who seldom or never attend. In their way of life, in their manner of spending their time or their money, in their cares and fears, in their pleasures and indulgences, in their labor and diversions, they are like the rest of the world. This leads the loose part of the world to mock those who are devout — not because they are really devoted to God, but because they see their devotion goes no farther than their prayers.

When we read the four Gospels we see our blessed Savior and his apostles wholly taken up in doctrines that relate to everyday life. They call us to differ in every attitude and way of life from the spirit and way of the world; to renounce the world's goods, to fear none of its evils, to reject its joys, and to have no regard for its happiness; to be as newborn babes who are born into a new state of things; to live as pilgrims in spiritual watching, in holy fear, and in heavenly aspiring after another life; to take up our daily cross, to deny ourselves, to profess the blessedness of mourning, to seek the blessedness of poverty of spirit; to forsake the pride and vanity of riches, to be not anxious for the morrow, to live in the profoundest state of humility, to rejoice in worldly sufferings; to reject the lust of the flesh, the lust of the

eyes, and the pride of life; to bear injuries, to forgive and bless our enemies. If contempt for the temporal and concern for the eternal are necessary attitudes for Christians, it is necessary that these attitudes appear in the whole course of our lives. If self-denial be a condition of salvation, all who would be saved must make self-denial a part of their everyday life. If humility be a Christian duty, then the everyday life of a Christian is to be a constant course of humility. If we are to be wise and holy as the newborn sons of God, we must renounce everything foolish and vain in every part of our daily life. If we are to be new creatures in Christ, we must show that we are so by new ways of living in the world. If we are to follow Christ, it must be in the way we spend each day. ♪



Pictures from the Fall 2004 Conference, Hinesville, GA.



*Harvest News* — Traveling the Land  
A Report from the Fields

## A Church Revived Keeping the Conference Fire Burning

“And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit....” -Luke 4:14

WHAT A CONFERENCE! TRULY THE LORD MET WITH us in a special way. Words can not express all that was done in each individual life. However by now we all must realize that the battle is still on. Make no mistake about it, there is a real enemy that despises the Prayer Force movement.

In the fourth chapter of Luke we catch a glimpse of the Holy Ghost at work. Jesus begins full of the Holy Ghost. Then by that same Spirit, He was led into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil forty days. After this we see him returning in the same spirit. The spirit that led Him in, also brought Him out. He lost nothing in the wilderness.

The reports from the field are exciting as you hear that many of the pastors and members are hard at engaging the powers of darkness like Samson with a new jawbone. In the conference God furnished his soldiers with new jawbones. We must be wise to not throw it away, because from it will come the water to revive us again and again. Many returned in the power of the Spirit from conference, but now we must stay in the Spirit. This is and was the Father's desire. He brought us in to send us back out into the battle, a battle that we can win through that same Spirit that we experienced in conference.

One pastor asked, how can the Spirit of conference be in the local church? The answer is not hard but simple. It will come to each congregation through blood, sweat and tears. The power of the Spirit will not come without a fight. We must fight in each church to keep the bond of peace and the unity of the Spirit in conjunction with a love for God and a hunger and thirst for righteousness.

Brethren, the reports are numerous of how God renewed the vision and compassion for souls. It was clear in the conference that the vision of House of Prayer Christian Churches is all about the souls of men and women, soon to be eternally happy or eternally doomed.

One pastor shared that after conference, he began to recognize the tactics of the enemy to a greater degree. He sees clearly the chains that hold men bound spiritually. He, along with his wife, and members of the congregation are ready to give their lives to see the oppressed go free. It will not be by might, nor by power, but by the Spirit of the Lord.

Another shared how they returned in the power of the Spirit thanking God for opening the door and providing a new servicemen's home. They realize that the need is great as multitudes still sit in darkness. It is our prayer that they stay in the Spirit and that the people who sit in darkness may see a great light. That light being the light and life of men following the Lord Jesus Christ.

A brother that attended the conference said that he got enough to carry him until the next conference. He and his family are eagerly waiting for the establishment of the House of Prayer in their city. Truly the world is waiting for us!

We give praise and glory to God for all who came to conference and then returned in the power of that same Spirit. Many Bible Seminary students' lives were touched as they experienced a move of God. This is very important because many pulpits are filled with those who have not yet experienced a move of God. God at work in His Church encourages the hearts of the saints and prepares them for greater victories.

Jesus told us to pray that the Lord of the harvest will send forth laborers into this vast harvest field called the world. Join us as we pray for the establishment of more churches. The Bible Seminaries are growing; we believe that God is preparing future pastors, teachers and evangelists. Pray that all who are called will answer, “Here am I, send me.” ♪

# Prayer



# FORCE

## QUALIFIED

## Mordecai

### The man in the background

THE TITLE BY WHICH MORDECAI WAS designated was “the Just.” This is a better title than that of earl or noble, of king or prince. What a blessing to a nation when men that are just in the broadest sense of that word direct its affairs, or even dwell near its palace gates! Just men are required to save nations from decline and from final overthrow. Mordecai, however, was no stern embodiment of justice. In him it was tempered by mercy. Kindness was also his characteristic. There was in him a wonderful tenderness which made him adored of his own people. He was true to the claims of relationship, and he adopted Esther as his own child. The orphan’s helpless state appealed to his manhood, and he practically said, “I will be thy protector.” In protecting her he benefited both himself and his whole nation. There is beautiful humanness in the record, “He brought up Hadassah.” Mordecai loved the child, and his affection grew as he watched her developing loveliness. And when she was parted from him he followed her with loving solicitude. Space separated, but love united. Mordecai showed the loving anxiety of a true father for an absent child.

It is true indeed that all our good is Divine. “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights.” But we may here note a special endowment. God intervenes in human affairs. He makes use of human passions for the promotion of His merciful purposes. And this was part of the Divine plan that Mordecai and Esther should be closely knitt together; for both had important work to do, and for both a great destiny

was assigned. Human reasons may be given to account for Mordecai’s love for Esther, but there were also Divine reasons. The Divine is ever working in and by the human. One man is attracted to another by an unknown force. That attraction is heaven-implanted: God’s agents are not as solitary as they seem. The reformer is the outcome of the thoughts and feelings of his time, working, it may be in secret. Mordecai was essential to Esther. His loving solicitude was a vital force in her wondrous career.

True love is not blind, as sometimes it is represented. It is a quickener of the discerning faculty. It is sharp to apprehend danger. The mother’s ear is quick and her eye is keen to detect

*Just men are required to save nations from decline and from final overthrow.*

the approach of evil to her offspring. Mordecai at once perceived the danger to which Esther was exposed by the new position to which she had been taken. We have good reason for anxiety when our children are lifted to the heights of prosperity. Many sons and daughters have been ruined in palaces who,

humanly speaking, would have remained virtuous in cottages.

Love is light. He that dwelleth in love dwelleth in a clear apprehension of Divine truth and of Divine methods. The heart and the head must be clarified by love’s indwelling, as well as enlightened by knowledge, if there is to be the possession of sound doctrine. Mordecai might believe in predestination. He might feel assured that his niece or cousin was God’s “chosen vessel.” But love taught him better than to let the mysteries of Divine decrees interfere with the practical duties of life. “Although he trusted God with his niece, yet he knew that an honest care of her might well stand with faith in God’s providence. God must be trusted, but not tempted by the neglect of careful means.”

How Mordecai came to possess the privilege of walking every day before the court of the women’s house—whether he was one of the king’s eunuchs, or whether he secured the privilege by purchase—we cannot tell. But there he was, watching with intense interest the maiden’s career. The sentinel at his post. So Mordecai walked every day before the court of the women’s house. His love grew by the withdrawal of its object. His anxiety increased as the danger enlarged. We should be watchful for the welfare of others. Mordecai symbolizes the love of the eternal Father. God watches to know how His people do.. Esther could not see Mordecai in his daily walks, but he was watching. We cannot se God, but He too is watching. We cannot feel God, but He is protecting. Our vision is not as the Divine vision.

Ours cannot pierce the clouds and the darkness which shroud and conceal the infinite. But the Divine vision knows no obstruction. God knows all, and ever watches. Trust ever in the abiding love and continued watchfulness of an unchanging God.

He did not stop to think that his conduct might appear unseemly as he walked every day before the court of the women’s house. Love is unconscious of self. It goes out in supreme regard towards the object of attachment. We fancy Mordecai, faithful at his post in spite of the frowns of stately courtiers or the ridicule of fawning menials. This speaks of the nobler self-forgetfulness of a mightier love. Even Jesus pleased not himself. He walked every day before the courts of men’s and women’s hearts, though they rejected His love and despised His beneficent ministry. He still walks. “Behold, I stand at the door and knock.” At the door of many hearts, He is knocking now.

True peace is not possible where the soul is not in a right condition. There is not peace to the wicked. That love is poor which does not seek the welfare of the whole nature. How many fathers would feel that their children were all right if they saw them only in the outer courts of a palace? But oh, there was danger in the palace of Ahasuerus. And there is danger in the palace even of our gracious queen. Right parental love asks how the child is doing both temporally and spiritually, and what is to become of him or her both in time and in eternity. How are you doing? Are you on the way to the palace of Heaven? 🕊

*Are you Prayer Force Qualified? If not, why not?*

# The Word Of The Lord

## REWARDS OF SELF DENIAL

Bible reading: Matthew:8(18-34)

Text: Matthew 16:24 "Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

Few of us are yet aware of the full meaning of these words of Jesus. The average church member today is self satisfied, self sufficient, and self righteous. Few are the believers who have denied themselves of anything; much less completely denied themselves to follow Jesus.

Self denial is the "cross" that every believer must bear. The cross of self denial that Jesus bore in the garden of Gethsemane was harder to bear than the physical cross of Calvary. The complete self denial, the laying aside of our own will, our own wishes and our own desires in order that we may daily do the will of the Father, is indeed a difficult cross for us to bear.

It costs something to follow Jesus and the greatest cost is not in material things, but in surrender of self to Him. It is by no means one sided however, for self denial and following the will of Jesus for our life also has great and exciting rewards. Indeed all who have paid the price of self denial testify that the blessings received far outweigh the price paid. But the price must be paid first! Paid in faith, believing, for such are the conditions of God.

In our Bible reading: Matthew: 8(18-34) we have an excellent example of this choice, its price and its rewards.

### (I) SELF DENIAL OR SELF CENTERED

Jesus had been ministering and He told His followers to depart to go to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, and as they prepared to depart a man came to Him and said, "Master I will follow you wherever you go." This man had undoubtedly witnessed Jesus' miracles and heard His teachings, and had thought it would be wonderful to follow Jesus and be with Him. But Jesus' answer may have surprised him, for Jesus replied, (warning him of the cost) "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the son of man has no where to lay His head." Jesus was God's great minister, but he was virtually homeless. To this man He was saying, "Are you willing to give up your den, your nest to follow me?"

Many today are like this man. They are willing to publicly step forward and say, "I'll follow Jesus." But when they see the price they turn back. They want the security of their den and the warmth of their nest. They want to be liked, to be respected; they do not want to be "cast from the synagogue" and be persecuted.

Many a pastor today preaches to his flock about following Jesus, but he himself will not do what in his own heart he knows to be right, nor preach his true conviction, lest he lose his den, and be cast from the nest he has feathered for himself. What about you, who do you love most, your security or Jesus?

The world is full of "foxy" Christians secure in their dens, and "unclean birds" feathering their own nests, but where are the disciples who will leave all and follow Him? Jesus demands self denial, but this man, like many today, was too self centered to follow the Master.

### (II) SELF DENIAL OR SELF WILLED

Another came to Jesus and said, Lord, let me first go home and bury my father." This man was willing to follow Jesus, but only in His own time, to him Jesus replied, "Follow me and let the dead bury the dead." This man

# The Word Of The Lord *continued*

was placing his service to Jesus at his own convenience, and his concern for the dead ahead of his love for the living. Can we be guilty of such a sentiment? Some have placed unsaved loved ones who are, "...dead in trespasses and sins..." *Ephesians 2:1* ahead of their service to Jesus Christ, while many others have said, "Lord I will serve you as soon as——."

There is a spiritual lesson we must not overlook. When God calls us to follow Him we must leave the dead past behind, and those who are spiritually Dead. Many in this hour who are being filled with the Holy Spirit, or whose eyes of understanding have been opened to truth beyond the narrow doctrines and traditions of their church, may say "Oh, I must stay as a witness, I must still follow the old dead forms, hold fast to the old garment," but to them Jesus says, "Follow me and let the dead bury the dead."

You will not find Jesus among the dead, but among the living, for in His presence, even the dead live again. So we like these men must decide between our dens and nests, our dead past, our dead church and a life of discipleship. So much to give up, such a price to pay, such a denial of self, but is there no return, no blessing, no promise?

These two men probably returned to their homes and did not follow Jesus; one went back to his warm house and soft bed, the other to a house filled with sorrow, while the disciples went with Jesus. They left their homes, their traditions and stepped out on faith, and that very day their faith was increased.

## (III) THE REWARDS OF SELF DENIAL

### **A) Storms calmed at Christ's command Mt.8(26)**

Some will be quick to point out the trials that Christians face, but they fail to realize that hard times come to all. When the sinner faces the trials of life they turn to things that will destroy them such a drugs and alcohol. But when the followers of Christ, those who have denied themselves to walk the straight and narrow face storms they hear their Master, "...rebuke the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm."

### **B) The devil defeated by Jesus Mt.8(32)**

After the storm was calmed, the devil came against Christ and His followers. Once again the timid souls will point out the danger of following Jesus, but the enemy comes against all, look at the broken families in this world, the sick and the hurting, most have not denied themselves to follow Christ so when the enemy comes they have no protection.

The disciples found that when the devil came against them he also came against the Christ they were following, (*Oh Hallelujah!!!*) and Jesus had but one word for the devil and that was "GO" Mt. 8(32).

The followers of Jesus experience great miracles while those who stay behind see and hear nothing. When a person tells me that they do not believe in miracles today, I know one thing about them, they are not following Jesus. Those who are busy caring for their dens, feathering their nest and burying their dead are the ones saying the time for miracles is over.

But those who have dared to pick up their cross know better. They know that Jesus cannot rest His head in the dens of foxy men bent on their own security, nor will he be found in dead rituals catering to the traditions of men. Jesus' followers know that He will be found where the action is. They will see His hand lifted against the tempest; they will feel the raging storms and the blessed peace. They will hear His voice rebuking satan, they will see men saved, delivered, healed and going on to perfection; they are following Jesus.

The mighty rushing wind of Holy Ghost revival is blowing again. God's hand of deliverance is stretched forth and it is time for a world wide harvest of precious souls.

My friend, if the Lord can once again find a group of people who will deny themselves and take up their cross to follow Jesus, then it will be said of them as of the early church;

"And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen." Mk. 16(20)

## SPIRIT FILLED CHRISTIANS

### Only A Clean Cup Overflowing With The Holy Spirit

REVIVAL IS BEING ABSOLUTELY filled to overflowing with the Holy Spirit, and that is victorious living. If we were asked this moment if we were filled with the Holy Spirit, how many of us would dare to answer "Yes"? Revival is when we can say yes at any moment of the day. It is not egotistic to say so, for filling to overflowing is utterly and completely God's work—it is all of grace. All we have to do is to present our empty, broken self and let Him fill and keep filled. Andrew Murray says, "just as water ever seeks and fills the lowest place, so the moment God finds you abased and empty, His glory and power flow in." The picture that has made things so simple and clear to so many of us is that of the human heart as a cup, which we hold out to Jesus, longing that He might fill it with the Water of life. Jesus is pictured as bearing the golden water pot with the Water of Life. As He passes by He looks into our cup, and if it is clean, He fills to overflowing with the Water of Life. And as Jesus is always passing by, the cup can be always running over. That is something of what David meant, when he said "My cup runneth over." This is revival—the constant peace of God ruling in our hearts because we are full to overflowing ourselves, and sharing it with others. People imagine that dying to self makes one miserable. But it is just the opposite. It is the refusal to die to self that makes one miserable. The more we know of death with Him, the more

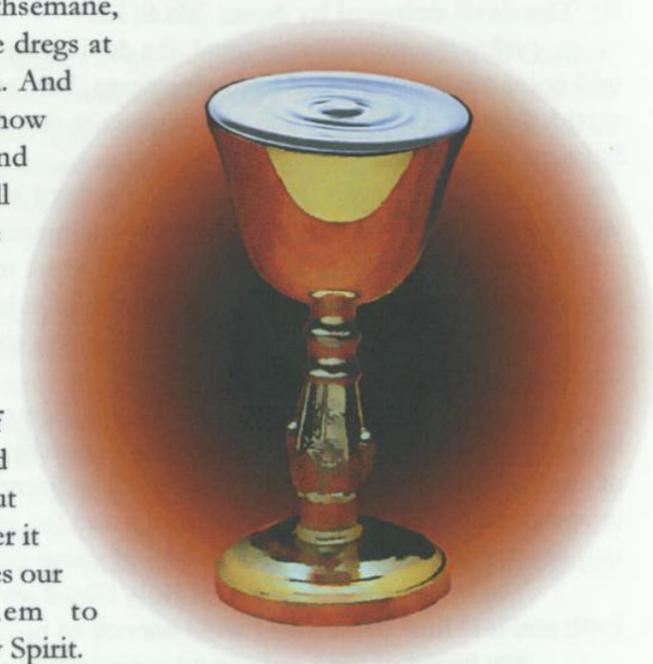
we shall know of His life in us, and so the more of real peace and joy. His life, too, will overflow through us to lost souls in a real concern for their salvation, and to our fellow Christians in a deep desire for their blessing.

Only one thing prevents Jesus from filling our cups as He passes by, and this is sin in one of its thousand forms. The Lord Jesus does not fill dirty cups. Anything that springs from self, however small it may be, is sin. Self-energy or self-complacency in service is sin. Self-pity in trials or difficulties, self-seeking in business or Christian work, self-indulgence in one's spare time, sensitiveness, touchiness, resentment and self-defense when we are hurt or injured by others, self-consciousness, reserve, worry, fear, all spring from self and all are sin and make our cups unclean. But all of them were put into that other cup, which the lord Jesus shrank from momentarily in Gethsemane, but which He drank to the dregs at Calvary—the cup of our sin. And if we will allow Him to show us what is in our cups and then give it to Him, He will cleanse them in the precious Blood that still flows for sin. That does not mean mere cleansing from the guilt of sin, nor even from the stain of sin—though thank God both of these are true—but from the sin itself, whatever it may be. And as He cleanses our cups, so He fills them to overflowing with His Holy Spirit.

Then we are able daily to avail ourselves of that precious Blood. Suppose you have let the Lord Jesus

cleanse your cup and have trusted Him to fill it to overflowing, and then something comes along—a touch of envy or temper. What happens? Your cup becomes dirty and it ceases to overflow. And if we are constantly being defeated in this way, then our cup is never overflowing.

If we are to know continuous revival, we must learn the way to keep our cups clean. It is never God's will that a revival should cease, and be known in history as the revival of this or that year. When that happens it is due to only one thing—sin, just those little sins that the devil drops into your cup. But if we will go back to Calvary and learn afresh the power of the Blood of Jesus to cleanse moment by moment from the beginnings of sin, then we have learned the secret of keeping cups constantly cleansed and constantly overflowing. ♪



God will only fill  
a clean cup

### A Man Sent From God Trained in the school of prayer

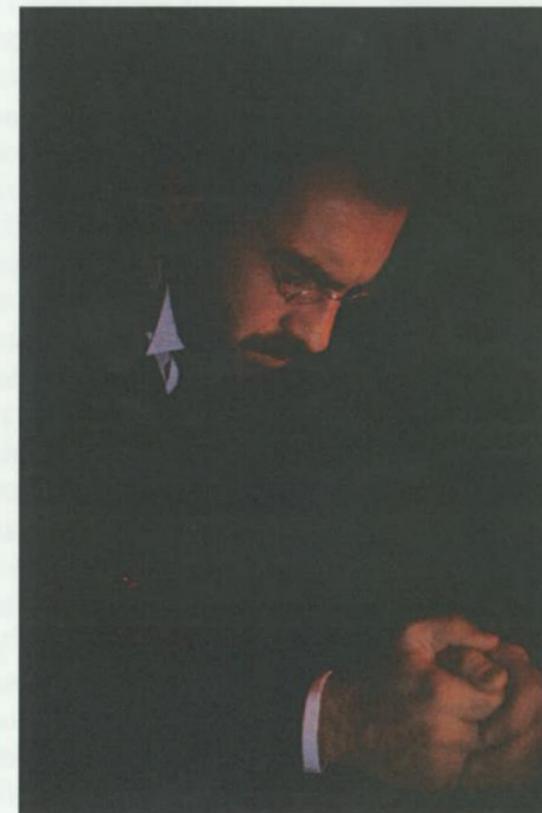
"There was a man sent from God, whose name was John."  
-John 1:6

As God's people continue in prayer, we are experiencing exciting times at House Of Prayer Bible Seminary; not only the starting of a new semester and the registration of new students but recently some of the faculty members were in a meeting learning about the possibility of the seminary becoming an accredited school, the students being able to use their GI bill, plus the seminary having the authority to sponsor military chaplains. The sequence of events leading to the meeting of Dr. Summerlin and he in turn introducing the staff to Dr. Travis who is the president of Logos Bible Seminary would make an interesting article but we want to stay focused on the scripture the Lord has placed on our heart for now.

Let us not be afraid to except that God in His guidance of a group of believers would sometimes direct us to other men and women who have expertise in certain areas that the gospel message may be spread quickly and efficiently, God is an expeditor. Remember the biblical account of Esther how God allowed a Jewish woman to be queen of a heathen nation, then used her to influence the king to bring deliverance to the

Jewish people. "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!" Romans 11:33

The things that our Lord is doing are truly amazing. Are we thankful? Yes! Shall we stop and celebrate? Not for a moment!



History has proven over and over that man's wisdom and ability does not have the power to drive back the forces of evil. Many a preacher has graduated from a learning institution with degrees of higher learning only to find that principalities and powers

and spiritual wickedness in high places had no respect for what they knew.

At the time of our Bible text in John's gospel there was only one remedy for the complete moral decay of a nation and that was... a man sent from God... this man whose name was John had been in school, but it was a school that has never had a graduation. The students may pass some tests but they are only advanced to a different level. Of course we are speaking of the school of prayer. This is the school where true warriors of the cross are made and maintained. To fight and win any battle the soldiers must have a continual supply line. The supply line for God's soldiers is the Holy Ghost and prayer. It is obvious that programs and methods, though polished and approved by man, do not bring the spiritual impact needed to deliver souls from satan's grasp. There is a need in the pulpits of America, there is a need on the mission fields of foreign lands, there is a need in our inner cities and there is a need in the small town that I was raised in. The need is for men and women, "Sent by

God." And such messengers may have different titles and badges given to them by this world, but the Liberators, those sent by God all have one thing in common, they are walking with Christ in the school of prayer. ♪

# HOUSE OF PRAYER

## Student Insight

featuring Bible Seminary students

# CHRISTIAN SEMINARY



**Featuring Brother & Sister Nesari**  
Tacoma, WA

I THANK GOD FOR WHAT HE HAS DONE IN MY family's life. God has brought me out of many trials. I decided to give my life to God when I realized that the devil had caused me to think that I was heaven bound, even as I continued to wallow in my sin. I tried to make myself believe that I was right with God, but God had been chipping away at my heart. One Sunday morning, the Lord, through the preacher got right down where I was living.

The minister said "You think your classy because you're only drinking wine; you are a sinner on your way to Hell, but there is mercy if you will come and repent." That pierced my heart. In all the times I had been in church I had never heard it preached so strong. That is when I knew that I really wasn't a Christian at all, but merely a "church goer." I was not right with God. When I knew that the message was for me, I ran straight to the altar and prayed for salvation. I asked myself a question, "Could I see myself living this Christian life ten years from now?" I envisioned it at the altar.

Some months later I came into some of the biggest battles as a new Christian. My husband and brother were becoming stumbling blocks in my walk with Christ; I felt weak spiritually; I knew that I wanted God more, but it was so hard having my brother and my husband against me. I had to face the fact I was alone in this.

I didn't know if he would ever get saved, because he had to get past his own religious hang-ups. He was raised a Muslim; his family left Afghanistan when he was about eight years old and they came to the U.S. as refugees. I knew that it would take a miracle from God for him to realize that they had believed in the wrong god. When I came home from church, I felt a heavy burden for them. I would stand in the door post of my room with my eyes full of tears, telling him "you're going to go to hell, please get saved" and he would try and comfort me but, he didn't realize that he couldn't comfort me. My sorrow grew heavier for him. The burden got so great that I couldn't go to church without feeling like every message that was preached would convince him to have gotten saved, if he would only come with me again. God knew what He was doing. Shortly after that time my husband found out that he was getting deployed over-seas to Turkey. Later he told me that, while he was flying across the ocean on his way to Turkey, he remembered me saying "You're going to die and go to hell."

(I came home sad usually after church). He started praying to his god, that if he would make it there that he would serve him. That lasted until

after the plane landed. When I would talk to him about Christ and he would say "I don't need Christianity, I'm a good guy." It would cause me to pray even more for him.

While my husband was gone overseas, God began to deal heavily with my brother's heart. It was his time, he had fought as long as he could, but the Holy Ghost had been tugging on his heart for a long time now, and He could not resist the Spirit any longer. The spirit was moving, the saints were shouting and rejoicing in the Lord, but he had nothing to rejoice about. He realized that he had a need for Jesus and prayed for salvation, it might seem that it was simply coincidence that my husband had gotten deployed during this time but God had a plan.

A month or two later my husband came home from his deployment, He realized the changes God had made in us. He knew that we were not the same people he had seen three months ago. In January of 2003 not long after he came home, one year after I had gotten saved he realized that Christ was the answer. God gave me the strength I needed to keep pressing on.

Since I have been a Christian, I had only heard about the healing power of God. I myself am a believer in the healing power. I am grateful to God for what mercy he had shown on our family. You don't realize what a healer Jesus really is until it happens to you or someone you know.

In October of 2004 my daughter had a really bad bladder infection. When she would go to the restroom, she would scream in agony, so of course we rushed her to the hospital. On the way there, my

husband and I started praying for her. When she tried again the pain was still there. She screamed her loudest. It got to so bad that they needed a catheter to get her urine sample to see what was really going on with her.

My husband kept praying, the doctor said that there wasn't much that they could do because it was Friday, so we would have to come back Saturday morning when the lab would be open. So they sent us away with some antibiotics. My husband refused to give her any medicine. On our way home, the Friday evening prayer meeting had started already. So we decided to go home instead of going to the rest of the prayer meeting to cater to her needs. As we were entering the parking lot to our apartments it struck me, I said, "The devil doesn't want us in that prayer meeting." My husband knew it too. He said, "We are going to that prayer meeting." When we got there, there was only thirty minutes left, but God was still moving.

Some of the saints began to pray with us for her body to be healed. About twenty minutes went by. I took her to the restroom, she still was scared to go at all, but I talked her into going. When she went she said "Mommy it went away it doesn't hurt anymore." I was so amazed that I asked her again, "Really, it doesn't hurt?" she said "No." My daughter is only three years old and I thank God for what he has done. Jesus was the only physician present and He made her every bit whole. We had no need to go to the hospital the next day. That's one of the reasons that I have more faith in healing for others just like us.✍



THE FALL OF MAN

### The Calvary Road

by Roy Hession pages 35-36

When Man fell and chose to make himself rather than God, the centre of his life, the effect was not only to put man out of fellowship with God, but also out of fellowship with his fellow man. The story of man's first quarrel with God in the third chapter of Genesis is closely followed, in the fourth chapter, by the story of man's first quarrel with his fellow—Cain's murder of Abel. The Fall is simply, "We have turned every one to his own way." If I want my own way rather than God's, it is quite obvious that I shall want my own way rather than the other man's. A man does not assert his independence of God to surrender it to a fellow man, if he can help it. But a world in which each man wants his own way cannot but be a world full of tensions, barriers, suspicions, misunderstandings, clashes and conflicts.

Now the work of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross was not only to bring men back into fellowship with God, but also into fellowship with their fellow men. Indeed it cannot do one without the other. As the spokes get

nearer the centre of the wheel, they get nearer to one another. But if we have not been brought into vital fellowship with our brother, it is a proof that to that extent we have not been brought into vital fellowship with God. The First Epistle of John (what a new light revival sheds on this portion of Scripture!) insists on testing the depth and reality of a man's fellowship with God by the depth and reality of his fellowship with his brethren. Some of us have come to see how utterly connected a man's relationship to his fellows is with his relationship to God. Everything that comes as a barrier between us and another, be it ever so small, comes as a barrier between us and God. We have found that where these barriers are not put right immediately, they get thicker and thicker until we find ourselves shut off from God and our brother by what seem to be veritable brick walls. Quite obviously, if we allow new life to come to us, it will have to manifest itself by a walk of oneness with God and our brother with nothing in between. ♡



#### ABOUT THIS SECTION

■ These excerpts are selected from highly recommended books that were written in order to provide the searching Christian with information that will help them grow in God.



### Food for your Soul

SACRIFICE

### Sharing Christ's Sufferings

Ye Are Not Your Own

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A PRIVATE LIFE, "a world within the world"—for a man or woman who is brought into fellowship with Jesus Christ's sufferings. God breaks up the private life of His saints, and makes it a thoroughfare for the world on the one hand and for Himself on the other. No human being can stand that unless he is identified with Jesus Christ. We are not sanctified for ourselves, we are called into the fellowship of the Gospel, and things happen which have nothing to do with us; God is getting us into fellowship with Himself. Let Him have His way, if you do not, instead of being of the slightest use to God in His Redemptive work, you will be a hindrance and a clog.

The first thing God does with us is to get us based on rugged reality until we do not care what becomes of

us individually, as long as He gets His way for the purpose of His Redemption. Why shouldn't we go through heartbreaks? Through those doorways God is opening up ways of fellowship with His Son. Most of us fall and collapse at the first grip of pain; we sit down on the threshold of God's purpose and die away of self-pity, and all so called Christian sympathy will do is aid us to our death bed. But God will not. He comes with the grip of the pierced hand of His Son, and says—"Enter into fellowship with Me; arise and shine." If through a broken heart God can bring His purposes to pass in the world, then thank Him for breaking your heart. ♡

"What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"  
-1 Corinthians 6:19-

# Shepherd's Voice

CHURCH FEATURE

### Featuring Killeen

Texas

AS WE LOOK AT THE SPIRITUAL famine of our land today, we see souls suffering from ailments that cannot be cured by religion, philosophy, psychology, worldly wisdom, positive thinking, therapy, music or drugs. People are in search of their inner selves, no matter what the cost, only to find at the core of their soul, a void that only God can fill. "Oh Lord, make us a vessel!" The Bible has become just another form of education, instead of the "Word of Life". Soul after soul has failed in this class of life, by counting for naught that divine education (Judges 17:6).

Even in many churches of our day, secularism is excused as technological and educational advancement. Holiness is now partliness, and modesty is now modernly. Prayer has been educated out and relegated to the back rooms. Bible reading only occurs when there is extra time or need of knowledge. And the love, hunger

and thirst for righteousness has been transformed to a lukewarm, listless neglect. To this I can say with Jeremiah, "My bowels, my bowels! I am pained at my very heart; my heart maketh a noise in me; I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war".

"But thanks be unto God which always causeth us to triumph in Christ" (2 Corinthians 2:14). Thank God for those who have put on their armor and engaged in the battle of spiritual warfare. I am more than thankful to be a part of this family of God who has not only taken up the call of the hour for spiritual warfare, but has chosen to stay in the upper room, until! Breaking down strongholds, pushing back the darkness, interceding until we break through. The Prince and Power of the air is the master of emotionalism, and false spirituality. But "we are not ignorant of his devices" (2

Corinthians 2:11), music, radio, TV, computer, etc.... These are his tools of time-killing, soul-deadening pleasures. His tools tear down those who do not engage in spiritual warfare. (Ephesians 6:11-18) Christ said, "I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it".

Therefore let us keep the tools of fervent prayer, bold faith, unspotted vessels, undeterred vision, divine love and compassion, and an untiring willingness of servitude in the hands of the master builder.

As our heart burns, and soul yearns for a world wide revival, let us walk in the Spirit, pray in the Spirit, and be lead by the Spirit. For "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty", to set the captives free!

May the Lord watch over us and keep us. "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ", and I am overjoyed to be a part of the Fellowship of the Unashamed.



God has blessed the Church in Killeen with a new Church building (left) and a new Servicemen's Home (right).

## GENUINE PRAYER

## Listening to God

**THE LANGUAGE OF PRAYER, or A Cry from the Heart.** What do you say in prayer? **Genesis 16** records, “**And the angel of the Lord said unto her, behold, thou art with child.**” This story in Genesis, about a lady named Hagar, tells about a woman in need of help. She cried when she had a deep need and God sent an angel to comfort her. Prayer is crying from the depths of the soul. It is true that prayer knows no language other than a cry. But before we pray outwardly, we must pray inwardly. Only God hears the cry of the heart—no man has that ability. Hagar cried to God, who met her in the wilderness.

We must pray like Jesus prayed. Hagar cried out of anguish—she had a need that only God could meet.

Hagar was comforted by the promise that God gave to her. God is a God of promise. When we pray from the heart, He gives us our promise. We need to cry to God not only when we have a need, but also when we do not. We need to be thankful for all our blessings, because unthankfulness is the beginning of the road to reprobation.

Prayer is when the soul wants a little touch from the Maker. The realities of prayer make Christianity more than just a religion: they make it real. Throughout the Bible, men prayed and called on God. If you don’t pray, you won’t make it to Heaven.

If you do pray, God will see to it that every one of your needs is met.

Remember, Satan does not keep people from working—he tries to keep them from praying.

Prayer as a dialogue—talking and fellowshiping with God. A dialogue is made of two people. They both listen and talk to each other. You have to remember to listen to God as He listens to you. Exodus 3:4 records the words “Moses said to God” and “God said to Moses.” It is a two-way street! It is conversation. Today’s problem is that there is no dialogue. We can’t pray and expect God not to talk back to us! Jesus said, “My sheep knoweth my voice.”

God is your pastor! He will do most of the work! Ask God what you should do—don’t always believe what people say. Don’t get too busy, fighting and kicking God! God impresses things on our hearts, speaks through the Scriptures, and tells us what to do every day within the confinements of the Scriptures.

Prayer is fruitless unless we receive some reply from the Lord. Every one of us has good qualities. In prayer, God tells you about others and the good things about them. God will only tell you bad things about a person if he wants you to help them. When we unburden our hearts to God, we should listen for him to speak through his Word.

There are three ways that God talks to us. The first is Prophesying,

or Preaching. An example from the Bible is when God sent Jonah to Ninevah to preach to the people there (Jonah 1:1-2). The second way that God talks to us is through the Holy Scriptures, or the Bible. And the third is through an impression upon our heart. This comes only by prayer.

When we begin walking with God, crying out to Him, and listening for our shepherd’s voice—we will begin to experience power, the realities of prayer.

Moses was eighty years old when God called him to go to Egypt. You are never too old or too young to be used by God. He has a plan for each of our lives. Most live their lives without experiencing God’s fulfillment or God’s plan because they don’t pray. Moses talked to God in the desert—now, he didn’t want to do what God wanted him to do, but when he and God had a little talk—he was convinced to do the right thing. At last God proved Himself to Moses. In prayer we make God come alive and reveal himself to us. Moses realized God was his Lord, with “Lord” meaning “He is the absolute ruler,” therefore he believed that God had the ability to do whatever He asked him to do.

Prayer is the act of presenting your needs to God and waiting for God to answer or to meet your needs. Try asking God for help! Jesus said, “My house shall be called the house of prayer.” We are a part of His house! ♡



## God’s Choice

### Will God use you?

“For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are...”

-1 Corinthians 1:26-28

How many times when God has laid a need on our heart have we replied with the excuse, “I would do that but, I’m not \_\_\_\_\_ enough.” We fill in the blank with a variety of adjectives reminding God of all that we are not; smart, or patient, or rich, or whatever else we assume that God needs us to be in order to fulfill His will through our lives. As we study the Bible we find that God accomplished extraordinary feats using ordinary people, choosing them many times I believe, not because of their abilities, but because of their inabilities! Did God use David to kill Goliath because he was such a great shot with a sling, or because

he dared to throw a rock in the air? Did God use Moses to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt because he had the great learning of Egypt, or because he dared to stretch out the rod in his hand? Did God use Samson to defeat 1000 Philistines because he was a great fighter, or because he dared to pick up the jawbone of an ass?

Now I am not suggesting that God cannot use the great, rich and intellectual. Surely anything that we place in His hands He can and will bless and use for His glory; but as we read in I Corinthians, God has chosen the foolish, the weak, the base and the things which are not. Why? 2 Corinthians 4:7 says, “But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.” The world tends to look at the feeble exteriors of Christians and think that this is the best that God could get, but that is not what the Bible says. The Bible says God has *chosen* these seemingly feeble ones. Not many wise, mighty or noble, but we are called and chosen. God delights in showing Himself mighty, so the world will have to look up and acknowledge Him; and as those who have

experienced this supernatural power in our own lives, it is the delight of the child of God to bring the attention of the world to this mighty One.

God has a task for us, and the accomplishment of that task does not rely on our ability to complete it. God is more concerned with our availability! We are but earthen vessels that God wants to fill with HIS power, with this treasure that confounds the wisdom of this world, and confounds the mighty of this world. What is our task? To preach this gospel everywhere, to see the hearts of men and women experience the power of God to make of them a new creature. Sounds like a big job, and if we look on our own abilities and powers we are sure to be discouraged; but if we will lift up our eyes, there is one who is sufficient for these things; Paul said Col. 1:27 “...Christ in you, the hope of glory.” As we bring this vessel of clay before the Lord in prayer as a sacrifice wholly acceptable to Him, He will fill it with His glory and power and pour it out to a world that is so in need of His love and grace. It is His delight to do so, He has chosen us! ♡

## SPIRITUAL MATURITY

**Costly Discipleship**  
Are You Growing in the Lord?

ON THIS SIDE OF ETERNITY there is no finality to Christian experience. Certainly "if we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word, what a glory He sheds on our way!" In the light of Jesus' glory and grace, the things of God become strangely clear. Though there are many adversaries, glorious peaks of revelation can be scaled by the ardent soul. But even so, heaven has not yet issued credit cards for grace. There is a price to be paid for spiritual growth. As long as we tread this terrestrial ball, none can say in matters of spiritual travel, "I have arrived." Our spiritual horizons are ever receding.

Today an itch for "things" has spread a foul restlessness among believers, for we are victims of competitive living. There is more anxiety about how to make a living than about how to live. But suppose that John Jones does get a Cadillac as long as a city block, and then suppose his aunt dies and leaves him a half million dollars so that he can live in Florida and have a super-home, with servants in attendance. Has that added a cubic foot to his spiritual stature? In the categories of the spiritual, does he rate higher because of his social climb? Does the extra tithe that he may give to the church assure him of a back-door access to divine favors? Can gifts of the Spirit be received with the gold of Ophir? Will the mayor's chain about his neck mean that there are open to him spiritual resources denied to

Jimmy James, who at this moment is sweating at a furnace in a Pittsburgh steel mill? To all these questions my heart replies, "Be it far from Thee, Lord, to do these things." If then, pearls, power, and prestige do not inch us nearer the secrets of the Most High, why not treat them but dung so that we may win Christ? I am almost terrified at the thought of the judgment bar of God for the modern close-to-earth Christians (not that the writer or anyone else has received a free pass for that great day).

Everywhere folks are crying out against this treadmill existence of so-called modern life, for too often those who do not bear the brand of Cain bear the brand of boredom. Yet God is longing to sweep rivers of grace through the deserts of our parched spirituality.

Maturity in grace has nothing to do with years, but rather with prayerful obedience to the revealed will of God. In a day when the cry of "Grace! Grace!" has been overdone, we sound like a heretic to say that in the spiritual life there are things that can be bought. But listen to the Lord Jesus Himself speak: "I counsel thee to buy of me" (Revelation 3:18); and Paul agrees by saying "Buy up the opportunity" (Ephesians 5:16). But how?

Tonight I go to a friend's house and sit in pleasant fellowship and edifying conversation. "I shall not stay long." I say. But how the time slips by! It is getting near midnight. Now at last I am home, tired and sleepy. Then I pause to reflect for a moment: I gave my friend four hours of my time, yet

my devotions took less than one hour; therefore, I prefer time with godly people more than time with God Himself.

Or look at that courting couple. They leave the comfort and the warmth of home to walk down a street in biting frost. Why? Well obviously because they are in love and want each other far more than creature comforts. Is human love greater than divine love? In matters of the Spirit, is fellowship about the Father better than fellowship with the Father?

To go to the Cross for "life" in regeneration and for "death" in sanctification is fine. But even in these Christian experiences there is no finality. I mean that there is a daily dying. If I today deny myself something that I want (or even feel that I need), I have not thereby merited heaven; but by denying myself something and by channeling that money for the cause of lost souls, I have proven that my actions are related to my theology. If God is going to increase in my life, then somebody is going to decrease in it. If I am bent on spiritual maturity, then I must see God more, and that means I am going to see others less. If I am not going to be "ashamed at his coming" (the very tone of 1 John 2:28 suggests that some will want to hide), then I must pursue my high calling of God in Christ with diligence. There is no escalator to the beckoning peaks of spiritual vision.

In conclusion, let each of us pray, "Lord, it is truly a good, stiff climb, but 'plenteous grace with Thee is found.' Yet, can two walk together, Lord, except they be agreed? Lord, I agree; help Thou me to grow in grace and in Your knowledge. ✨

## PERSECUTION IN THE EAST

**Martyred for His Faith**

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." -Philippians 1:21

For two hours every morning, and two more every evening, Pastor Sergei Bessarab spent time with the Lord. He read his Bible, prayed, and sang praise songs while strumming his guitar. Like the prophet Daniel, Sergei's schedule was set; his meetings with God were a permanent part of his day. On January 12th, he was enjoying late evening fellowship with his heavenly Father after the electricity had gone out for the night. He sat in the front room of his house, the room that served as the sanctuary for the small church that Bessarab and his wife had planted in Isfara, Northwest Tajikistan. It was the only Christian church in the city, among 126 mosques.

As Sergei sang and strummed, gunfire shattered the nighttime quiet. Bullets came through the front window, the first shot hit Sergei's hand and second shot caught him in the leg, before a shot to the chest ended his life here on earth.

The week before the shooting, one of the city's newspapers had printed an article about the church. The article was not positive. One line jumped off the page: "What's going to be done about Sergei Bessarab?" Apparently, the gunman had taken it on himself to answer that question. In Tajikistan, the primary persecutor is not the government but radical Muslim groups in the country.

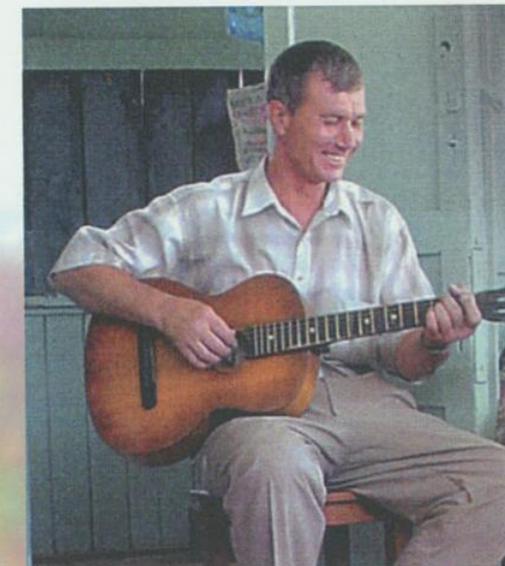
Suffering wasn't new for Bessarab, but five years ago it would

have been difficult to imagine this man laying down his life for Christ. Bessarab was a leader in Tajikistan's organized crime underworld, a man who had gone to prison five times for a total of 18 years.

In prison he met a Christian man, a fellow prisoner who had come to know Christ through the prison ministries of the country's Baptist churches. Sergei Gavrillov began to pray that Jesus would become real to Bessarab.

Bessarab told him to stop wasting his time praying for him, but Gavrillov persisted. He was put in charge of the prison chapel, and for three years he prayed every day that his friend would come to Christ. In August 2000, his prayers were answered when Bessarab bent his knee and accepted Christ as Savior and Lord. Six months later, the on-fire new believer was leading a Bible study in the prison. He was released from the prison in November 2001, and baptized shortly afterwards. But he would return to the prison many times, as there were others behind bars—others he knew personally—who needed Christ's message of salvation.

Bessarab traveled all over the country. He was a passionate preacher with a great love for people. God called him to plant a church in Isfara—a city that had no Christian presence but a strong, radical Muslim one. Bessarab and Tamara began to



*Pastor Sergei Bessarab, Tajikistan, was killed while playing his guitar and singing praises to God.*

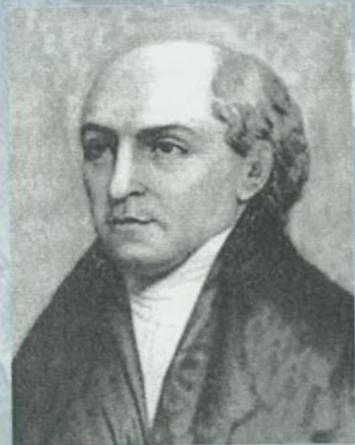
travel to Isfara on Sundays to hold services; and then early in 2003, they moved to the city. The church began to grow, and new people were accepting Christ. No one knew that Bessarab's ministry in the city would last but a year.

"His life for Christ was bright like a star," said Gavrillov, "like an explosion."

The source of his continuing spiritual fervor was those four hours each day spent with the Lord in prayer, Bible study and worship. "I've been a Christian for 12 years," said Bessarab's wife Tamara, and I've never known a man of prayer like Sergei (Bessarab)." In fact, in the weeks before his death, Bessarab was asking the Lord to open up two more hours—in the middle of the day—for him to commune with God. God answered his prayer in a way no one expected by granting Bessarab not just two more hours, but eternity with Christ. ✨

# Missionary Insight

## William Carey Serving God in India



SHOEMAKER BY TRADE, but scholar, linguist and missionary by God's training, William Carey was one of God's giants in the history of evangelism! One of his biographers, F. Dealville Walker, wrote of Carey: "He, with a few contemporaries, was almost single-handed in conquering the prevailing indifference and hostility to missionary effort; Carey developed a plan for missions, and printed his amazing Enquiry; he influenced timid and hesitating men to take steps to the evangelizing of the world." Another wrote of him, "Taking his life as a whole, it is not too much to say that he was the greatest and most versatile Christian missionary sent out in modern times."

Carey was born in a small thatched cottage in Paulerspury, a typical Northamptonshire village in England, August 17, 1761, of a weaver's family. When about eighteen he left the Church of England to "follow Christ" and to "...go forth unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach." At first he joined the Congregational church at Hackleton where he was an apprentice shoemaker. It was there he married in 1781. And it was in Hackleton he began making five-mile walks to Olney in his quest for more spiritual truth. Olney was a stronghold of the Particular Baptists, the group that Carey cast his lot with after his baptism, October 5, 1783. Two years later he moved to Moulton to become a schoolmaster, and a year later he became pastor of the small Baptist congregation there.

It was in Moulton that Carey heard the missionary call. In his own words he cried, "My

attention to missions was first awakened after I was at Moulton, by reading the Last Voyage of Captain Cook." To many, Cook's Journal was a thrilling story of adventure, but to Carey it was a revelation of human need! He then began to read every book that had any bearing on the subject. (This, along with his language study — for at twenty-one years of age Carey had mastered Latin, Greek, Hebrew and Italian, and was turning to Dutch and French. One well called his shoemaker's cottage "Carey's College," for as he cobbled shoes along with his preaching he never sat at his bench without some kind of a book before him.)

The more he read and studied, the more convinced he was "the peoples of the world need Christ." He read, he made notes, he made a great leather globe of the world and, one day, in the quietness of his cobbler's shop — not in some

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**"Expect great things from God.  
Attempt great things for God."**

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enthusiastic missionary conference — Carey heard the call: "If it be the duty of all men to believe the Gospel ... then it be the duty of those who are entrusted with the Gospel to endeavor to make it known among all nations." And Carey sobbed out, "Here am I, send me!"

To surrender was one thing, to get to the field was quite another problem. There were no missionary societies and there was no real missionary interest. When Carey propounded this subject for discussion

at a ministers' meeting, "Whether the command given to the apostles to teach all nations was not obligatory on all succeeding ministers to the end of the world, seeing that the accompanying promise was of equal extent," Dr. Ryland shouted, "Young man, sit down: when God pleases to covert the heathen, He will do it without your aid or mine." Andrew Fuller added his

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**English Baptist missionary to  
India. Born in England in 1761.  
Pastor before going to the mission  
field, he spent an active forty-one  
years serving the Lord in India, in-  
cluding translating the Scriptures.**

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feelings as resembling the unbelieving captain of Israel, who said, "If the Lord should make windows in heaven, might such a thing be!"

But Carey persisted. He later said of his ministry, "I can plod!" And he was a man who "always resolutely determined never to give up on any point or particle of anything on which his mind was set until he had arrived at a clear knowledge of his subject."

Thus Carey wrote his famed Enquiry Into the Obligations of the Christians to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathen. In this masterpiece on missions Carey answered arguments, surveyed the history of missions from apostolic times, surveyed the entire known world as to countries, size, population and religions, and dealt with the practical application of how to reach the world for Christ!

And he prayed. And he pled. And he plodded. And he persisted. And he preached, especially his

epoch-producing message, "Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God." The result of that message preached at Nottingham, May 30, 1792, and all the other missionary ministries of Carey, produced the particular Baptist Missionary Society, formed that Fall at Kettering on October 2, 1792. A subscription was started and, ironically, Carey could not contribute any money toward it except the pledge of the profit from his book, *The Enquiry*.

It was in 1793 that Carey went to India. At first his wife was reluctant to go, so Carey set off to go nevertheless, but after two returns from the docks to persuade her again, Dorothy and his children accompanied him. They arrived with a Dr. Thomas at the mouth of the Hooghly in India in November, 1793.

There were years of discouragement (no Indian convert for seven years), debt, disease, deterioration of his wife's mind, death, but by the grace of God, and by the power of the Word, Carey continued and conquered for Christ!

When he died at 73 (1834), he had seen the Scriptures translated and printed into forty languages, he had been a college professor, and had founded a college at Serampore. He had seen India open its doors to missionaries, he had seen the edict passed prohibiting sati (burning widows on the funeral pyres of their dead husbands), and he had seen converts for Christ.

On his deathbed Carey called out to a missionary friend, "Dr. Duff' You have been speaking about Dr. Carey; when I am gone, say nothing about Dr. Carey, speak about Dr. Carey's God." That charge was symbolic of Carey, considered by many to be a "unique figure, towering above both contemporaries and successors" in the ministry of missions.

# Biblical Truths

## Christian Living

### Are you in the flesh or in the Spirit?

NO PASSAGE IN THE BIBLE DRAWS A CLEARER contrast between the lifestyle of the Spirit-filled believer and that of the person controlled by the sinful human nature than Galatians 5:16-26. Paul not only discusses general lifestyle differences by emphasizing that the Spirit and the sinful nature are at war with each other, but he also includes a specific list of both the acts of the sinful nature and the fruit of the Spirit.

Being "in the flesh" (Greek *sarx*) or "to be carnally minded" are terms for the sinful (human) nature with its corrupt desires. The sinful nature remains within Christians after their conversion and is their deadly enemy (Romans 8:6-8,13). The acts of the sinful nature cannot inherit God's kingdom (Galatians 5:21). Therefore, this sinful nature must be resisted and put to death continually through the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:4-14). The acts of the sinful nature include:

"Adultery" (Greek *porneia*), sexual activity or intercourse outside the marriage union. The word pornography comes from the root *porneia* and thus sexual immorality comprehensively may include taking pleasure in pornographic pictures, films or writings (Matthew 5:28, 31-32; 1 Corinthians 5:1).

"Fornication" (Greek *akatharsia*), sexual sins, evil deeds and vices, including thoughts and desires of the heart

(Acts 15:20, 29; 21:25; Ephesians 5:3; Colossians 3:5).

"Uncleanness," and "lasciviousness" (Greek *aselgeia*), sensuality; following one's passions and desires to the point of having no shame or public decency (2 Corinthians 12:21).

"Idolatry" (Greek *eidelolatria*), worship of spirits, persons or graven images; trust in any person, institution or thing as having equal or greater authority than God and His Word (Colossians 3:5).

"Witchcraft" (Greek *pharmakeia*), sorcery, spiritism, black magic, worship of demons and use of drugs to produce "spiritual" experiences (Exodus 7:11, 22; 8:18; Revelation 9:21; 18:23).

"Hatred" (Greek *echthra*), intense, hostile intentions and acts; extreme dislike or enmity.

"Variance" (Greek *eris*), quarreling, antagonism; a struggle for superiority (Romans 1:29; 1 Corinthians 1:11;3:3).

"Emulations" (Greek *zelos*), resentfulness, envy of another's success.

"Wrath" (Greek *thumos*), explosive anger that flames into violent words or deeds (Colossians 3:8).

"Strife" (Greek *eritheia*), unrighteously seeking power or position (2 Corinthians 12:20).

"Seditions" (Greek *dichostasia*), introducing divisive teachings not supported by God's Word (Romans 16:17).

"Heresies" (Greek *hairesis*), division within the congregation into exclusive groups or cliques that destroy the unity of the church (1 Corinthians 11:19)

"Envyings" (Greek *phthonos*), resentful dislike of another person who has something that one desires (Romans 13:13; 1 Corinthians 3:3).

"Drunkenness" (Greek *methe*), impairing one's mental or physical control by alcoholic drink.

"Revellings" (Greek *komos*), excessive feasting and revelry; a party spirit involving alcohol, drugs, sex or the like.

Paul's final comment about the acts of the sinful nature is stern and forceful: any so-called Christians who engage in these types of activities shut themselves out of the kingdom of God, i.e., they do not possess eternal salvation (Galatians 5:21).

Contrasting to the acts of the sinful nature is a single-minded lifestyle called "the fruit of the Spirit." This is produced in God's children as they allow the Spirit to direct and influence their lives to destroy sin's power,

especially the acts of the sinful nature, and walk in fellowship with God. The fruit of the Spirit includes:

"Love" (Greek *agape*), charity; a caring for and seeking the highest good of another person without motive of personal gain. (Romans 5:5; 1 Corinthians 13).

"Joy" (Greek *chara*), the feeling of gladness based on the love, grace, blessings, promises and nearness of God that belong to those who believe in Christ (Psalm 119:16; 2 Corinthians 6:10, 12:9; 1 Peter 1:8).

"Peace" (Greek *eirene*), the rest of heart and mind based on the knowledge that all is well between the believer and his or her heavenly Father, resulting in freedom from the turmoil of anxiety (Romans 15:33).

"Longsuffering" (Greek *makrothumia*), endurance, patience; being slow to anger or despair. (Ephesians 4:2; 2 Timothy 3:10).

"Gentleness" (Greek *chrestotes*), kindness; not wanting to hurt anyone or cause them pain. (Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:12).

"Goodness" (Greek *agathosune*), zeal for truth and righteousness and a hatred of evil; it can be expressed in acts of kindness, (Luke 7:37-50), or in rebuking and correcting evil, (Matthew 21:12-13).

"Faith" (Greek *pistis*), firm and unswerving loyalty to a person to whom one is united by promise, commitment, trust and honesty, (Matthew 23:23; Romans 3:3; 1 Timothy 6:12; 2 Timothy 2:2; 4:7).

"Meekness" (Greek *prautes*), gentleness; restraint coupled with strength and courage; it describes a person who can be angry when anger is needed and humbly submissive when submission is needed, (2 Timothy 2:25; 1 Peter 3:15; for meekness in Jesus, compare Matthew 11:29 with Matthew 23 and Mark 3:5; in Paul, compare 2 Corinthians 10:1 with 10:4-6 and Galatians 1:9; in Moses, compare Numbers 12:3 with Exodus 32:19-20).

"Temperance" (Greek *egkrateia*), self-control; mastering one's own desires and passions, including faithfulness to one's marriage vows; also

purity, (1 Corinthians 7:9; 9:25; Titus 1:8).

Paul's final comment about the fruit of the Spirit indicates that there are no restrictions to the lifestyle indicated here. Christians can—in fact, must—practice these virtues over and over again; they will never discover a law prohibiting them from living according to these principles. ♡

But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23



1. What man of God said the following:  
"For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that **I shall not be ashamed.**"
2. The following verse is found in the book of Joel; what phrase is missing from the verse?  
"And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and \_\_\_\_\_."
3. According to the Gospels, what will be the consequence for any man who is ashamed of Jesus Christ?
4. What did Paul exhort Timothy to do in order to be a "workman that **needeth not to be ashamed**"?
5. Name the Book, Chapter, and Verse where the following scripture is found:  
"For **I am not ashamed** of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

### Answers to last month's questions:

1. Jonah
2. Philip
3. Jeremiah
4. Peter

questions

answers

# The Horizon

## New Chapel, Servicemen's Home and Bible Seminary in Clarksville, TN

## New Church Building and Servicemen's Home in Tacoma, WA

## Foreign Mission Works to be Established 2005

# House of Prayer CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## Doctrinal Statement

As Christian believers of the House of Prayer Christian Churches of America, Incorporated, we make the following declaration of the things which are "Believed Among Us" (Luke 1:1), so as, there will be no division or differences among us, and that all our churches preach, teach, and proclaim the following, doing so in love and by direction of the Holy Spirit, and by the Word of God.

### I - THE SCRIPTURES

We believe that the Scriptures, (The Bible), are the inspired Word of God, and that they are to be taught and believed in their entirety - (II Timothy 3:15) (II Peter 1:21)

That the Scriptures will give us a complete revelation of God's divine plan of Salvation and His will toward man, and that this is to constitute the complete rule of Christian Faith and the practice of the same.

### II - THE GODHEAD

Our God is a Trinity - manifested in three distinct Persons - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, being co-existent, co-equal, and co-eternal.

### III - SALVATION

Salvation for man, (which is fallen from his perfect and sinless state through Adam), is attained by the grace of God, through Jesus Christ His Son, by His death upon the cross, through the Holy Spirit's conviction, by repentance, and through an experience of the New Birth. This is accomplished by grace, and is made effectual through faith in Jesus Christ by accepting Him as our Personal Savior. (Titus 2:11) (Romans 10:13-15)

(Luke 24:47) (Titus 3:5-7)

### IV - THE CHURCH

We believe that the Church is the Body of Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:18) (Ephesians 4:15) and that Jesus is the Head. Its earthly members are made up of believers, born again by the Spirit (John 3:6) and by the Word. (I Peter 1:23).

To the Church is delegated authority, instructions, offices, and rules to govern it, and its members, so as to allow it to fulfill its mission in the fulfillment of Christ's great commission. (Matthew 28:19) (Mark 16:15-20)

### V - MINISTRY

God, through the Holy Spirit, definitely calls and sets aside such as He desires to serve as Ministers of the Gospel. No one should under any circumstances be ordained to any office unless the calling is distinct and evident.

### VI - WATER BAPTISM

Baptism in water is by immersion, and is a direct commandment of our Lord (Matthew 28:19) and is for believers only. (Romans 6:4) (Colossians 2:12) (Acts 8:36-39)

### VII - BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11) is a gift from God, as promised by the Lord Jesus Christ, to all believers in this dispensation, and is received subsequent to the New Birth. (John 14:16-17) (Acts 1:8, 2:4, 2:38-39).

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is accompanied with the speaking in tongues as the Holy Spirit gives utterance, this being the initial physical sign and evidence. (Acts 2:4)

### VIII - SANCTIFICATION

The Word of God (The Bible) teaches that without holiness no man can or shall see the Lord (Hebrews 12:14). We believe the Doctrine of Sanctification to be a definite, yet a progressive work of grace in the believer's life, starting at the time of the born again experience in the believer's life. (Hebrews 13:12) (II Thessalonians 2:13) (I Peter 1:2) (Ephesians 5:26) (John 17:17) (I Corinthians 6:11) (I Thessalonians 5:23)

### IX - THE LORD'S SUPPER

We believe that the ordinance of The Lord's Supper is a commandment of our Savior, and that its time or frequency of observance is left to the discretion of each congregation. (I Corinthians 11:26)

### X - DIVINE HEALING

Healing is for the physical ills of the human body. It is wrought by God, through the power of God, by the laying on of hands and by prayer, through faith. (Mark 16:18) (James 5:14-15)

### XI - THE COMING OF THE LORD

We hold that the coming of the Lord is imminent and is the blessed hope of the Church. We also hold that the rapture is to occur prior to the tribulation.

### XII - RESURRECTION OF THE JUST AND UNJUST

The Scriptures teach that the just (those born again, being justified by Jesus Christ) shall be raised by Jesus Christ unto eternal life and rewards.

The unjust, (those who have rejected Jesus and His plan of salvation), shall be raised to judgement and eternal punishment.

### XIII - HELL

When one dies in his sins without Christ, he is hopelessly and eternally lost in the Lake of Fire, and therefore has no more opportunity of receiving Christ as Savior, being eternally lost. (Hebrews 9:27)

The Lake of Fire is literal, (Revelation 19:20) and the words eternal and everlasting describe the duration of the punishment of those that are lost.

### XIV - RELATION TO WAR

We believe that our government was and is established by God, and whereas we are thankful to the government of the United States of America, for the freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and whereas we understand and believe that the Word of God does not command or teach, either by example or statement, that we should not protect or defend our way of life: be it resolved that during time of war or necessity, we will serve our government, bear arms, protect our citizens from enemies who try to overthrow our government and our country, and to serve in whatever role necessary.

### XV - TITHES

We recognize the scriptural duty of all people, as well as ministers, to pay tithes unto the Lord. (Hebrews 7:8) Tithes should be used for the support of the active ministry and for the propagation of the Gospel and work of the Lord, and are not to be given to charity or used for other purposes. (Malachi 3:7-11) (Hebrews 7:2) (I Corinthians 9:7-11; 16:2)

### XVI - PRAYER

The Word of God plainly teaches that men must pray everywhere without wrath and doubting. (I Tim. 2:8) We believe that prayer is a vital and necessary part of a believer's life, and, therefore should be exercised without restriction, according to Scripture. (Luke 6:12) (Luke 18:1) (I Thessalonians 5:17)

