

Dear friends,

This letter is being written after reading four books and now immersed in the fifth one, all within ten days. It seems I have been hindered from reading while wrestling with the foundations for a life of prayer. Rather than get these foundations from other teachers, the Lord has required me to press into Him and His word and chisel out these simple foundations without the input of other books, etc. Now He has released me to read the new books on prayer and warfare that are coming out to meet the increasing hunger in the church to know how to fight spiritual battles.

Warfare Prayer by C. Peter Wagner (Regal Books) greatly encouraged me. Peter Wagner, instructor at Fuller Seminary and researcher on church growth around the world, confirms in this book the validity and importance of binding the influence of territorial spirits if we are to see the work of God released in cities and nations. Some have questioned this kind of warfare prayer, calling it "star wars theology"; Peter Wagner gives humble but clear insight into the Word, and powerful illustrations from the mission field, showing the release of evangelism and church growth when the church takes a united and military stand against the powers of darkness in their region. Read it and be challenged.

God Can Do It Without Me (Sovereign World Books) is a personal testimony by Johannes Facius, director of Intercessors International. This seasoned intercessor was "knocked down" after a confrontation with spiritual strongholds in the Communist world. First a mysterious heart ailment struck him. Then driven by tormenting spirits almost to suicide, it was a three year "valley of the shadow of death". Johannes was brought to a brokenness and total relinquishment of all his ministry; and then came a dramatic and quick healing and restoration. It is a necessary book for spiritual warriors; it will help us live in the foundation of God's grace, and help us stay in the rest and protection that the Lord provides for those who would do battle in intercession or any other ministry.

The Making of a Writer (Augsburg) is by Sherwood Wirt, author and editor for many years and leader of writing schools. A friend took me seriously when I said the Lord wanted me to write a book on the call to prayer, so she lent me this book. Lately, I want to forget ever having said such a thing. My small experience with writing a few articles a few teaching manuals has taken away naivete and any romantic ideas about being a writer. It is mostly hard work; and reading Sherwood Wirt's book confirmed that. The book knocked me down, then built me up and helped me see

the course of such a ministry as a book. It means months of dedication and commitment, assuming the Lord anoints it. Why bother you with this? Please pray. I am tempted to try to forget about writing a book.

Prayer School II is in progress with about sixty people in attendance, Baptists, Catholics, Lutherans, charismatics, pentecostals, and others from two dozen churches. We are preparing for a concentrated effort into four neighborhoods of the Twin Cities, doing spiritual warfare, and working with the evangelism effort of Twin Cities For Jesus.

Prayer School III will begin August 3, focusing on nations, missionaries, and unreached peoples.

A team is coming together for the fall outreach into Asia. The first destination appears to be Indonesia. Jackie and I are then scheduled to be in Dehli, India for a YWAM staff conference, where we will meet base leaders from all over India, as well as several surrounding countries such as Nepal and Pakistan. The purpose is to spiritually support these pioneer missionaries and the battle for the unreached peoples. Pray that we will have divine appointments. From India, we plan to travel to Jerusalem for the Intercessors International Conference. Pray for good travel arrangements, and for the Lord's provision for this journey, which will be a large sum.

We consider your willingness to read this letter and to pray for us a great treasure. And with much gratefulness, we thank each of you who has helped us financially.

We thank you for your love and care, and do trust the Lord on your behalf that you will know His presence and see His hand at work in your life, in your family, and in your particular area of service for Him. These are days that speak of impending and increased trouble in the world. But they are also days that contain all the promises of God, which speak of increasing miracles, unceasing mercy, and abundant grace. Let's keep our heads and hearts in heaven, while we carry out His will on the earth. Heavenly minded people are the most earthly good!

Yours in Christ,

John and Jackie

Prayer Needs:

- *Summer finances
- *Fall Asia outreach travel arrangements and provision
- *writing ministry
- *Twin Cities For Jesus Evangelism
- *School of Prayer III
- *Our children: Jenni, Jay and Lana, Jeff and Jermaine