



## Lifeline

...a prayer letter from John and Jackie

January, 1998



Dear friends,

Jackie and I want to thank you for praying for us in recent weeks, and want to ask you to keep praying for us during the next weeks, as we lead and teach three schools of prayer. The Tuesday night sessions, "I WILL NOT LET YOU GO UNTIL YOU BLESS ME!", are drawing a hundred something people from perhaps two dozen churches. We are grateful for the presence of the Lord in these meetings, which are given to worship, prayer, and the Word.

This last Tuesday, the night of the president's "state of the union" address, the entire evening was given over to praying for our country and its leaders. With the scandal reports covering the land, it is a time for the church to humble herself and pray. (II Chr. 7:14) Whether these reports are true or not, it is an embarrassing time for our country. Let's do our part in responding to the heart of God for our land, focusing on Him, and listening to Him more than we listen to the news reports. Is it not a call to deeper prayer and greater repentance? Should it not begin with us personally?

Our sessions at the Salvation Army in east St. Paul are a great joy. The emphasis is being equipped as spiritual warriors, a fitting subject for those in "the Army". We were moved by the insignia of the Salvation Army which says "BLOOD AND FIRE". That's what makes a warrior for God - one who knows the power of the blood and the passionate fire of the Spirit! We called forth that spiritual heritage to rise in this "army corps". The group of 25-35 has young and old in it, some mature in the Lord, some troubled and some new Christians. It is a pleasure to be with people who are hungry for God, and who are willing to let the Spirit move as He wills. We are there Wednesday and Thursday evenings for one month.

We have also begun our winter quarter school of prayer on Tuesday mornings at Heart for the Nations Bible School. The theme of this class is Jesus Christ Himself, who "bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors" (Isaiah 53:12, who "is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us" (Romans 8:34), and who "is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them". (Hebrews 7:25) He is the foundation. Our prayer life is based on His intercession. His atonement. His sacrifice. His "standing in the gap" on the cross. His finished work. His blood shed. His name honored. His Word proclaimed. He is the foundation for our appeal to God in all things. His high priesthood is the source of our prayer life and our intercession for others.

We have several other speaking engagements in churches in these same coming weeks. All of this, plus prayer meetings, pastors meetings, and leading two Bible study groups, is making our next few weeks unusually busy. **Please pray** that we will find the quiet time each of us needs to maintain the communion with God, without which none of our ministry has any meaning whatsoever!

I have accepted a speaking engagement in India at a pastor's conference in Delhi, at one of the largest Bible colleges in India, headed up by Paul Pillai, well respected Indian leader. With hundreds of pastors coming from all over the Indian subcontinent, it is both a privilege and challenge. **Please pray** for God's provision for travelling and His anointing for ministering in this conference.

**Continue to pray** for the churches in Ukraine. A plan for another pastors' conference in Krivoy Rog is in process, perhaps for early May. **Pray with us also** for the opening of a Bible school, which is on the hearts of the Ukrainian pastors. This will be a major step in seeing the new generation of believers in that region trained and prepared to take their place in the Great Commission. For us, it may mean helping to send pastors and teams there regularly.

Our humanitarian aid task force continues. We are collecting medical supplies for future distribution. It appears we will send a considerable amount of urology supplies to Lithuania soon. **Pray with us** concerning the possible launching of a prosthetics project to Bosnian Muslims, thousands who have lost limbs in the war. This would happen in partnership with a YWAM team that is living there and helping to resettle war refugees. **Pray also** for many contributions to come for the purchase of antibiotics and other medicines so desperately needed in Ukraine, to be hand carried when we return there.

**Please pray** with us for many open doors for this humanitarian aid project. Our burden is not only to provide needed aid, but to see it happen in conjunction with the spreading of the gospel to those who are unreached.

We again want to thank each of you who stand with us in faith and prayer. We more than ever need the Lord's covering and protection. **Please pray for us.** These schools of prayer seem to have brought an increased spiritual struggle. The pressure of the warfare has been intense, especially during the time when we are not ministering. Agree with us that His blood would cover and cleanse us, and that His name be our tower of refuge.

*"The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and they are safe."*

A great thanks again to each of you who are able and led to support us financially. We continue to depend on the Lord and the gifts of His people for this ministry. A word of apology to those needing your end of the year contribution report for filing your taxes. It will come in a few days!

May the blessing of the Lord abound in your life, your family, and your service in Christ. May His purpose in you and for your life rise to fulfillment and completion. He has begun a good work in you, He will complete it. He will accomplish what concerns you.

With love,

**John and Jackie**

