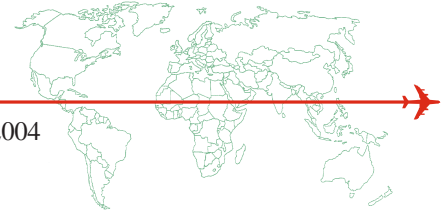




## *Lifeline*

...a prayer letter from John and Jackie

September 6, 2004



Dear friends,

We greet you again in the Wonderful Name of Jesus!

### ***It's a boy!***

We are celebrating the arrival of our second grandson, born to Jeff and Jermaine. On Friday September 3, *Jaden Allen* entered our world. He is handsome and healthy, even after a difficult delivery. Jermaine is doing well, though recovering from a c-section performed after more than 24 hours of labor.

Jaden means "God has heard!" in Hebrew. For Jeff and Jermaine this has deep meaning, after 13 years of marriage and seemingly not able to bear a child. God has heard, and it is a great honor to welcome Jaden Allen Matthews into the world and into our family!

### ***We stayed close to home July and August...***

We have been in the USA since mid-June, travelling only for family purposes. Our time has been filled with good family times, patio and yard construction, helping Jen and Scott with their house reconstruction, ministry administration, communication with Ukraine and mission teams, time with our home church, and extended times of prayer. I have had the added treat of time for fun and games with my grandson Jonathan. The child in me has come alive again, as I crawl on the floor with cars and trucks, and play in the dirt with a (very smart) 2 yr. old!

I have done some writing, but not enough. Please continue to pray for a breakthrough for us to finish writing the blood covenant foundations.

We are grateful to have been able to stay close to our children for a few weeks, with two new grandchildren arriving. The next one (Jay and Lana's second) will arrive in October.

### ***I (John) leave for Ukraine on September 14...***

If you have followed our story of the Churches of Praise, you know we are involved in a church planting tidal wave! We try to "ride the wave" even when home, helping teams to go, and communicating with Churches of Praise by phone and email.

I will go to Krivoy Rog for the opening of the Bible College, and to spend considerable time with Gregory and some of the leadership. He and I may travel to some of the new churches, but primarily we want to work on plans for the months ahead. Churches of Praise now exist in almost half of the provinces (oblasts) of Ukraine!

Jackie will remain in the USA to help the children and their new babies. I plan to return home on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September.

### ***Again to Ukraine in November...***

Early in November, Jim Kaseman will join Jackie and I in Ukraine. Jim is the president of AFCM, the international ministers' organization of which we are members. This time with Jim in November will be important for the Churches of Praise.

### ***News from the hChurches of Praise...***

The number of churches of Praise has risen above 500 this summer, with a goal to plant hundreds more this fall and winter! Every new church represents the gospel coming to a town or village that had NO gospel witness in it! Thank God for every one of these 500+ lighthouses. *As a reminder: each one needs 12 months of support at \$30 a month to become established.*

With each new church come testimonies of healings and supernatural encounters with God. Please pray for the hundreds of young church planters and thousands of new believers. Pray that they grow quickly in the knowledge of Christ, develop a strong spiritual foundation, and Christlike character.

A fresh crop of people will enter the first year class of the three year Bible College. This full time Bible College, which we helped start six years ago, has proved to be life changing and a strong foundation for many who are now serving in the churches.

October 1, another crop of young church planters and leaders from the new churches in the villages will arrive in Krivoy Rog for the next three-month Mission College. This functions separately from the three year Bible College, for rapid leadership training for the villages. These students live together, and study together for three months of intensive discipleship and foundational instruction in the Bible. 22 students graduated from the first Mission College just last week.

A new building to sleep 95 people is going up next to the main church to house the Mission College and a new Childrens' Rehab Center.

The vision of the Childrens' Rehab Center is to save and restore lives of homeless and drug addicted children living in abandoned buildings, in basements of apartment buildings, or on the streets. Please pray for the development of this urgent ministry.

### ***A continuous opportunity for your support...***

All these ministries of the Churches of Praise, and others not mentioned in this letter, are faith ministries. Each one depends on God for financial support. Funds come from Ukrainian churches, and from people like you. *Much is needed!* Your gifts will be used wisely, and will go far in the salvation of lost people and in building new churches.

Churches of Praise is the richest soil we know for sowing your seed. Your prayer and giving make you partners with us in reaping God's great end-time harvest!

*We thank you and thank you and thank you again!!!!*

With love,  
***John and Jackie***