



...a prayer letter from John and Jackie



May 29, 2009

Dear friends,

We greet you once again in the wonderful name of Jesus!

We want to say thank you for taking time to read our letters, and for praying for us as the Lord leads you. A great thanks as well to those of you who help us financially. Your prayer and giving keeps us going! Our financial support comes entirely through those who receive our prayer letter. Your prayer provides extra protection and breakthrough in our lives, and we know your faith united with ours influences the release of finances. We literally feel the prayer covering when it is present, and we are aware when it is thin.

We encourage you to pray as the Holy Spirit leads you, for He knows the mind of the Father; He knows the real need, and He is the One who knows how to pray.

Romans 8:26,27 says that the *"Spirit helps our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God."*

The phrase, "He who searches the hearts" most likely refers to our Heavenly Father, the One who answers prayer. He is looking for the prayer that He can answer: simply, one that agrees with His will. This is one important reason that He wants to fill you with the Holy Spirit, so that the Holy Spirit can pray the will of God through you.

World Harvest  
Prayer fellowship  
Tuesdays, 7 pm  
John and Jackie's house  
You are always welcome!  
763-755-6612

The Father is searching for the mind of the Spirit in our prayer. It is the Holy Spirit in you that is the true intercessor, not you. Successful praying is all about yielding to the Spirit within you, and letting Him

pray through you. The Holy Spirit knows how to "intercede for the saints according to the will of God". If you will couple your close attention to the written Word of God with continual yielding to the Holy Spirit within you, you will reach the main goal of prayer -- to get an answer to prayer!

Remember, the Holy Spirit does not have a ministry of intercession apart from you. He needs your heart and your mouth to carry out His intercession.

The other great intercessor named in this same chapter of the Bible is Jesus Himself, who "sits at the right hand of the Father, who also intercedes for us." (Romans 8:34). Jesus is our Head, the Head of the Body, the Church. He is the great High Priest and the eternal intercessor. *If the Head is at work praying, we as the members of His body should work with Him in prayer.* That is one reason why we are given the Holy Spirit, so that we can cooperate in prayer with the Head of the Church in heaven.

It is the leadership of Christ in you and the presence of the Holy Spirit in you that enables you to pray. Apart from this divine presence, we are all weak and ignorant in prayer. Weakness and ignorance in prayer is actually a good thing! They are the doorway to get the help of the Holy Spirit!

"The Spirit helps us in our weakness..." He does not help us in our strength. If we try to operate out of our own strength, the Spirit goes to the sidelines and waits for us to run out of that man-made energy. He helps the weak, not the strong.

And if we think we know how to pray, He will also wait until we are drained of confidence in our own ideas or our own intellect.

So if you feel weak, and you don't know what to do, you are on miracle ground! Just cling to God in that weakness and ignorance, and yield to the presence of His Spirit.

Remember that the Holy Spirit may inspire you to pray a *very simple prayer*. We have experienced significant breakthroughs from the simplest prayers of the saints!

"Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your inheritance, the very ends of the earth Your possession." Ps. 2:8

### **The Blood Covenant Seminar, July 16-18**

Thurs. and Fri., 7-9 pm; Sat., 10:30 am - 4 pm.  
The seminar is an eight hour walk through the Bible at the communion table, revealing your abundant salvation through the blood of Jesus.

If you'd like to attend, register at our web site: [www.TheBloodCovenantSeminar.org](http://www.TheBloodCovenantSeminar.org), or call us.

### **Travel to Ukraine: John leaves July 21**

I had been planning to arrive in Ukraine today, May 29. However, one of the most important principles taught to missionaries is *flexibility*! Circumstances dictated that I put this principle into practice, and I moved my travel date to July 21. Pastor Roger Sutch and Ken Beaudry will also go, both of whom have been in Ukraine several times in the past. Roger and Ken each have unusual gifts of imparting fresh fire and encouragement. Please agree with me that I will speak the Word of God clearly and with His power!

The concern of Gregory and Galina and the leading pastors in Ukraine is that Churches of Praise will move ahead in power to reach more and more lost people. We want to stand with them, encourage them, and help them in every way possible.

Everything we know from the Lord indicates that the 200 Churches of Praise that presently exist are only the beginning of what the Lord wants to do. We know that the Ukrainians can do much on their own without us. We also know that if we help them spiritually and financially, their work multiplies: more people get saved, and more churches get established!

Will you help us, so that we can help them?

A highlight of our time in Ukraine will be our annual Congress of the Churches of Praise, bringing pastors and church planters and their leaders together for a great family reunion. Though the main leaders meet monthly, this annual event draws the larger circle of workers among all the churches. It is a great encouragement to all, and especially to those who work in more isolated places, and helps them remember they are part of a large spiritual family.

The desire for the Congress is to see all the workers in all the Churches of Praise attend. This means bringing hundreds of people from the villages, many of whom live a long distance from Krivoy Rog. Most of the workers in the village churches cannot afford a cross-country trip. Some can pay one way to the Congress. A small number can take care of their own expenses.

Would you like to help get village church planters and church workers to the Congress? Words fail to describe the positive impact the Congress has

on these village workers, who work faithfully and often isolated from the modern world. They receive great encouragement and growth from the strong presence of the Lord in the meetings, and from the ministry of the Word. They go home with fresh words from the Lord, and fresh spiritual fire!

*I'd like to carry a \$5000 offering to the Congress. Please join your faith with ours!*

### **It's a great time to be alive and serving God!**

We continue to trust God with you for His blessing and faithfulness to be demonstrated in your life and in your service for the Lord. In spite of the world's difficulties, it is a great time to be alive, and to be serving God.

God is doing mighty things all over the world, and we want to be part of what He is doing. We think that you must have the same desire.

As we learned from the teaching of Henry Blackaby many years ago: *Find out what God is doing, and then adjust your life to be involved with Him in what He is doing.*

There are signs of God's presence and work all around you, but you have to lift up your spiritual eyes and look -- beyond yourself. You will see Him at work in the daily affairs of your life, and you will see Him working in the lives of others.

Let's make ourselves freshly available to Him, and expect Him to lead us into wonderful adventures with the Holy Spirit. That is the greatest life that can be lived: to experience adventures with God! Begin to see even your personal trials as an adventure with God. Instead of just worrying, think this thought: I wonder what God will do about this. I will trust Him and wait for Him, because I know He will do something good -- even something wonderful!

We know that you may be facing mountains that challenge your faith -- in your family, your job, your health, your finances, etc. We love to stand with you in agreement of faith on specific issues, so please let us know your need.

*Again, we say thank you.*

With love,  
**John and Jackie**

*Join us in faith and prayer for these things:*

- 1. Debt removal*
- 2. Remaining travel expenses to Ukraine*
- 3. \$5000 or more to take to the Congress of Churches of Praise for the transport, housing, and feeding of village workers in the Congress.*
- 4. The Blood Covenant Seminar, July 16-18*