

wotnews

"CHRIST IN WHOM YE ALSO TRUSTED, AFTER THAT YE HEARD THE WORD OF TRUTH..." EPHESIANS 1:13

March 2016

Dear Praying, Caring, Co-laborers,

"Who is God to you?" This question was asked by a pastor I heard on the radio several weeks ago. And, it got me thinking. Who do we think God is? For so many people I encounter, He is nothing more than The One who saves us from our sin and gives us eternal life. But, He is so much more than that and means so much more to those who have believed in Him and called upon His name.

The problem is that we have listened to the lies of the devil as to who God really is and who we are in Him. The devil has spent the last 6000 years trying to get us to believe that God is not who He says He is and that God can't do what He says He can do. The sad part is that we as believers have, not only, listened to the lies, but we have, also, believed the lies. Because of this, we have become fearful, worried, weak, unknowing, unsure, unreliable, un-useable and doubting Christians. We have allowed ourselves to believe that God cannot do great things and that He is no longer a miracle worker. That He can handle the BIG, major things in our lives, but He can't handle the small things. The small things we have to handle, because, after all, God doesn't have time for the small things in my life. Or, how about the fact that we believe Him to heal us from a major disease, but yet, we don't call on Him when we have a cold. Or that, we ask God to supply our needs, but when He doesn't answer quickly enough, we start trying to figure something out ourselves. Then there's when we believe that God is going to provide for us, but then we get upset with Him when He doesn't do it the way we want Him to.

I could go on and on with example after example, but, I won't. The following is a poem that was given to me and reminds me, some, of who and what God is.

"Father's Love Letter: The Cry of a Fa-

LOOKING FORWARD

Praise the Lord! What a glorious time Edna and I had on Family Life's "Love Like You Mean It Cruise" with Dennis Rainey. It was a blessed time that God gave us as we relaxed, renewed, and refreshed. Things didn't quite go as planned, as far as where we were supposed to go, but God has been reminding me that our plans are not His plans. We had the opportunity to hear some excellent preaching and teaching from several pastors and their wives. The topic of the week was Loving God so that we may love others. It was wonderful to spend the week with my bride just soaking in the Word with fellow believers. We met couples from all over the United States and even had a few who stated they would be contacting us to see about working with us on future mission trips.

We also had the opportunity to talk to the Director of Operations for Family Life and got contact information for the Director of Global Ministries. We will be contacting them, along with the Houston area

ther's Heart from Genesis to Revelation"

My child, you may not know Me, but I know everything about you... (Psalm 139:1) I know when you sit down and when you rise up... (Psalm 139:2) I am familiar with all your ways... (Psalm 139:3) Even the very hairs on your head are numbered... (Matthew 10:29-31)

For you were made in My image... (Genesis 1:27) In Me you live and move and have your being... (Acts 17:28) For you are My offspring... (Acts 17:28) I knew you even before you were conceived... (Jeremiah 1:4-5) I chose you when I planned creation... (Ephesians 1:11-12) You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in My book... (Psalm 139:15-16) I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live... (Acts 17:26) You are fearfully and wonderfully made... (Psalm 139:14) I knit you together in your mother's womb... (Psalm 139:13) And brought you forth on the day you were born (Psalm 71:6) I have been misrepresented by those who don't know Me... (John 8:41-44) I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love... (1 John 4:16) And it is My desire to lavish My love on you (1 John 3:1) Simply because you are My child and I am your father... (1 John 3:1) I offer you more than your earthly father ever could... (Matthew 7:11) For I am the perfect father... (Matthew 5:48) Every good gift that you receive comes from My hand... (James 1:17) For I am your provider, and I meet all your needs... (Matthew 6:31-33) My plan for your future has always been filled with hope... (Jeremiah 29:11) Because I love you with an everlasting love... (Jeremiah 31:3) My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore... (Psalm 139:17-18) And I rejoice over you with singing... (Zephaniah 3:17) I will never stop doing good for you... (Jeremiah 32:40) For you are My treasured possession... (Exodus 19:5) I desire to establish you with all My heart and all My

soul... (Jeremiah 32:41) And I want to show you great and marvelous things... (Jeremiah 33:2) If you seek Me with all your heart, you will find Me... (Deuteronomy 4:29) Delight in Me, and I will give you the desires of your heart... (Psalm 37:4) For it is I who gave you those desires... (Philippians 2:13) I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine... (Ephesians 3:20) For I am your greatest encourager... (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17) I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles... (2 Corinthians 1:3-4) When you are brokenhearted, I am close to you... (Psalm 34:18) As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to My heart... (Isaiah 40:11) One day I will wipe away every tear from your eyes... (Revelation 21:3-4) I am your Father, and I love you even as I love My son, Jesus... (John 17:23) For in Jesus, My love for you is revealed... (John 17:26) He is the exact representation of My being... (Hebrews 1:3) He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you... (Romans 8:31) And to tell you that I am not counting your sins... (2 Corinthians 5:18-19) Jesus died so that you and I could be reconciled... (2 Corinthians 5:18-19) His death was the ultimate expression of My love for you... (1 John 4:10) I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love... (Romans 8:31-32) If you receive the gift of My son, Jesus, you receive Me... (1 John 2:23) And nothing will ever separate you from My love again... (Romans 8:38-39) Come home, and I'll throw the biggest party heaven has ever seen... (Luke 15:7) I have always been Father and will always be Father... (Ephesians 3:14-15) My question is... will you be My child?... (John 1:12-13) I am waiting for you... (Luke 15:11-32)

Love, your dad, Almighty God.

I encourage you to find out who God really is and, then, rest in who you are in Him.

In Christ Jesus,

The McCollums

director, to see if there are ways in which Family Life can assist us in ministering to pastors and families. Family Life has a ton of material that I believe would be excellent tools for pastors to use and teach in their churches; material that teaches men how to be Godly men and, also, material to strengthen families. One of the biggest battles that the devil is waging is on the family. We are seeing families torn apart by the thousands on a monthly basis. The biggest reason for this is that couples are not being taught what marriage should be in the eyes of God. They are being taught and told that marriage is all about themselves and what they can get out of the marriage. Whereas, the Bible teaches that marriage is not about me, but about my spouse. When is the last time you heard someone teach men that their job as husbands is to love their wives unconditionally? Most men go into marriage thinking that it's their wife's job to meet their needs. The reality is that only God can meet our needs and our focus has to be on Him in order for our mar-

riage to work. If our eyes are on each other and not on Him, then the marriage will fail. For only He can make marriage what it is supposed to be, and only He can make us who He wants us to be.

One of the things that Edna and I are praying about is how God can use us to be able to reach couples who are struggling in their marriage. God has shown us a lot over the last few months, and we now believe that God would have us share what we have learned and been reminded. Please pray with us as we ask God for opportunities to minister to families. And, that God will use us to help bring healing and restoration where there seems to be no hope for the family.

We have been asked to go to southern Mexico the last 2 weeks of June for a pastor's conference. The conference will be June 23rd - 24th in Chiapas, Mexico, and we have been invited to preach and teach. They, also, asked that we be there for several other days so that we may be able to preach and teach in several other churches



in the area. The plan right now is that we would leave on the 20th of June and return on the 1st of July. This would allow us to arrive a few days before the conference and meet with a few churches. Then, we would also have time to meet with other churches after the conference. The cost for us to travel will be \$2000. This would cover all necessary costs for Edna, Nathan, and me to travel from Houston, TX to Veracruz, Mexico. There, we would be picked up from the airport and would travel the remaining distance via car. I am believing God to raise up the funds for all of us to go and minister to the pastors and their families. Pray with us as we ask God for the funds and also that He would start preparing hearts to hear His word that He would have us teach. Our sole desire is to minister to those that God has prepared wherever they may be.

**Justin, Mandy & Chloe
Good News in Fire and War
"I can't find two of my kids."**

The man's three-year old son played in his lap while he recounted the chaos of their escape from a war-riddled village. He had tucked that young boy under his body and crawled underneath crossfire to an evacuation truck, but in the confusion he was separated from two of their four children.

That man and over 700 others with similar stories have rolled into our former town over the past 48 hours. An increase in fighting among rebel groups in the area has brought them to seek refuge here, and the city is preparing for at least 1,800 refugees by week's end. Our team has helped with donations for necessities and helped mobilize local churches to reach out to these people in desperation. A visit from our daughter brought a little sunshine into difficult days. And your giving through your local church has allowed us to be an active player in helping both these refugees and the nearby city that was ravaged by fire last week.

I told that man and his three-year old son that my Savior was also a refugee, that He too fled a dangerous situation with His family as a young boy, so He can empa-

thize. I told them that the young refugee boy grew up to die for the sins of all people and rose to life three days later.

Pray for our team to have wisdom and boldness as we reach out along several fronts to share and show the love of Christ among the Pal people. Unprecedented opportunities are opening up. Pray for Pal people to believe in the Good News of hope found in Jesus!

Open Doors...Shattered Walls

We have been praying for open doors among our people, and instead God just blew the walls down. So much has happened in the last month that it's hard to summarize. Some of these opportunities are the result of tragic circumstances, yet we believe God is working in unprecedented ways among the Pal.

Half of the Pal cultural capital burned down two weeks ago. Over 200 homes were destroyed, and our team is working with local officials on a plan to provide bricks for rebuilding. This tragedy has allowed greater access to this key city, and local churches have stepped up to help.

Fighting among ethnic groups has brought over 2,000 refugees from villages to the city where our teammates live. Our team has helped provide some food and clothing, and we are praying our teammates will be allowed to use their medical skills among this group soon.

Mandy started teaching a women's Bible study at our local church, opening a door for her to encourage the pastor's wife (who also helps translate). Mandy is pushing hard into language in order to maximize her effectiveness in teaching.

Local partners are itching to get back into "Quarry Town" where one entire village said they are ready to believe, and another village headman wants every household to hear the Good News. These villages will become inaccessible once rainy season begins in May.

We firmly believe that you play a vital role in this process through your prayers. These things are happening because God's spirit is working as you pray. So please continue!



IN MEMORY AND IN HONOR OF

We appreciate those of you who send in offerings as a memorial. A card is sent to the person honored or the family members of those given in memory of. God delights to bless those who give and He blesses the gift given. As you give, you are blessed, and others are blessed, because you gave. The memorials are used to buy the Pastors' Packs unless designated for other purposes. When you send the memorials, please, remember to include the city of the deceased and the correct address of a family member to send the card to.

In Memory of:

- Shelly Plotts – Madisonville, TX
- Ann Westmoreland – Madisonville, TX
- Edna Jarrett – Madisonville, TX
- John Maher – Mammoth Spring, AR

THANK YOU

Thank you for continuing to pray for our oldest great-grandson, Matthew. He is home now and is gradually improving. He will be doing homebound schooling and still spend many hours with physical, speech, and other therapies. God is giving our granddaughter, Leisa, the strength to handle a full schedule with Matthew and still be a mom to the other three boys. She loves the Lord and is leaning on Him for her every need.

The Loeras

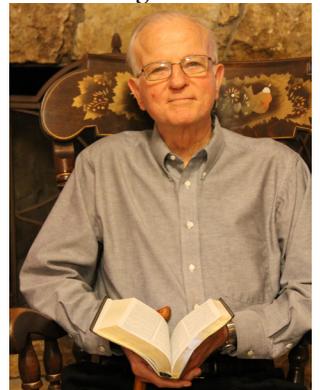
Please be praying for the Loeras as they will be traveling to the United States for the months of March – June. They are coming to visit several churches and present the orphanage and ministry opportunities. They will also be coming by Madisonville to pick up some additional equipment and to finalize the pastors' conference at the end of June. Pray that God will give them travelling mercies and bless the time they have meeting with the different churches and individuals.

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS THEN AND NOW

On March 4th, Earnest will celebrate his 83rd birthday. He was saved when he was 7, called to preach and to missions when he was 17, started his first pastorate when he graduated from Wayland Baptist College, pastored a church for 6 years in Madisonville, came to Peru to marry me in 1960, and we left for Peru as missionaries in December of 1961. God has blessed his life, given him many privileges and opportunities to spread the Good News around the world, and allowed him to serve in missions since 1961. I am so grateful to the Lord that He has allowed me to be a part of his life for these 56 years. Someone recently asked me what they could do to honor him on his birthday. I suggested that he would be very pleased to receive funds designated for the Pastor's Packs as a birthday gift. God has used him to encourage and teach pastors and he still has a great burden to help prepare men who are called of God to preach His Word. One way he can still do that is through providing his recorded messages and the Pastor's Packs to as many pastors as possible. We appreciate those of

you who continue to join us in this endeavor by sending funds designated for the Pastor's Packs. J.D. and Edna are working on copying the sets of messages and we hope to order the PPs this month. The last few PPs we had went out last month to be used in northern Mexico. Pray with us for the funds needed to be able to complete the order for 40 more. I remember when we were in Peru and he was doing the open-air meetings all through the mountains. He came across a man who had found a wadded up Gospel of John that had been thrown away. The man read it, was saved, and the Lord used him to start a church in his area. Earnest knew that the Gospel of John had been distributed during an open-air meeting and God had used it to reach out to this man who had been saved and called to pastor. We hear today of churches all over Peru, and we know that some of them received their first witness through the open-air services that Earnest held in numerous towns and villages. God has promised to bless His Word and that it would not return void. Thank you for

helping us get the Word out to hundreds of thousands through these many years. We want to continue to be His instruments for as long as the Lord gives us life. We also know that God will continue to use Earnest's life-witness through the ministry that J.D. is continuing. It is a joy to him to see the Lord at work in J.D. and his family. Join me by wishing Earnest a Happy Birthday. You might call, 936-348-5925, or send him a note or even make a surprise visit if you are close enough.



PRAISE THE LORD

- For Earnest's 83rd birthday
- For continued healing for Matthew; he is home from the hospital and improving
- For all who pray and give to this ministry
- For blessings on the Loeras as they travel

and speak in the States
•For the privilege of seeing God work through J.D. & Edna
•For the news that Justin and Mandy will have a boy in July
•For the pastors faithfully preaching the truths of God's Word
•For the privilege of

Prayer Corner

praying for our co-laborers
•For our family always ready to help when we need them
•For all the blessings the Lord allows us to enjoy by serving Him

- For the ongoing ministry of WOT and for God's supply for all He has planned
- For the Loeras travel in the States the next 3 months
- For J.D. & family and supply for them

PRAY WITH US

- For God's continued blessing of His Word as the pastors listen to the DVDs
- For the urgent need for supply for Pastor's Packs; we are totally out
- For God's supply for the general fund each month

- For supply for J.D. & family for travel to Chiapas, Mexico in June
- For the health needs of some of our co-laborers
- For Matthew's physical therapy for the next 4 months
- For our continued health needs

Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. Mark 11:24