



# PRAISE AND PRAYER REPORT

*"Christ in whom you also trusted,  
after that you heard the Word of Truth..." Ephesians 1:13*

October 2016



## Dear Praying, Caring, Co-laborers,

In last month's letter, we started looking at what it means to "Live by Faith." The first thing we have to do is acknowledge that there is a God and that He is in control of all things.

Second, we must believe that God is who He says He is. It's not enough to acknowledge that there is a God, we must BELIEVE God.

So many times I talk to people, who claim to be saved, and they tell me that they know that God can heal them; they just don't believe He will! If this is the case in your life, then you don't believe that God is God. Let me clarify something here. There is a big difference in believing God can heal you and being ok with it if He doesn't, versus believing God can heal you and being mad at God when He doesn't. If God decides to do something in our life, like heal us, that's His business, not ours. Hebrews 11:1 says "Of things hoped for". We hope and ask God to heal us, but He may not. Just like Paul asked God to remove something in his life, and he asked three times, but God did not remove it. Why? Because God needed that thorn in Paul's life to keep Paul from becoming conceited and so God would get all the glory.

The problem with our faith is not IF God is able but that we want God to do it our way. This is why so many people have problems with their faith. Because God doesn't do something the way they think it should be done, then the devil comes along and says "see God can't do what He says He can". And then comes doubt. And that is exactly where the devil wants us. Doubting God! Do you realize that this is the first vice that Satan used with Adam and Eve? In Genesis 3, we see Satan doing what he does best, getting us to doubt what God said or meant. If the devil can get us to doubt God, then, he can destroy our faith. Once our faith is destroyed, then the devil moves in and gets us to focus on what God hasn't done instead of what God is doing.

Faith requires us to keep our focus on God instead of our circumstances. Faith is saying "God, I don't understand why you didn't heal me when I asked you to, but I know you have a perfect plan and will for my life and I'm willing to go through whatever you want me to for your glory". What would have happened had Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego focused on the fire instead of God and their faith? In Daniel 3, we see them stay focused on their faith and not on their circumstances to the point of saying, "God, your will for our lives, not ours". They believed in God to the point that if He allowed them to perish in the fire, then, so be it. As an end result, the king and all of Babylon came to worship the One True God.

Faith requires us to seek God's will for our life no matter what we go through or have to deal with. We have to believe that His plan is greater than anything that we might go through. We have to believe that if God is carrying us through it, it is because He needs to use it for His glory. We have to believe that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28.

Does your faith believe that God can do what He needs to? Or, are you so focused on the circumstance that the devil has filled you with doubt as to who God is?

**In Christ Jesus,  
The McCollums**

## LOOKING FORWARD

The marriage conference is here, and we are so excited with what God is doing through WOT. On October 7th & 8th, we are facilitating The Art of Marriage by Family Life Ministry. Edna and I will be speaking and sharing the things that God has done in our marriage along with the videos that Family Life has put together for this series. The conference will start on Friday night from 6 – 9 PM, and then goes all day Saturday from 9AM – 6PM. God is using

the video series in great and mighty ways to restore, heal, renew, encourage, and strengthen marriages. The message is a simple one, but one that is so desperately needed in today's marriages; the message that we must seek God first and make Him the center of our marriages and families. We ask that you be in prayer with us for the couples that will be attending the conference. We are asking that God would bring restoration, healing, comfort, encouragement, guidance, and enrichment back to the couples who will be in attendance. The devil is already fighting and trying to discourage people from coming, but our God has defeated him and victory is found in Jesus. We are hoping to see 100 couples attend the conference. At the time of this writing, we have about 40 couples registered.



## Art of marriage Conference

[www.familylife.org/artofmarriage](http://www.familylife.org/artofmarriage)

If you or your church is interested in hosting The Art of Marriage conference, please, contact us for more information. We believe that this is a vitally important need for the believer with today's false beliefs of the family. The size of the group is unimportant to us; it could be for 1 couple or 1000. We believe that this is one of the areas that God would have WOT focus on. WOT goals have always been, and always will be, to strengthen and encourage the saints and reach the lost. We are seeing that being accomplished through the material Family Life Ministries has to offer. Please pray with us, earnestly, as we ask God to give us opportunities to work with families and bring them back to a Christ centered marriage. We have the answers to a successful marriage in God's Word, but we need get the word out that there is hope and you can have a successful marriage. The world says just the opposite and that a marriage is to be thrown away if it's not what you want. The world says, if there's a problem, don't work it out just get a divorce and find someone else to make you happy. Our families are so messed up due to all the false doctrine that is being taught from the world, and a lot of churches. God has the answer, and is the answer, no matter what the circumstances or situation. If we let Him, He can heal, restore, enrich, and use us no matter what the situation.

Would you consider partnering with us in prayer or financially as we fight the battle against the devil and all his lies for families? We are in desperate need of prayer warriors and financial supporters as we take the devil head on. We are extremely grateful and praise the Lord for those of you who are already praying with us and supporting us monthly. But, over the years, a lot of our supporters and prayer warriors have gone home to be with the Lord. They are truly missed and we are so grateful that God allowed them to be part of this ministry. Because of the loss, we are in need of new warriors to join us. We are looking for those who may not be able to support us financially but would be willing to intercede for us as we fight the good fight, who would be willing to lift us up on a daily or weekly basis to the Lord asking for protection over our family and our lives as the devil is attempting to destroy us and our witness. We are also in need of financial warriors who would be willing to support us monthly, yearly, or with a one-time gift. Word of Truth has always been a faith based ministry, which means that we trust and believe in God to supply in His way and in His time. He has always been faithful to supply the needs of the ministry through churches and individuals like you. However, that supply comes from individuals being obedient to His



call to pray, give, or tell. God may be leading you to share with a pastor, group or individual about WOT and what we are doing for the Spanish speaking and families. If so, please share with them, and then send us their contact information so that we may follow up and see God bless in a mighty way. Our contact information is listed at the bottom of this newsletter.

Our partners are vital to WOT and the success of us ministering to the lost and hurting. Please be obedient in doing what the Lord is leading in your heart to support WOT.

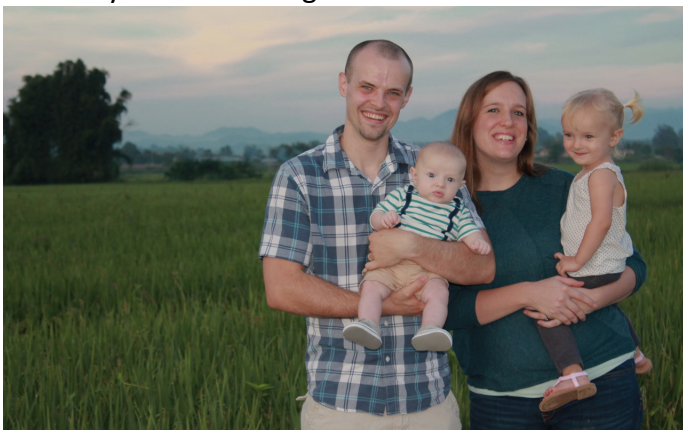
## JUSTIN, MANDY, CHLOE & TYLER

### Training Update & Aunt Heather's Visit

For the last 3 days, I've been teaching stories from Luke to a small group of new believers and seekers while Mandy helped organize a children's program for one day of the gathering. The kids had a blast making the creation story out of playdough, and it was amazing to watch new believers discuss the miracles of Jesus in 4 different languages. Pray that all will be faithful to obey what we have learned this week.

Two weeks ago my sister, Heather, came to spoil our kids, encourage our family, and bake lots of banana bread. She's been a huge help as we adjust to life with two children, and we've enjoyed getting to share a little bit of our world with her.

Thank you for standing with us in this work!



It is a great pleasure to be speaking to students of the school at First Baptist Church of Brownsville TX.... (they adopted each of our children... from kindergarten classes up to secondary... I am veryimpressed to see so many children and young people interested in helping others)

Benjamin Loera



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 Pastor's Packs unless designated for other purposes. When you send the memorials, please, remember to include the city of the deceased and also the correct address of a family member to send the card to.

### In Memory of:

- Harold Wise – Canton, TX
- Tom True – Shiro, TX
- Phillip Morgan - Madisonville, TX
- Mary Neil Poole Linnenberg - Houston, TX

## GOD'S FAITHFULNESS THEN AND NOW

As I think back over those who have had a real impact on my life, I am amazed at how the Lord put me together with different people, at different times, to prepare me for His plan for my life. When I first started going to church regularly with my paternal grandparents, it was in the summer before I turned 10 years old. The Lord used my first Sunday School teacher to help me learn the importance of God's Word in my life and the fact that God had a purpose for each life. My first full week of VBS, I fell in love with my teacher. She also turned out to be my Sunday School teacher. The first thing she taught me was that it was very important for me to spend some time, every day, reading God's Word. She encouraged all of us to read the New Testament all the way through before the end of the year. She said if we would read three chapters a day and five on Sunday, we could do it. I took her at her word and the week of VBS I started reading the New Testament. We were encouraged to keep up and she did this by making a chart that we could mark off each chapter that we read. I am so grateful that the Lord used Mrs. Beavers to teach me the importance of reading God's Word daily and to read it through, at least, once a year. Some say that that is just a ritual, but God used it in my life to give me insight into Scripture, to learn to listen for God to speak to me through the Scriptures, to realize the importance of being obedient to what I read, and to make it a yearly practice to read God's Word through at least once a year. Many days, God would speak directly to my heart through the passage I was reading that day, and then I would find those

same verses giving me answers to living during each day. She also taught us to pray for missionaries and took us to hear them speak in churches around our community. She would invite me over for Sunday lunch when she had a missionary family eating in their home. I learned to pray for missionaries and their ministry at this young age. God also began to deal with my heart about His plan for my life. Yes, at the age of 13, I surrendered my life to the Lord to be a missionary. Then God called my parents to serve as missionaries in Peru and I learned so much from them as they walked by faith and prepared to serve Him. Daddy prayed for me every day that I would be a faithful witness wherever I was, but he also prayed that God would send me as a missionary. So, I can say that learning to read God's Word daily and allowing God to prepare my heart for His calling was started when I was 9 years old. I thank the Lord for those who were faithful to guide me and prepare me in these two important parts of my life. God has used many through these years to encourage me, pray for me, and watch as God led Earnest and me together, and then as missionaries, to serve Him. I have tried to teach our children and grandchildren the importance of God's Word in their daily life and also prayed that God would call some of them to serve as missionaries. We are so grateful to see the Lord working in them and using them as missionaries wherever they are. Thank you, Lord, for those you used to teach me and help me be one who continues to teach others the same thing.

### PRAISE THE LORD

- For open doors for Edna and me
- For those who teach and encourage us
- For encouraging words from our co-laborers
- For God's faithfulness in difficult times
- For God's blessing &

protection on Heather's trip

- For the way God is using Justin and Mandy and young ones
- For all our co-laborers who continue to pray and give
- For the pastors using our PPs and faithfully preaching God's Word

### PRAYER CORNER

- For God continuing to use WOT in the USA and abroad
- For the privilege of praying for our co-laborers
- PRAY WITH US:**
- For upcoming marriage conference
- For couples attending

- marriage conference
- For Edna & I as we lead the conference
- For the ongoing ministry of WOT
- For the Loeras and their ministry in Chiapas
- For the monthly needs of WOT
- For new partners and warriors

- For Andrew and his studies
- For God's blessing of His Word through pastors across the Spanish speaking
- For Justin and Mandy & Chloe and Tyler
- For wisdom in utilization of the PP's
- For God's supply for the General Fund each month

- For the health needs of the wife of one our board members
- For Ina True in the death of her husband, a board member
- For the financial need for repairs to the house
- For \$1400 needed for a new disc printer
- For continued strength for Earnest & Anita