

Dispatch Six

I. Banned in Belarus, Blessed in Kenya

II. Whether "banned" or "blessed" the Word of God remains central and our message unchanged

III. A new dimension to our ministry: The Marriage Covenant Seminar and Workbook

IV. Prayer Requests

A. Nigerian Visa: There continue to be delays and the time is drawing near for departure. Please claim Proverbs 21:1 "The king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the LORD; He turns it wherever He wishes."

B. Our resolve to remain true to the Word of God would remain firm, the we would "hold fast". Please claim...

Proverbs 4:4 "Then he taught me and said to me, "Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my commandments and live;"

Hebrews 10:23 "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;"

Revelation 3:11 'I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, in order that no one take your crown.'

C. Health and Stamina: We are both going off anti-biotics after a bout with a stomach bug. Sleep is still fitful due to jet lag and a different life schedule. Ask God that we would remain fresh and sensitive to both His leadership and the feelings of those around us. Please claim Isaiah 40:31, "Yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary."

D. Servant Hearts - that God would ever keep before us that we are not only His servants but servants of the Word, the ministry and all we come into contact with during our time in Africa. Please claim Luke 17:10, "So you too, when you do all the things which are commanded you, say, 'We are unworthy slaves; we have done only that which we ought to have done.'"

Dear Prayer Warriors,

Banned in Belarus, Blessed in Kenya - yes it is true. You may remember that the Bishop of the Pentecostal Union of Belarus banned any pastor from associating with me and excommunicated me and pastor or individual who listened to my messages. What was at issue - The Word of God vs. the authority of man. Now in Kenya the Pentecostal Bishop has blessed the FDS

for use in the Pentecostal churches throughout Kenya. In fact he has appointed his "right hand man" to attend all the seminars, master them and then (assisted by Dr. Mukolwe) train lay ministers in all the churches to teach it.

We praise God for this, but whether "banned" or "blessed" by man the Word of God remains central and our message unchanged. In an age of Evangelical Pragmatism, when the Word of God is suited to the hearers we seek to carve out our niche as ones who clearly exposit the Word of God as it pertains to the family, to marriage and to personal discipleship. It is our rock solid, unwavering conviction that the Word of God is inerrant and eternal. That it transcends both time and culture. That the same passages on marriage, family and discipleship that ministered to the twelve, that ministered to the early church, that has ministered throughout the ages, ministers as well in this age whether to American, Russian, Japanese, Kenyan or any other culture, language or tongue. This is our confidence and in sticking to this confidence we look to the day of its ultimate fulfillment when as in Revelation 5:9-10, "And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy art Thou to take the book, and to break its seals; for Thou wast slain, and didst purchase for God with Thy blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. And Thou hast made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth." And again in 14:6-7, "And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, having an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people; and he said with a loud voice, "Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters." The Word of God is for all, it remains unchanged, it remains pure and we are to deliver it in its pure, inerrant form, unchanged by man to "every tribe, and tongue, and people and nation" and to this end we devote ourselves and our ministry as long as the Lord so blesses. By God's grace and by the effectual power of you our prayer warriors we labor in the harvest fields of the world preaching and teaching the Word of God.

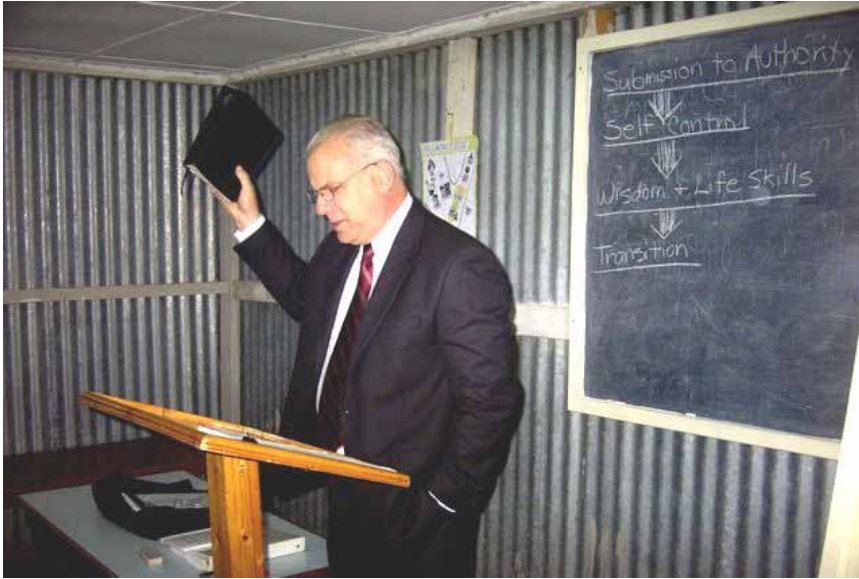
An exciting new dimension to our ministry is the Marriage Covenant Seminar. This past summer while in the US I met with two focus Bible study groups getting the workbook ready. (I am indebted to Mark Brooks, Dan Clark, Rusty Lacy, Bob and Cathy Leachman and Paul and Sandi Biquet, among others, who gave their time and prayers in this project.) Now for the first time we are meeting with young couples to walk through this material in a Marriage Discipleship setting. We covet your prayers that God might use this workbook to aid couples in understanding the Covenant of Marriage which they made with God and in so conforming their lives and marriages that they would experience the full blessings of God in their blessed union. By God's grace and by the effectual enabling of your prayers we will minister the Word and marriages will be transformed.

We close this prayer dispatch with the humble awareness that we are a ministry team, each dependant upon the other to express his or her gifts and callings. We who have been called to "go" and you who have been called to pray and give, together we bring the Word of God to the harvest fields of the world. Truly these are exciting times in which to Minister!

By His mercy,
II Corinthians 4:1
Rev. John S. Mahon
Grace Community Int.
Nairobi, Kenya



All return and more. God continues to bless the attendance of the FDS



The supremacy of God's Word - the clear teaching and preaching of the Word of God continues to be the central theme of our ministry



Marriage Bible Study - we have begun meeting with couples to take them through our Marriage Covenant Seminar Workbook.