



Dear Prayer Team:

One month ago, I sent out an urgent prayer request my trip to Korea. Before leaving I sensed a need for prayers because of the strategic nature of the event. Those prayers were significantly answered.

KOREA CM2007

In Korea I attended CM2007, Campus Crusade’s first ever Urbana-type conference to present the challenge of Completing the Mission. The new president, Steve Douglas’s was launching their new mission of “Building movements everywhere... Connecting everyone to someone who truly follows Jesus”

Not only did I have the privilege of conducting four workshops with hundreds of students from around the globe, but I was also given seven hours to present to their Global leadership team, the training I have written. People whom I admired through the years, such as Steve Douglas, Paul Eshleman (leader of the Jesus film project), Josh McDowell, and Thomas Abraham, sat through the training. It was a humbling but Spirit-led experience as we discussed the Life of Christ and how He modeled building movements.

Following the training, the response was overwhelming, with Steve Douglas establishing a task force to report back in sixty days with a plan to imbed the Life of Christ training into the DNA of Crusade over the next few years.

Because Crusade is already very experienced in many of the skills of making disciples that can make disciples, this will allow me to focus my energies. I can simply focus on my deepest passion... teaching Jesus and investing in others who can do the same!

In so many ways I was overwhelmed with your prayers. I sensed God’s presence through His Spirit as I taught. I was deeply humbled by the privilege of being with so many heroes of faith, whom God has used mightily through the years. Being with almost 20,000 young leaders, having a wide open door to teach the Life of Christ, and being with people who are passionate about fulfilling the Great Commission, felt like a taste of heaven. It was a true convergence of my gifts and life calling. Joy flooded my heart. I felt that all of God’s preparation in my life had brought me to this moment. I couldn’t think of any way in which life could get any sweeter for me☺ The only thing lacking was having my whole family participate... but thanks to your prayers the Lord protected them while I was gone.



ISRAEL 2008

I continue to be deeply encouraged by the ongoing response to our Israel 2008 Conference. The following has been completed:

- Motels confirmed
- Conference planning team formed

- Theme chosen
- Invitations sent out
- Online registration established
- Touring company working out travel details in Israel
- Scholarships presented to the various country leaders
- 76% of the needed \$253,000 raised (the budget has grown because of an increased number of invitees)

During the next few months I hope to tackle many of the remaining tasks:

- Final touring route
- Pre Conference details
- All registrations in (10% are registered, we anticipate the remaining 90% in the next 3 months)
- Visa letters established
- Travel plans arranged (each person and country is arranging their own)
- Housing and travel groups put together
- Organized prayer teams started

Much of this month for me will involve working on the remaining aspects of this conference. I'd appreciate your focused prayers.



FAMILY UPDATE



This month three of my girls will be celebrating Birthdays... Char, Christy and Julie. Char turns 39☺, Christy 17, and Julie 26. Julie (in black on the right) loves her job at Christ Community Church where she works as administrative assistant in the youth ministry. She especially enjoys discipling girls in small groups.



Christy (on the left with me) will graduate early this year, and already we have begun to visit colleges. She is planning to do an internship in Costa Rica, before she heads off to college. She loves Spanish and service projects... being very active in Key Club as the Lieutenant Governor.



Char and I plan to get away the first week of September for a much needed time of rest. We plan to head to the Dominican Republic to enjoy some reading and relaxation in the sun.

Jamie and Brandon (on the lower right) left just this week for 10 days in Morocco where they will be teaching English. Brandon continues to lead a large college ministry in Normal Illinois and Jamie is enjoying traveling with him as he speaks and ministers.



We are so grateful that our girls love the Lord, ministry, and are truly a joy. We know that each child has to make their own choices and we are grateful that each of them has fully chosen to live for the Lord.

PRAYER REQUESTS

For the 2008 Israel Summit...

- For the final touring plans to be arranged
- The additional needed funds
- Registrations beginning to come in without confusion

For writing projects:

- The final edit of a new resource by Mark Edwards called Knowing Him... 50 days with Jesus
- Pray for wisdom as I seek to format a rewrite of the Sonlife Classic youth training material

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A preacher was winding up his temperance sermon with great fervor: "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river."

The congregation cried, "Amen!"

"And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and throw it in the river."

The congregation cried, "Amen!"

"And if I had all the whiskey and the rum in the world, I'd take it all and throw it in the river."

And the congregation cried, "Amen!"

After the sermon the preacher sat down. The deacon stood up: "For our closing hymn," he announced, "let us turn to page 126 and sing, 'We Shall Gather at the River.'"

A minister and lawyer were chatting at a party.

"What do you do if you make a mistake on a case?" the minister asked.

"Try to fix it if it's big; ignore it if it's insignificant," replied the lawyer. "What do you do?"

The minister replied "Oh, more or less the same. Let me give you an example. The other day I meant to say 'the devil is the father of liars,' but instead I said 'the devil is the father of lawyers,' so I let it go."

A couple had been looking at new cars for months. He wanted a simple truck and she wanted a fast little sports car so she could zoom through traffic and look like a princess. He would have settled for almost any old truck, but everything she wanted was way out of price range. "Look!" she said. "I want something that goes from 0 to 220 in 5 seconds or less. Valentines Day is coming up and you should surprise me with something really really great this year!" Soon Valentines Day arrived and she un-wrapped her brand new bathroom scale.

A little girl and a little boy were at daycare. The girl approached the boy and said, "Hey Johnny, wanna play house?" He said, "Sure! What do you want me to do?" The girl replied, "I want you to communicate." He said to her, "That word is too big. I have no idea what it means." The little girl smirked and said, "Perfect. You can be the husband!"

A city kid went to his grandpa's farm for the weekend. He tagged along as Pa did what had to be done around the place, taking it all in.

Then Grandpa came across a cow having trouble calving. He didn't know how the whole process would be taken in by the six-year-old, but had no option but to get on with the job of assisting the birth.

When the calf had been 'pulled' and the cow was happily cleaning it up, Pa asked the boy if he had any questions about what he had just seen.

At first the kid seemed overwhelmed by the experience, but finally asked, "Just how fast was that calf going when it hit the cow's behind?"

In his Sunday sermon, the minister used "Forgive Your Enemies" as his subject. After the sermon, he asked how many were willing to forgive their enemies. About half held up their hands.

Not satisfied, he harangued the congregation for another twenty minutes and repeated his question. This received a response of eighty percent. Still unsatisfied, he lectured for fifteen more minutes and repeated his question. All responded except one elderly gentleman in the rear.

"Mr. Jones, are you not willing to forgive your enemies?"

"I don't have any."

"Mr. Jones, that is very unusual. How old are you?"

"One hundred and one."

"Mr. Jones, please come down in front and tell the congregation how a man can live to be one hundred and one and not have an enemy in the world."

The old man teetered down the aisle, slowly turned to face the congregation, smiled and said, "I outlived every one of them!"



TODAYS THOUGHT:

Why do we sing "Take me out to the ball game" when we're already there?

Why do you press harder on the buttons of a remote control when you know the batteries are dead?

Why do we play in recitals and recite in plays?

Why do they lock gas station bathrooms? Are they afraid that someone will clean them?



Support for Dann and Char Spader or the ministries of Global Youth Initiative can be sent to: Global Youth Initiative c/o Josiah Venture, P.O. Box 4317, Wheaton Illinois 60189-4317