

The Journal of Ron Boehme - 1975

Port Orchard, Washington

Jan. 1, 1975

“For you will go on before the Lord to prepare His ways, to give His people the knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins because of the tender mercy of our God...”

“And the child continued to grow and to become strong in spirit, and he lived in the deserts.”

“Might serve Him without fear in holiness and righteousness before Him all our days” (v. 74).

+ It is going to a year of the work of the Lord.

[Sometime in early 1975 I began teaching for six weeks on sin to the core Young Life group. The sixth week we were meeting at Paul Olson’s house. After my message, many young people were convicted and began to confess their sins to one another—and be reconciled.

Later in the evening, we had to leave Paul’s, and decided to go to our home to continue the “dealings of God.” Waves of repentance washed over us for hours—and became the impetus of renewal and great growth in Young Life that year—with twenty of the kids going with me to Europe for the 1975 Summer of Service.]

Jan. 6, 1975

This message on the “work of the Lord” keeps coming to me over and over. “And establish the work of our hands.”

+ I believe God is saying to exercise great faith in His work this year, being concise and diligent, not haphazard. Expecting to see solid achievements. The discipline in prayer and time is vital.

*Received a letter from Don Price from the Rhodesia SOE today saying that he wanted me to come to the school and that God had released the finances to pay my way there. I couldn’t believe it. After thought and prayer, I feel it’s of the Lord. What a wondrous God He is! He truly heard my prayer and answered from heaven. Lord-willing, I’m go there to teach on the moral government of God and Mar. 8-21. I can’t believe it.

I want to really honor You, Lord, in doing so. I want to have no pride or sense of adventure in my heart. I want to go out of love for souls and a burning desire to see You lifted up in the lives of young people.

*Father, would you please work out an arrangement suitable to this with Brother Gordon Olson. Thank you, Lord Jesus. I love you.

Jan. 11, 1975

Heavy morning. Lord, you've really spoken to me about my past, and my hardness of heart. There is some confession and restitution that I need to make, but Lord, I need clarity on it. There is real confusion in my mind. Show me the *way* You'd have me to take.

*The closer we get to God, the deeper we move into His truth and ways, the more our inadequacies, sins of the past, and general wretchedness of our lives come to light. It is not easy and hurts very much.

Jan. 14, 1975

Again, the devil is stirring up things at home. What an agonizing test this has been, to really that my folks are not really walking with Jesus and how to help them. It's been ugly, frustrating and almost desperate. I so deeply desire to see them bend the knee to Jesus and enter that fullness of life that IS being set free from sin.

God gave me a promise this morning – Isaiah 62:4 – “And it will no longer be said to you ‘Forsaken.’ Nor will your land any more be called ‘Desolate.’” But you will be called, ‘My delight is in her.’ And your land, ‘Married.’ For the Lord delights in you, and to Him, your land will be married.”

+ I must not compromise but learn to love from the heart to see this come to pass. Lord, I need you now more than ever.

Jan. 15, 1975

I believe that the Lord wants me to trust Him for 20 people to go to Eurofest.

Feb. 5, 1975

Time passed so quickly and so much happens every day. Right now. I'm doing a lot of ministry and its responsibilities, and the going is a bit tough. [This is a comment on the Young Life revival which began in early 1975 and grew throughout the year.]

Lord, I need to be revived and to KNOW the truth. Please forgive me for my shallowness and hesitancy in your work. Big things and decision lie ahead.

Feb. 11, 1975

The Lord is dealing deeply in my life. My responsibility in taking a team to Eurofest, and my trip to Rhodesia are upon me. But greater than that is my spiritual need.

Reading Finney's *Revival Lectures* has been overwhelming. How callous and *shallow* I am in the things of God. I need to learn to prevail in prayer—to be burdened for the salvation of souls. I believe that I can trust You, Lord Jesus, to be my strength in ministering during this time while deepening my heart.

+ I will Trust and Move Forward Confidently in my God.

Feb. 14, 1975 – Valentine's Day

[A week or so before this, **Shirley Cookson** came to me for counseling, shared with tears about her past sins. God used me to comfort her and help her make restitution to various people. Soon after, God gave Shirley and I “new eyes” for each other.

One evening in the Cabana, we held each other, kissed for the first time and expressed our love. **Shirley is one of my strongest supporters of the YL revival—and we never stopped loving each other since that day.**

On Valentine's Day, I went downtown to Forget Me Not Florist to get a dozen flowers for my “new love.” Paul Olson already waiting there. It was a very awkward moment as Paul and Shirley had shared an on-and-off-relationship for six years,

Paul received his flowers first and left the store. I then received mine and drove down to the Cookson apartment. Paul's flowers were already on the table when I arrived! Now she had two dozen, and a decision to make (she'd already made it).

Good thing I introduced Paul to Lynn Nestby some months later and they eventually happily married.]

Feb. 17, 1975

The hand of God has been heavy upon me of late... **Still reading Finney's book and God has been speaking to me at every turn about revival. God wants to revive this world and this very dry country. There has not been a real revival of the Spirit of God in this country for over 100 years.**

I know that there is going to be one. What part will I play, Lord Jesus? Show me. I have so much to learn. Am I willing? These are big questions right now.

And my ministry goes on. Lord--be my guiding light. I am ashamed of my spiritual ineptness. God's promise: Jon 16:14 – “I shall disclose it to you.”

Feb. 20, 1975

God gave me this verse this afternoon as the theme of my going to Rhodesia in two weeks: Luke 1:76-79 – “You will go before the Lord to prepare His ways. To give to His people the knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God.”

+ I’m to impart the knowledge of salvation, emphasizing the tender loving mercy of God.

Mar. 3, 1975

This is the real week of preparation and prayer. In reading in Numbers this morning, I saw how God commanded the Israelites to drive out all the inhabitants of the land, and I felt this to be a real spiritual parallel to my time in Rhodesia.

The verses were Num. 33:55,56.

+ God wants me to DRIVE OUT ALL THE SIN.

Mar. 4, 1975

The Lord spoke a couple of things to me this morning. One was that of seeking the Lord to know the BORDERS of my ministry. To have specific goals I must have specific boundaries.

+ What will be the range of my work? Num. 35: 34 and 2 Cor. 7:1 – I must be pure before the Lord.

Mar. 7, 1975

I’m OFF again. This is the biggest responsibility God had ever given me in my life—to speak at the Rhodesian School of Evangelism. *I must not deny my wonderful God: “Oh send out your light and your truth that they may lead me.

Mar. 8, 1975

After landing in Milan, Italy on European soil, we flew on to Rome where I spent most of the day reading, napping, walking around, and waiting for my flight to Africa.

Also did some writing in preparation for my time of sharing, and God gave me real understanding about what “love is.” Do we ever need to know this in sharing the Lord Jesus with people!

Harare, Zimbabwe (Salisbury, Rhodesia)

***My first time on African soil!** Flew into Nairobi, Kenya for refueling and now we're on to Johannesburg. Met a lovely group of Christians from Salisbury on the plane. Their fellowship will be quite enjoyable the rest of the way.

+ God has given me real strength. I'm ready to speak. Now, the ground must be prepared in prayer. These words stand out today: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation" (Mark 16:15). That's what I'm doing—but so much more needs to be done.

Mar. 10, 1975

Well, I'm here in Salisbury, Rhodesia. It's beautiful, warm, and the YWAM property is nice. It's a youth hostel shared with about 50 non-Christians (along with the 50 students). So good to see Katharine (Foster) and Cecilia Price again.

Tomorrow we begin. I'm going to begin a day early (PTL) which will give me more time to fit in the material.

+ Lord, I have prayed down your anointing and I expect You to answer. A verse that was quickened to me: "You shall purge the evil from among you" (Deut. 13:5).

Mar. 13, 1975

I've really been struggling the last couple of days. **I've greatly felt the anointing of the Lord as I've been teaching here, however my expectations for greater things and awareness of my inexperience and lack of depth have left me frustrated.**

But today is a new day and I renew my strength in God and must go on. Jesus said, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask of the Father in My Name, He may give it to you" (John 15:16).

+ "You must be tender, consistent, and strong with the words that I give you."

God is showing me much about "teaching." I've been worrying too much about my delivery than just being excited about the truth itself—and caring for the kids. I've got to forget about myself, be gripped by God's Word, and speak it forth to build people up.

***I felt led to pray about my relationship with Shirley this morning and I feel a great peace about the godly possibility of our union in Christ. I feel very clearly the Lord would have our love develop purely and non-possessively over time, and as our ministries develop and mature, God will clearly lead us as to the reality of serving Christ together.**

Mar. 14, 1975

One message I believe the Lord wants me to give at the April 11-13 retreat in Oregon [Young Life?] is on the heart—what it truly means to accept Jesus into your heart.

Mar. 15, 1975

Had a wonderful relaxing day with Don and Cecilia (Price) and Katharine and Judy. Spent the morning at the Game Reserve. It was great to see the local animals in their native bush—monkeys, deer, Wild beasts, zebras and ostriches! God has done a phenomenal thing in the animal kingdom.

After lunch we went into Salisbury for a swim at a beautiful lake with a rock-slide where you could skid down the rocks in the water—also had a foofi slide.

In the evening we had a beautiful love-feast and a time of worship. God really ministered to me. It was so good to be in a worshipping assembly again! God has really blessed His Word among the students.

Mar. 17, 1975

This is my prayer for the school here as we begin our final week together: “Would that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would discern their future! (Deut. 32:29).

Mar. 18, 1975

God is really teaching me some things...and oh, it is hard. Last night I gave my message on “Sin,” and felt like I failed miserably to bring it across—felt no anointing, no connection. But God is my Teacher and here’s what He said to me:

1. I’ve been worrying about my “presentation” and not deeply in love with the truth to be shared. I must love the truth.
2. I must be living it. Many of these things are deep truths that are beyond my present state. I cannot be more than I am.
3. I must be real and humble. Right now, I am not Charles Finney, but Ron Boehme. That’s the only level I can share from.

+ Though I feel a miserable failure, God has encouraged me to be “strong and courageous” and to continue—with a new love, a new honesty, and the same Lord. Yes, Lord Jesus, I will.

Mar. 19, 1975

The Lord enabled me to bring forth a powerful message on “The Devastation of Sin in God’s World” last night and I pray that it will bear fruit and cause us to flee from sin in our lives. Today we begin the atonement.

+ I've been asked to consider coming back next year the 3rd week in January—and this I must pray on. If God leads, I could teach here and possibly in South Africa—maybe even visit Erlo Stegan's "hospital" there. I will give this to you, my Lord and king.

Mar. 21, 1975

This is my final teaching day at the School of Evangelism. What a blessing and a challenge this has been. God is so good to me. I pray that as I speak on the "Call to Revival" that God will do just that—call us to seeing our world revived. It's a high call.

Mar. 22-24, 1975

This was a weekend I will not soon forget. Went with a team of seven others into the Rhodesian bush station region near the Mozambique border to minister at the Elim Mission which is located there.

On Friday we drove in after dark, and after meeting with the missionaries, we shared a service with about 250 African young people who attend the secondary school there.

On Saturday I preached at 6 am. To the students at the Scripture Union meeting and then for the morning we went out in pairs to the neighboring villages to tell people about the love of God. In the afternoon we rested and spoke to the kids and in the evening, we gathered again with the entire group for worship and testimonies.

On Sunday, four of us preached in small local churches and in the evening, we had a final service.

*I learned a lot this weekend about the African people and the African mind. There were real needs at the mission station and a lack of unity. As well, I was very frustrated by the message that we preached, and I need to go before the Lord concerning this. There are still traces of pride in my life, and I would really like revelation from God concerning the preaching of the Gospel and what will bring revival.

+ There is so much to learn. I am so weak and so shallow. Lord, Jesus, I know it is time to begin seeking Your face. Thank you for this experience, Lord, which has showed me a lot about myself.

Mar. 25, 1975

I've had some wonderful times talking and chatting with Reona (Peterson/Joly). I love her dearly. She needs much prayer in her life now and I am humbled by the fact that I can help in any way.

+ God gave me this verse this morning: Ps. 95:6 – "Oh come let us worship, let us bow down. Let us kneel before our Maker."

I believe God would have me to spend a day in Johannesburg, South Africa then go on through Europe. God is going to release future ministry for me for my time in Europe with Don Stephens and Lynn Green. *Jesus is King!!!

South Africa

+ I'm on my way out of Africa. Don Price drove me to the airport and after a time of prayer, I was off. Flew into Johannesburg where Ramona Jensen and some other YWAMers met me and took me quickly into Kempton Park to see their offices. As we knelt in the office to pray, I sensed the beauty of the moment. God's ways are so wonderful... Wish I could have spent more time with them. MAYBE NEXT YEAR.

Germany

Mar.28, 1975 – Good Friday

“My God shall supply all your needs...”

That is truly what God has done! Flew into Germany and was met by David Boyd at the airport. After seeing everyone at the Castle, I hopped on a car going to Switzerland and here I am at Lausanne. Our God is a great God. His ways are perfect.

Switzerland

+ These are days of prayer, fellowship and ministry. God is releasing guidance to me concerning the future, but it is not clear yet. I love you, Lord Jesus. You are so naturally supernatural. May I please your heart this day.

Mar. 30, 1975 – Easter

We're standing on another hill this quiet Easter morn. Last year we stood on Mars Hill in Athens, Greece, but this year it is quiet and cold as we gathered on a little knoll in the German countryside. Snow was lightly falling as we celebrated the resurrection of our Lord.

*Praise the Lord. Our God is alive and enthroned in my heart.

+ This time in Hurlach has been refreshing and blessed. God never fails to meet my need.

Mar. 31, 1975

Now it's on to England. I'm praying about some ministry there.

England

Apr. 1, 1975

Good to be back in England. God sent me an “angel” to meet me at the airport in London—Pauline, a YWAMer from last summer who is a lay-worker in Woolwich. What a surprise to walk through customs and see her! God truly has been “going before me.”

+ God gave me this morning my objectives for these 4-5 days in Britain: 1) Personal encouragement and challenge to my friends here—spending time imparting vision and praying with them that God may receive soldiers for the “army.” 2) Praise! Thanksgiving to God for His goodness and blessings.

Apr. 3, 1975

“You are not ready for anything except to be planted in My work.”

Apr. 5, 1975

The trip is over. Today I fly home to finish my work. What a wonderful month of ministry, insight, travel, and challenge this has been. God is far too good to me.

+ God gave me Isaiah 12 to take home as my theme: “Therefore you shall joyously draw water from the springs of Jesus and in that day, you will say, praise the Lord.” “Make known His deeds among the people. Make them remember His Name is exalted” (vs. 3-4).

God is so great and so wonderful. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for making me whole.

*Now to complete the work at home:

1. God has shown me to give myself to very disciplined and intense study during this time—a lot of reading.
2. This is a time to go deeply in prayer. I must be an intercessor.
3. Finish my discipling.
4. Prepare the group to come to Europe and trust God completely for every provision.

“Great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

Port Orchard, Washington

Apr. 10, 1975

Coming home has been going straight into the fire. What a wrecked situation we are facing in Young Life right now with the lives of so many young people at stake. A huge division has developed in the leadership, which has been brewing for months over the gospel message and call to holiness.

I find it hard to say, but there is sin in the camp which must go, or the work will die. So much prayer has been going up over this. Right now, everything hinges on the response of a couple of people—especially Paul (Olson). Oh, do I wish that we could just come clean before God and be able to move the work forward. There are heavy issues in my mind, and with all my other responsibilities, I greatly need God's wisdom.

+ He promised to answer and gave this word as well: "Do for yourself what the occasion requires, for God is with you" (1 Sam. 10:7).

Apr. 11-13, 1975

Dave (Saavedra) and I have come down to Oregon to be a part of a church retreat with Steve (Wilson's) church. It has been a time of real blessing.

I have presented the gospel simply and pointedly and God has blessed His Word. I believe that laborers for the Kingdom of God will come out of this time.

+ **We need to continually to preach holiness and a call to right living. There is power here, and many kids tapped into it this weekend. This time has re-affirmed to me the need to impart vision to young people.**

Apr. 17, 1975

It seems impossible to relate all the havoc the enemy has wrought in my life of late but suffice it to say that the battle has been fierce—on every front. However, I've learned to abide in my God and learned many wonderful things. I'm learning the reality of these words: (Acts 14:22) – "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God."

+ God's grace remains sufficient for me.

April 19, 1975

I've continued through one of the hardest times of my life...there are many more to come. I still stand on the plain and simple fact that Jesus is worth it all.

+Dan O'Neill and Cherry Boone were with us last night and God really used them to minister to us. Was very inspirational, and as usual, God met many needs.

[On April 20, 1975 my original diary contains some sheets that our team used during the spring to spiritually prepare for the Eurofest outreach. I will share the top part of the sheet here and then stick in the other information on the dates that we used them.]

Spiritual Preparation

+ Ephesians 6:10-18:

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the full armor of God that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.”

“Therefore, take up the full armor of God that you may be able to resist in the evil day and having done everything to stand firm. Stand firm, therefore, having girded your loins with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace, in addition to all taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil one.

“And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God. With all prayer and petition, pray at all times in the Spirit...”

A Christian is a soldier of Jesus Christ. He is involved in a war against sin. This summer we will have the opportunity of becoming more than ‘students in a classroom,’ but rather soldiers in the barracks. Evangelism is warfare against the enemy under the direction and protection of the Captain of our Salvation, the Lord Jesus Christ. To do this, we must begin to prepare ourselves spiritually, physically, and emotionally for the battle.

I pray that the Scriptures and thoughts on this page will help us get ready. Please study them carefully with meditation, giving God every opportunity to mold YOU into a “good soldier of Christ Jesus” (2 Tim.2:3).

[April 20 – Scriptural Preparation for the Nursing Home Help-a-thon: Mk. 10:35-45 – serving, Col. 3:12-17, 23-24 – our attitude, and Matt. 25:14-30 – being faithful. Go over these Scriptures again. We must learn to serve.]

Apr. 23, 1975

As I think back on the past couple of weeks, they seem like a maze of disasters and blessings that are forming a tapestry of service in the Kingdom. So many things have been on my mind: 1) My family situation and the frustration there. 2) The tragedy of Young Life and the sin that is dividing us. 3) The trip to Europe and the prayers, tears, and work that must be done. 4)

And **my relationship with Shirley which has come so quickly, bringing much joy** as well as some confusion. All of this has caused me to look at my life, struggle with some things and seek God for answers. Many of these answers are still coming.

After a time of rest and prayer at Southworth (Beach) this afternoon, I did sense some real encouragement from my Savior:

- **Shirley – “He who finds a good wife finds a good thing and obtains a blessing from the Lord.” Our love is wonderful. In our relationship we must learn to “walk in the Spirit” manifesting His fruits—especially self- control. The onslaught of temptation has been fierce, which must mean that the glory God is to bring will be all the greater! I love her very much.**
- I must “redeem the time” during the next three months, giving ample amounts of time to be with God, to intercession, to study, to times ministering to people, and to my teaching ministry. I’ve become slack and irresponsible here. God has given me this time. I must be His steward.
- If I do not learn to pray more fervently and effectively, I can go no further with God.

*These have been hard, confusing times, but I am thankful to God for His concern and help and I only desire to put my hand in His and keep walking. Take me, Lord Jesus.

Apr. 30, 1975

These have been hard but fruitful weeks since I returned from Africa. God has done wonderful things in many lives and continues to provide for us and guide us concerning the summer ministry and our preparations for it. For this, I give Him praise and glory.

+ Personally, I’ve been struggling. God’s hand has been heavy of late with conviction of sin and lack of courage and zeal looming before my face. The reproofs of the Savior have been somewhat confusing, and I still do not really know what God is saying. I feel weak and unworthy to approach Him and my prayers seem to rebound back to me.

*However, I take hope in my God. He is my Keeper. I am willing to learn. I want to be tender like Him. “Behold how happy is the man that God reproves, so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty. For He inflicts pain and gives relief. He wounds, and He also heals” (Job 5:17,18).

+ I trust You, Lord Jesus.

May 3, 1975

I’m only a sinner saved by grace. I sinned against God (disobeyed my conscience) and God has taken me to the place of wretchedness and reality.

And now, though the walls of the pit still loom about me, I see the light filtering its way into my soul. Create in me a clean heart. God said, “I will be a father to you and you will be a son to Me. When you commit iniquity, I will correct you with the rod of men and the strokes of the sons of men, but my lovingkindness will not depart from you...” (2 Sam. 7:14,15).

*I’m at a pivotal point in my life—and there is no looking back—that I know. I’m being shaken to the roots of my faith and my future. I’m a sinner, saved only by grace.

[May 4, 1975 – Outreach Prep: Eph. 6:14 – the belt of truth

- a. We must understand the gospel – We all need to think through and pray over the basics of the faith. No matter how much zeal and enthusiasm we have, if we do not have a message, we are worthless in the work of God.
- b. Scriptures: 1 Tim. 4:25,16, 2 Tim. 4:1-5, Prov. 11:30, Lk. 1:76-79, 1 Chr.12:32.
- c. Read through and study booklet “Welcome to the Family.”
- d. *See if you can write out the basic Christian message on paper without using an religious terms.]

May 7, 1975

It’s awfully hard to look hard at yourself sometimes, but that’s what God has been doing in my life. He has been dredging my character. This has been one of the most humbling experiences of my life—which means it is probably the most valuable.

Last night before Shirley I just broke down and wept over my sin and pride and God met me. He is so Merciful. I want to face this temptation and problem and gain victory over it.

There is so much pride in my life that God is uncovering. I hate it. I’ve asked the Lord to continue to work in my life until we are through.

[Following is a typed letter to wrote to the parents of the young people committed to going to Europe in the summer of 1975 that I included in my journal]

Dear Parents.

God is doing some wonderful things...As I reflect back on the last couple of weeks as we’ve launched out on our trip preparations, I am amazed at the smoothness that has been apparent...for Eurofest ’75. As we’ve all pitched in and begun to pray and work out practical ways to prepare for our trip, God has faithfully extended His hand to us and met our needs. He has truly proven Himself to be Jehovah-Jireh—the Lord our Provider. For this we are thankful, and in light of what has been happening, I felt it would be appropriate to share those blessings with you all.

It has been a month of many wonderful lessons and much encouraging GOOD NEWS. Here are some tidbits as well as some information that I felt was important for you to know:

- Our Nursing-Home-Help-a-thon was a tremendous time of learning for us all, and a real weekend we won't soon forget. From raking leaves to weeding flower-beds, to visiting the elderly, taking services and doing much singing, it was an intensive time of real blessing...as well as work! There had been much prayer for this time and God richly blessed the time by releasing \$2400 in sponsors! For this we can only thank Him and you for your help and generosity. This is already halfway toward our group goal of \$4500.
- We have also been offered different jobs as a means of raising money individually and as a group, including a couple of house paintings, yard-work, and various other assorted things. It all adds up, and we're praying for more. If you have any ideas in this area, they would be greatly appreciated.
- With the Help-a-thon behind us we now look expectantly toward our next big project—the Rummage Sale. At this stage we are busy gathering in the things that are needed and negotiating a place (We need prayers here.) The sale itself will be the last two weekends in May, and we expect not only funds to come in, but an opportunity for us as kids to yield up to God many of our own things that can not be used in His work. We have never run a rummage sale before and would certainly appreciate any advice/or help, especially from any of the mothers that would enjoy working with us.
- Our final money-raiser will be the weekend of June 15. We will donate our time to several local churches in the area for a weekend of service. This is appropriately called the Serve-the-Church-a -thon as we give to the local Body of Christ as a means of raising the final funds that we need.

Some information that might be helpful:

- Now that we have all located our birth certificates we will be going ahead with getting our passports in a week or so.
- The details concerning the summer and its exact itinerary will be given to you soon. It is now set, and I am excited over the possibilities of it.
- Here is some good news: For those of you who are helping your young person financially or for those kids who are working full-time, I just found out that the cost of the summer outreach (originally estimated at \$225) is completely tax-deductible, if you want to take advantage of that. Just let me know and we'll route the money through the appropriate channels that you may write this off on your tax forms.
- We will be receiving our plane tickets soon, at which time we will have the exact details on our time of departure on July 6. Most likely it will be in the afternoon from Vancouver, flying directly to London (a trip of about 10 hours).

As a group, we are beginning as well to prepare spiritually for the time in Europe as it will be a time of real learning and studying of God's Word and practical application of it. Disciples are learners, and we certainly fit in that category. There is much to learn of God's ways and the needs of people that we all may become lights in this very dark world.

Some bad news: In less than two months your young person will be leaving home for a two-month trip of a lifetime where you will be separated from one another. As I sit writing this, I guess for some this is good news!!! I won't say for who.

Seriously, we are very thankful that God is gently and carefully leading us and providing for our needs. It is wonderful to know and love Him, and that's our prayer for you as well—that through all of this we may be all brought together in love, learning more and more what it means to be servants of one another, while growing up and into the lives that our Great God has in store for “those who love Him.”

Thank you again for your prayers and support. We love and need you. If we can help in any further ways, let us know. Thank you for all that you are doing for us.

God bless you all as we move forward together. I am

Yours in Christ,

Ron Boehme

May 9, 1975

“My mouth shall tell of Your righteousness and our Your salvation all day long.” “I will make mention of Your righteousness, Yours along.” “My tongue shall utter your righteousness all day long” (Ps. 71:15,16,24).

*This is my testimony all day long—to declare the righteousness of the Lord to this generation.

God told me this morning concerning the future. He simply said these words: **“YOU WILL LABOR FOR REVIVAL IN MANY LANDS.”

[May 11, 1975 – Outreach Prep: Eph. 6:14 – The breastplate of righteousness.

- a. A key to our summer ministry will be the maintaining of pure and honest relationships before God and one another—and this will mean sacrifice.
- b. Essential to team strength and unity is purity of heart.
- c. Scriptures: Acts. 2:44-47, Phil. 2:1-11, 1 Jn. 1:7, Ps. 15
- d. *Are we walking purely and transparently before God and one another?]

May 14, 1975

The Lord continues to take me through heavy waters, dredging the depths of my character and causing me to take a good look at who I am.

It hurts bad—but I know who I want to be in Christ. It's ugly to see how I have fallen short. The Lord spoke to me through these verses this morning: "Who may ascend to the hill of the Lord, and who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart...He shall receive a blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation" (Ps. 24:4,5).

*1 Chr. 22:19 – "Now set your heart and your soul to seek the Lord your God. Arise therefore and BUILD the sanctuary of the Lord your God."

[May 18, 1975 – Outreach Prep: Eph. 6:15 – Feet shod with the prep. of the gospel of peace.

- a. We must be "peacemakers."
 - a. Submission in the Body of Christ – an attitude of respect toward our leaders and fellow-workers is a must in any effective ministry.
 - i. Heb. 13:17, 1 Pet. 5:5
 - b. Cultural hospitality – we must communicate the sweetness and peace of Christ in the foreign situations that we encounter.
 - i. Phil. 2:4, 1 Pet. 4:9, 2:12
- b. Grumbling and rebellion are contagious...so is praise. We must be thankful people this summer.

May 19, 1975

God has given me a couple of days to fast and seek His face while staying at my grandparents. I have been leery of this time, feeling like, before God, I am greatly failing Him. At any rate, He led me to begin by completely examining my life in detail before Him on paper—as suggested by Charles Finney in *Revival Lectures* ("Break Up Your Fallow Ground" chapter).

It took nearly four hours, but God really spoke to me and extended His forgiveness. He is such a wonderful God! His grace is so precious to me!

*I wanted to write down areas of sin in my life that the Lord especially showed me. [That list came to over 300 specific memories of individual sins, patterned after the Ten Commandments.] God will give me victory:

1. I must be grateful for the financial provisions of the Lord—especially from my parents, and not take it for granted.
2. The unbelief in my life is great—especially in finances. Lord, I want to learn.
3. I've neglected prayer—especially at night and when tired. I must pray more if I love the Savior.
4. My love and prayers for the "lost" are pathetic—every day from now on.

5. There's **ugly pride in my life in two areas** that I must deal with. The first is that of my appearance and how much time I spend in front of a mirror, and second is the area of my speaking ability. These need to be thoroughly annihilated.
6. This was kind of a shocker—but God really showed me that I have **envy** in my life toward other people. This is awful and ungodly.
7. My reverence for God when I pray by myself. He is the worthiest and most important Person in the world. I must treat Him as such.
8. I must learn to be **completely honest in my words and actions**. I have telling little lies and doing things deceptively. No more.
9. **No longer can I be apathetic when viewing sin. I must speak out for God.**

*My case is before the Judge. I am at the mercy of His grace. Praise His Name that His mercy is as deep as the ocean...

[I ended this special “pruning time” with God at Grandpa and Grandma Boehme’s home on Woods Road by going over to their fireplace, burning up the paper listing my 300+ sins, and having a wonderful and tender Hallelujah Session. Important moments in my life.]

May 20, 1975

The Lord gave me a word of faith this morning concerning our preparation for the summer and His promise to see us through. 1 Kings 6:12-14 – “Concerning this house which you are building, if you walk in My statutes and execute My ordinances and keep all My commandments by walking in them--then I will carry out My word with you...So, Solomon built the house and finished it.”

*If we are faithful God has promised to fulfill our needs. On THAT, Lord, I now stand.

*The Faithful God I believe has released some real guidance to me this day. I will pray over these things in the months to come, but this is how I was led in prayer.

1. **God is calling me to a TEACHER-EVANGELIST ministry, teaching first and maybe doing a little writing. Then that moving into revival-evangelism, which God is longing to see. I will be a prophetic voice.**

a. First, I must learn to serve and pray and be empowered by the Holy Spirit.

2. **I believe the Lord would clearly have me to join the work in Sunland** following the summer. Very possibly during this time in California, He would want me to get a license to preach.

3. God will provide a time for me to spend **some weeks with Brother Gordon Olson in Illinois.**

4. I may be going back to Africa in next year—possibly visit the Stegans in Pietemartitzburg.

*I submit all of this to you, Lord. I love You and want to “fulfill” the ministry You’ve called me to. Without You, I am a wretch. Oh, Jesus, be seen in me and a world converted to my King!

[May 25, 1975 – Outreach Prep: Eph. 6:17 - the shield of faith.

- a. Serving the Lord Jesus takes courage – in Him we trust and put our faith. We will never fail or forsake us.
 - a. Scriptures: Deut. 3:22, 31:6-8, Josh. 1:1-8, Jn. 16:33, 1 Pet. 5:8-10.
- b. Let’s trust the Lord to do miracles in our midst by extending to Him the channel of faith. Jn. 14:11-14, Mk. 11:22-24.
- c. *When I face possible homesickness, fatigue, and doubt this summer, will I rise by faith and put my trust in God?]

May 27, 1975

God continues to prepare us and deepen our lives in getting ready for the summer. He is truly a Faithful God.

+ He gave us wisdom yesterday concerning the Serve-the-Church-a -thon and I praise Him for this. He also abundantly supplied my need. I had prayed for \$10 for my YWAM application and the same day He sent me 30 pounds! I want to be a faithful steward with it. PRAISE THE LORD!

[June 1, 1975 – Outreach Prep: Eph. 6:17 - The helmet of salvation.

- a. Being a witness for Christ is something that you are – not primarily something that you do. If God has saved us from sin, we should ‘wear’ his salvation humbly yet boldly for the world to see. The key is consistency.
- b. Scriptures: Eph. 5:8-10, 1 Pet. 1:13-16, Col.3:5-17.
- c. Living in assurance of eternal life – 1 Jn. 5:11-13, 2:3-5,6, 15-17, 3:8-10, 4:13, Jn. 8:51.
- d. *Is my walk before the Lord consistently honoring to Him? Have I met His conditions for salvation by repenting of my sin and putting my faith in Christ as my Savior and Lord? (Don’t assume this—examine it.)]

June 4, 1975

I seem to be going through a new “test” this week and I believe it is worthy of writing down that the Lord will give me insight.

All this week I’ve felt very tired and almost anemic when sitting down to pray. My mind has been drifty and no matter how much sleep I get, I feel weak and light-headed. Another test

from the enemy? Lord—lead me through. There is so much to be done and territory to be won in prayer.

[Another letter was placed in the journal here to the parents of the summer outreachers.]

June 5, 1975

Dear Parents.

Just want to keep you up-to-date as to how things are shaping up for our summer adventure. God continues to bless us through thick and thin and for this we can only give thanks and breath a lot of deep sighs of relief. Only one month away now as we head down this crucial time of preparation. I especially want to keep you informed and continue to ask for your prayers.

***The Rummage Sale:** My mother told me a few weeks ago that a ‘good’ rummage sale can expect to clear about three-to-five hundred dollars if you work hard and organize well. Do you know what we found out? When you have a RUMMAGE SALE FOR GOD you can expect miracles—and we saw them.

Not only did we have a smooth **three days of sharing and selling down at the Westbay Shopping Center** but blessed our endeavors and prayers by releasing not \$500, not \$100, but **\$1416.80!** For this, we just praise His Name and wonder at the smallness of our faith. Truly “the blessing of the Lord makes rich.” (Prov. 10:22).

With the money from the Rummage Sale being in, we now, as a group have raised \$4000 leaving only around \$600 left to be brought in through our group projects. This is a tremendous incentive for us to begin working and praying for one another concerning our personal needs.

[At the Rummage Sale I fulfilled my commitment to the Lord to “sell all of my possessions” by selling all my athletic equipment (including my pole vault pole) and everything else of value that I owned.]

***Serve-the-Church-a-thon:** This is our final project—an appeal to the Body of Christ to sponsor us by allowing us to serve their various needs. We are generally going to be working and sharing in the various churches that we represent in a variety of ways, from painting and scrubbing and doing maintenance work, to door-to-door evangelism in some areas, to working for different families in the various fellowships.

Each of us is looking for \$100 in sponsors which would put us far ahead of our goal and be able to disperse the funds to many in need. Most of our work will take place the weekend of June 14-15, though it varies from church to church. We would appreciate your prayers in this.

I hope that the Summer Needs list and the Summer Itinerary were helpful. I have one addition to the itinerary, namely our exact flights leaving the US and returning. They are as follows:

- Leave Vancouver July 6 at 1:50 om (Arrive in London 7 a.m. on the 7th)
- Leave London August 31 at 11 a.m. arriving back home in Vancouver at 1:25 p.m. on the 31st.

At this point our greatest need is to begin preparing ourselves spiritually for the wonderful time of training and service opportunity that God has given us for this summer. It is going to be an experience of a lifetime which we will use wisely and to honor the Savior. Pray that God will band us together in these final weeks—deepen our character by the work of His Spirit in our lives—and get us ready.

Thank you for your prayers and support. I remain,

Yours in Christ,

RON

June 6, 1975

I believe the Lord wants me to prepare a message on repentance and a message on faith for the summer. I will trust Him for the revelation.

[June 8, 1975 – Outreach Prep: Eph. 6:17 – The sword of the Spirit – God’s Word.

- We must be ‘people of the Book.’ Only when we feed on the Word can we then use it wisely and effectively as the weapon of truth which will bring people to Christ.
 - Scriptures: Ps. 1, Josh. 1:8, Deut. 8:3.
 - The “Quiet Time.” Ex. 16:12,21, Ps. 5:1-3, Is. 50:4,5
- Practical tips on witnessing.
- *Are you giving God the time He deserves every day? To ‘make God known,’ we first must know Him.

June 9, 1975

God gave me real faith in prayer today to pray for the fullness of provision for our summer. The needs are great, but God is greater, and I thank Him that He has heard our prayer and will supply.

June 11, 1975

Phil. 1:9-10 – “And this I pray that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ.”

*This is God’s “rhema” today. Also, the renewing of the promise: Phil 1:29 – “For to you it has been granted for Christ’s sake not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake.”

[June 15, 1975 – Serve-the Church-a-thon.]

June 18, 1975

I sense today the Lord encouraging and exhorting me into the call of my ministry. I feel a deeper and deeper peace about going to Dallas, but I pray this will be even more clear. God is saying to me, “Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord that you may fulfill it” (Col. 4:17).

June 20, 1975

In my relationship with Shirley, God wants me to be: simple, loving, non-possessive and thankful.

+ I need to learn how to love.

[June 22 – Outreach Prep: Eph. 6:18 – With all prayer and petition.

- a. The absolute essential to any work of God is prayer. “A sinning man will stop praying. A praying man will stop sinning.” There is no way to learn to pray except by praying. We must be people of prayer.
 - a. Scriptures: 1 Thess. 5:17, Phil. 4:6,7, Luke 18:1, 21:36, Matt. 26:41.
- b. Intercession – hearing the voice of God in prayer – Joy Dawson.
- c. *We are as spiritual as our prayer lives. What does this mean for you?

June 23, 1975

Today Shirley and I are at the ocean just relaxing and refreshing ourselves and I just have to reflect on the goodness of God over the past weeks. God has been so faithful to us as we prepare for the summer:

- He has released a bounty of finances. Only a few needs remain.
- He’s teaching us His principles—these have been hard but beautiful.
- He has forgiven us our sins, and I am as great a sinner as anyone else.
- He has been humbling and testing me personally to find out what is in my heart (Deut. 8).

+ He has been God. I love Him.

June 29, 1975

Truly the blessing of the Lord makes rich—God has truly abundantly met all our needs for the summer and I praise Him for His faithfulness and love. During my own personal struggles and battle against sin, God has provided so graciously and lovingly--\$14,000—it’s ALL in. Hallelujah.

*Lord, now prepare us.

July 1, 1975

A matter of days and we will be on our way to Europe...What a busy, prayerful, exciting couple of months have gone by as we've prepared for our summer of Christian service on another continent, and our involvement in Eurofest '75.

We've seen that our God is a very real, practical God who looks after us and provides for our needs as we walk close to Him. Three months ago, we were looking up at the task of raising \$14,000 for our summer trip—and to many, that looked like an impossibility. As I sit here typing this letter, it is no longer an impossible dream or a far-away goal—but a reality. God has provided. Through much work, through the gifts of many, through much prayer and heart-searches as to our lives before God and before others, God has released our financial need, and for this we only praise Him for His faithfulness.

It came in many ways...Checks received through the mail from many sources...One woman came to my door late at night and handed me a check for \$100...through sponsorship in our Nursing-Home-Help-a-thon and the miraculous Rummage sale...through much weed pulling, lawn-mowing, paint-brush wielding and the like...through the gifts of our local churches as well as their love and prayers...money was found in pockets and in Bibles...it just all came in, and the source was ultimately from our Heavenly Father who “gives good gifts to His children.” God really did care and reach down to us.

Outside of the provision, God has been doing a deep work in many of our lives preparing us spiritually for an intensive summer of loving people and showing them the goodness of God. Being a child of God is walking a highway of holy, humble, diligent service. We've learned some precious lessons in this area as God has shown us our sins and the need for confessing and forsaking them—of making our relationships pure and honest before one another. These times of purifying have led to times of real praise as we've glimpsed the workings of God and felt awed by the privilege of experiencing them. In a word, we've learned that God is more concerned about our lives and attitudes than anything else.

All these lessons and provisions of God have been tremendous. Now, before us looms the adventure that we been preparing for. We've learned much, prayed much, trusted a lot—yet now the real tests of faith and love lie in front of us in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

I'd like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to you for all your help, prayers and support. We are very grateful. I pray that we will show our thanks in the fruit of our lives on display this summer.

Jesus aid to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every living creature (Mk. 16:15). In a couple of days, we're going. May we go with your prayers and your blessing, and then return to share the good things that God has done. Truly He is worthy to follow.

Thanks again for being there for us. God bless you in all that you undertake to do in the coming weeks.

Yours in Christ's love,

Ron & Group.

[Two pages of our need and packing list follow this letter in my journal. I won't include the details here.]

July 4, 1975

Last night Shirley and I had a time that is going to be helpful in our future marriage.

***It's true that Shirley and I have come together before God and one another in prayer and made a covenant with the Lord to live godly before Him from this day forward.**

1. I will share the guidelines God has given me with her.
2. Hebrews 12 was precious today: We must "lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus."
3. **God wants our marriage bed to be undefiled (Heb. 13:4).** [By God's grace it was as I was a virgin when we consummated the marriage. I consider that one of the great victories of my early

I praise God for this new perspective He has given me on sin and I only praise Him for His patience with me in this area of weakness. I want to stand for the rest of my life on the words of this Scriptures:

"He shall build a house for My Name...I will be a Father to him and he will be a son to me. When he commits iniquity, I will correct him with the rod of men, but my lovingkindness will not depart from him" (2 Sam. 7:13-15).

+ Praise the Lord!!

Heerde (Heidebeek) – The Netherlands

[July 7, 1975 - Our team of twenty arrived in Holland the morning of July 7 and were transported to the YWAM Heidebeek property that afternoon. Soon after our arrival, we met a homesick young man from Highwood, Montana who was looking for a pay phone to call his parents. Mike

Davison became a close friend of the team, went with Shirley to the 1976 Hurlach School (where he met and married Lynn), and is a good friend to this day.]

July 10, 1975 – Heerde, Holland – YWAM European Kick-off Crusade

+ Had strong thoughts this morning concerning Shirley and our possible marriage in December of 1976 (Christmas?). Read Ps. 101.

July 13, 1975

God is doing some wonderful things at this crusade in Holland. He is really deepening us as individuals and as a group.

Last night Floyd (McClung) spoke on the need for compassion and just broke down before us and sent us out to be with God.

As I knelt in prayer near a field a short distance from the tent, God spoke this Scripture to me: “For I will take you from the nations, gather you from the lands and bring you into your own land. Then I will sprinkle clean water on you and you will be clean. I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idol. Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh” (Ez. 36:24-26).

*I have claimed this promise from the Lord for the coming year.

July 16, 1975

God continues to do mighty things among us here in Europe. He is teaching much about leadership and humility. I only wish I had time to record all the revelations and incidents here.

July 17, 1975

I set my heart to seek the Lord this afternoon concerning guidance for the future, and the Holy One of Israel gave me much revelation. Praise His Name! He is teaching me so much concerning FAITH in His character and His promises, as well as hearing His voice. It was a precious afternoon, and these are the instructions the Lord gave me:

1. Concerning Shirley and our possible marriage, God gave me real assurance of His will. The Godhead were saying, “We will rejoice in you and be glad” (Song of Solomon 1:4). As to the timing of our union, I felt God say that we can come together when we’re ready for God’s work. These are the conditions:
 - a. That I have been established in a life of faith and a ministry.
 - b. That our physical attraction has been conquered and set in a good place.
 - c. That our priorities are straight—God first.

- d. That Shirley is ready to be my help-meet, companion and intercessor—and that our vision be one.
2. I believe that God wants me to stay three weeks (Acts 17) following the Summer of Service in Europe. Until August 21?
3. I will be at home for about two weeks. I must pray specifically about this time.
4. I believe God wants me to spend October and November with Brother Gordon Olson in Illinois. These will be months of study, prayer and fasting.
5. The Lord may have me to go back to South Africa and Rhodesia. I must pray with Jim Rogers concerning this.

July 18, 1975

Another detail God gave to me today concerning Shirley and I: We should prepare biblically for marriage over this year by praying and reading.

Brussels, Belgium

July 26, 1975

We're now at Eurofest '75 In Brussels, Belgium, and this is going to be a challenging time. There are over 7,000 young people here from all over the world. We have a real responsibility to "live Christ" before them.

[Shirley and I spent some days away from the team and events because YWAM needed to track down visas for 50 Egyptians who joined us at Eurofest. We traveled together by van to two or three Belgian cities—and finally accomplished the errand.]

+ I have many questions and mixed feelings about the teaching emphasis here and about the crusade. Something seems wrong. I don't want to judge but to learn and to see people saved and established in God.

*Lord, I ask for specific answers to my questions. I want to serve you here. Protect us all from pride and the attack of the evil one.

July 27, 1975

I believe God gave me a bit of revelation yesterday concerning the future that I failed to write down, and that was in my mind this morning. I foresee being involved in a YWAM evangelistic team that will labor for revival in many places.

Aug. 2, 1975

Eurofest has finished this morning we leave to return to England. It has been a grueling ten days for me in many ways. I really didn't attend much of the schedule and program as I spent all my time getting visas and other things in Brussels.

It certainly was a time of learning much about myself and my weaknesses and about leadership. God answered many prayers during these days and I only thank Him for His faithfulness.

London, England (U.K.)

Aug. 6, 1975

The lessons in faith and leadership continue here in England.

[One lesson I didn't record happened on the trip to England. I was leading our team plus the Egyptian group who came with us (70 people total). We crossed the English Channel by ferry and when we arrived in Dover, it was too early to change money and our train was about to leave for Crawley. I didn't know what to do. How could I get 70 people to their destination without train tickets? At the last moment I yelled for everyone to jump on the train and hope for the best. We traveled to London, and down to Crawley and were *never asked* for tickets the entire time! Quite a miracle of blinding the eyes of the attendants. After getting the group safely to southern U.K., and finally being able to change some money, I went back to the train station the next day, told my story, and paid them hundreds of pounds for our trip. They were amazed too.]

*God spoke to me deeply today concerning my lack of trust in people. Really loving or trusting someone is living to promote their happiness. This applies, of course, to God and to other people for the true saint.

Edinburgh, Scotland

Aug. 12, 1975

We're now into the final three weeks of the SOS in Edinburgh, Scotland. I am leading a team of twelve in the city and learning much.

*We've also come to the end, I pray, of the ugly struggle we've had with sexual temptation. I believe it has been fought—we've fallen more times than I'd like to remember, and now it is won—until we truly become one. "Sustain us with a willing spirit."

Aug. 24, 1975

*Sin is not conquered simply by choices of will. It is conquered by faith in the Savior Who "is our righteousness." My heart must be changed by confident love, not just by battling.

This is a wonderful truth. Jesus IS my sanctification. I must appropriate Him by a faith that works through love.

[At this point in the journal the very first “Vision Page” appears where I lay out my calling and steps to get there. I later called these pages “My Numbered Days.”]

Vision – September 1975

Motivation = Prophecy

Ministry – Teaching-Evangelist

Long-range goal: Evangelistic ministry in many places that will bring revival.

Prayerful Steps:

1. Sept. – weeks with Shirley – preparation.
2. Sept. 21-22 – fly home.
3. Until mid-Oct. – ministry at home.
4. Oct. 15 – Dec. 1 – Illinois with Brother Gordon Olson.
5. Jan – Feb. – Ministry in Africa.
6. Feb. – joining the Dallas YWAM base.

Personal Growth Objectives:

1. Growth in prayer, truth, anointing of power.
2. Living by faith financially.
3. Preparing for marriage.
4. Read three books a month.
5. Get a minister’s license.

Sept. 2, 1975

Right now, I’m at the European YWAM Staff Conference in Chichester, England, and while I was praying last night, I felt God give me real insight into the things He is wanting me to know and the things He is wanting me to do during this time.

1. First, He wants me to see my place in the YWAM family—how I fit in—real clarity as to exactly what I do now and where I go.
2. Second, He wants me to pray. Intercession for the team gone home, prayer for Shirley and our relationship, and intercession for the various leaders at the conference.

Sept. 3, 1975

God is releasing me wonderful vision for the future and the coming months:

1. For the next two weeks He wants Shirley and I to share much, pray a lot together, define our objectives for the coming year, and see the goals we're heading toward.
2. God will release to me specifics during my time at home. I believe there will be some vital ministry.
3. I will be going to Illinois to be with Brother Gordon Olson. I must have clear objectives for this time.
4. I will be going to minister in South Africa and Rhodesia for Dec. and Jan. and then returning to Europe on my way back to the States.

September 5, 1975

The Lord graciously and emphatically assured me today from Psalm 20 that He would supply all my needs for getting home. He will "support me from Zion," This has given me sweet peace and rest concerning His will.

Last night I stood before the Lord and promised before witnesses to be His prophet in this generation. This morning He quickened this Scripture to me: Rev. 10:11 – "You must prophesy again to many people and nations and tongues and king."

Sept. 9, 1975

I have asked the Lord for three things this morning which I will believe Him for: 1) The heart of a prophet, 2) The anointing of a prophet, and 3) The ability of a prophet to hear God's voice.

Hurlach, Germany

Sept. 16, 1975

These days at the Castle with Shirley before my return home have been very rewarding. Through precious and deep times God has continued to expand the horizons of our love and give us real specific goals and plans for the coming year and the future.

I continue to trust the Lord to get me home, and He is seriously testing my faith. I have so much to learn about hearing His voice in prayer and putting child-like trust in it.

*I am also deeply concerned with a real root of pride that has been emerging in my life. I'm praying that God will make me the simple, dynamic, humble servant that He desires.

+ I will trust you my Lord!

Sept. 18, 1975

*Today's a special day of promise from God concerning provision for going home, and I only praise Him for what He is going to do.

He also quickened a Scripture to me that is applicable to the call on my life:

“Luke 1:17 – “For it is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the hearts of the fathers back to the children and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

Sept. 21, 1975

God quickened this Scripture to my heart this morning: Luke 4:43 – “I must preach the Kingdom of God to the other cities also, for I was sent for this purpose.”

*I will preach the gospel in many cities.

Sept. 23, 1975

Today I leave for home from Germany. This has been a precious and very valuable time in Hurlach with Shirley.

God has welded us together and completed out vision for the coming year and for the future. Though our parting will not be easy, it is so clearly the good hand of God that I am anxious and ready to begin.

+ God gave me one last big fat promise this morning from Luke 6:38—that I had been faithful in giving and that He would abundantly supply my way home.

Sept. 26, 1975

Two words this morning come from the Lord as I prepare to go home: 1) From Psalm 127:1 – My time at home will not necessarily be easy and I must let God “build the house,” and 2) From Luke 9 – “Go everywhere and preach the Kingdom of God”—this will be my message.

Morristown, New Jersey

Sept. 28, 1975

I'm finally on my way home after some restful days in New Jersey with the Pinajians (Jack & Joy, whom I met in New Zealand in 1972). Was a relaxing time.

Now the challenge begins. In my reading this morning God made alive this verse in Zech. 1:16 – “I will return to Jerusalem with compassion. My house will be built in it, declares the Lord of hosts.”

+ Through some people in New Jersey, God had already been speaking to me of the need for compassion during my time at home, and this only confirms it. Also—the house will be built—my ministry will be completed in Port Orchard. This is a wonderful promise and I vow to be faithful.

*With Your wisdom and strength, Lord Jesus, I am ready.

Port Orchard, WA

Sept. 29, 1975

Zech. 4:9 – “The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house and his hands will finish it... (6:15) if you completely obey the Lord your God.”

October 5, 1975

God’s provisions have been abundant and His grace sufficient--since I’ve been home. My times with my family have been good as well as my preparations for finishing my work.

My biggest concern and constant prayer focus have been leaving behind a growing, maturing fellowship and God has given revelation concerning it.

I believe He wants an “eldership” of guys to bear the brunt of the leadership (Ezra 6:7) and from them to come forth a clear vision for ministry to the unsaved and to believers.

*Lord, I trust You to bring this to pass. It is Your spiritual house.

October 7, 1975

God has continued to burden me in prayer and thought with the work at home. Again, this morning He spoke to me out of Ezra concerning the spiritual eldership He is going to raise up (Ezra 7:28) and that we should fast and seek His face together (8:21-13).

October 10, 1975

I talked with Shirley on the phone last night and it only made me realize how much I love and miss her. She is a precious gift from God.

God continues to confirm the vision for the fellowship. “It will be built”—Ezra 3&4.

Oct. 16, 1975

These final days at home for me are just flying by. There are so many people to see, things to be done, a ministry to be established and left behind.

Yesterday we printed fifty copies of my manual. I pray that God will use it here.

+ Lord – “Remember me for good” for the work that has been done here. I need you now more than ever. I love you. **Help me to see it finished and satisfied** that my labors have not been in vain.

Oct. 17, 1975

I believe the Lord would have Shirley and I to be married on Dec. 12th of next year. I will share this with her for prayer. It is a Sunday.

Acts 6:4 – “But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the Word.” This applies to my time in Illinois.

Oct. 18, 1975

God wants me to share tonight at my final fellowship meeting out of Colossians 3—Christ IS our life. What I share with them applies to me as well – Job 4:6 – “Is not your fear of God your confidence and the integrity of your ways your hope.”

Oct. 20, 1975

I’m on my way again—this time to Illinois to study with Brother Gordon Olson. Lord, I’m going for You. Show me your way. I want to “fulfill my mission” (Acts 12:25). I am totally dependent on You, my Lord. Teach me. Break me. Mold me—and use me.

Chicago, Illinois with Gordon Olson

Oct. 24, 1975

These have been precious days with Brother Gordon Olson in Franklin Park, and now he is gone to Europe to each and I am on my own to seek the Lord and study His ways.

God gave me much revelation this morning concerning Shirley and my relationship and the beauty of it. In giving her to me, God is teaching me deeply the true love of forgiveness—which is the love of Christ. In giving me to her, God is teaching her the beauty of grace. At the same time, in the strength of love and devotion to me, God is teaching me faith and confidence.

+ These are all so wonderful and I magnify the Lord for every detail.

Oct. 27, 1975

Today I begin a two-week fast that I believe the Lord is laying on my heart. I set aside these days to seek the face of my God and especially for a new fullness or baptism of the Holy Spirit upon my life. Out of Acts 27:33-35, I believe God confirmed the duration of this time that I will set aside for God (14 days).

*Lord, I am yours to be taught, deepened, strengthened, humbled, and sent forth with power. Luke 24:46-49 is the promise I stand on. Endue me with “power from on high” for Your work.

Oct. 28, 1975

As I meditated in the book of Jeremiah. God quickened this Scripture to me as a promise: “If you extract the precious from the worthless you will become my spokesman” (Jer. 15:19). I believe this Scripture applies directly to my studies here—that God wants me to “pull out” the precious gems of the true Gospel message from the “worthless.”

Oct. 30, 1975

Felt especially led of the Lord this morning to intercede for the India team and the land they’re going to. Also, God placed on my heart the nations of Portugal and Spain, and Dan Secrist’s ministry there.

My fast continues. Lord, open my eyes and fill me with Yourself.

God has continued to show me my need to know Him. This should be the object of my fast—just waiting in His presence, sitting at His feet, and allowing His purity and power to flow through me.

Nov. 1, 1975

The Lord graciously gave me much revelation this morning in many areas, mainly: 1) The extent and emphasis of my call, and 2) Details concerning people’s lives to whom I’m responsible spiritually. **Prayed for revival!**

Nov. 2, 1975

“I have not departed from the command of His lips. I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food” (Job. 23:12).

Nov. 5, 1975

I broke my fast this morning after ten days of not eating for the cause of the Lord. It was a very valuable time. I'm finding that God's order in changing a life is revelation, which leads to love, and love leads to power. The baptism of the Spirit is a baptism of benevolence.

According to His promise of ten days, God again gave me much insight into my own life—the preparation of it to date and the work which He has for me.

Interestingly, as I began the book of Galatians today, God showed me that my time of preparation for the ministry has been nearly the same, almost to the month, as the experience of Paul—three years.

During his three years Paul was in Arabia and Syria learning the message and dynamic of the Gospel by “revelation” (Gal.1:12). That has been the story of my life since the fall of 1972. Then Paul settled into the ministry in Antioch for a time—then God released him. I see some real parallels in my life.

Oh, that the depth of the heart knowledge of God and love for Him and His people would be like Paul's!

The insights that God gave me pertaining to the future have to do with the ministry of revival. 1) More and more I “see” the reality of the team God wants me to raise up to labor in this way, and 2) My call in life is going to have two elements: see revival, a move of God and be active in promoting it and teach others to do the same.

*Even as I write these words, God shows me how this makes sense with the motivations I have: prophecy and leadership. Lord--Your ways are good and true. Give me enough grace to go on.

Nov. 7-9, 1975

I spent the whole weekend with Brother Harry Conn and his wife, ran, at their home in Rockford, Illinois. It was a tremendous time of learning, reading, chatting and resting at their lovely home. Harry is a great man of God that has had a great effect on my life.

God especially showed me one thing this weekend, and that is I must set unflinchingly and unwaveringly the Gospel of the Kingdom of God as my “message” and only message. I cannot allow myself to get side-tracked into other truths and theories: My ministry MUST be to simply, probingly lead people into getting right with God.

I must be a man of one message. This is my call. It is where my power with God will lie.

*I must pray about spending some time this year with a man named Jim Hamilton, a professor at Asbury Seminary in Kentucky.

Nov. 11, 1975

“So, the Lord directed those who proclaim the Gospel to get their living from the Gospel” (1 Cor. 9:14).

Nov. 14, 1975

Today is the day that Shirley and I set aside to fast. What the Lord said: Preach the word. Prayed for Shirley and I and our country. God, visit us with Your power.

Nov. 18, 1975

Had the privilege last night of attending a fellowship that Ken Olson is involved in. It was a very needy group and God allowed me to share for over two hours. There was much conviction of sin and “light” that went out, and for this I just thank God that He is faithful to His promises.

After the meeting, God led me to share very bluntly with a guy and girl concerning their smoking—and I had the boldness of God to rip up the cigarettes. I also talked and prayed with a middle-aged man named Ralph who was under heavy conviction to the point of sweating profusely. Later I found out he was a professional gambler. Prayed for his deliverance.

*Lord, thank You for your truth and power. The glory is Yours.

+ This is my last week at Brother Gordon’s. I am putting together a one-week moral government teaching series and I finished it late last night. I pray that God will anoint it mightily.

Nov. 22, 1975

God gave me a “commissioning” Scripture to claim as I prepare to embark tomorrow for some months of ministry. Matthew 11:1 – “And it came about when Jesus had finished giving instructions to His twelve disciples, He departed from them to teach and preach in their cities.”

*My calling: Teaching and Proclaiming the Kingdom of God.

Nov. 24, 1975

I’m on my way to do just that—to expand and proclaim the Kingdom of God. I left Brother Olson’s this morning for Finland after a very complex and frustrating travel fiasco which has left me a day late. I’m now in route to Copenhagen and then up to Finland. The truth of God burns in my soul. I only pray for the strength to deliver it.

*I need a miracle to get a visa to enter South Africa due to some negligence on their part. My God is a miracle-working God. Amen.

Helsinki, Finland

November 26, 1975

I've begun my series here in Finland and God is blessing the Word. The school sits in a beautiful location—on the tip of a peninsula off an island in the southwest part of the country. YWAM is using the grounds of a recreational center that is owned and operated by a Christian businessman here. It's a lovely situation.

There are eleven students plus a few staff and some very eager, sincere young people. God has quickened this Scripture to me concerning my stay here and on it I stand: Psalm 115:1 – “Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to Your Name give glory, because of Your lovingkindness, because of Your truth.”

November 29, 1975

God continues to bless His Word. I have been very conscious of His anointing throughout this time and for this I give thanks. I sense a real spirit of understanding being manifested among the students and for this, too, I am grateful.

Last night I shared on the atonement, and God was wonderfully present. At the end, many were weeping softly, and we dismissed to go be with the Lord. Praise His wonderful Name.

November 30, 1975

Concluded my week of ministry in Finland by preaching in the evening at a Pentecostal Church near Helsinki. God was present, I believe, as I ministered the Word.

Now it's on to Germany and a reunion with my sweetheart. God is precious.

Germany

On Monday I met Shirley at the train station and we spent two-and-a-half wonderful days together. Our love grows deeper and deeper by the moment. I so deeply love her and long for her to be my companion in the service of the King of kings.

Yesterday, we traveled by train back to Hurlach together where I will wait for a visa to enter South Africa. I need the hand of the Lord to be upon me. I praise Him that His presence was certainly with us in Frankfurt. We are extremely grateful, Lord, for your special times of provision for us.

December 6, 1975

After a few days in Hurlach pushing through my visa, I'm now on my way back to Africa. God has been doing so much teaching:

1. Shirley and I have spent five wonderful days together learning, growing and especially beholding this—that our love is deeper than we could ever say. God gave me a promise for us out of Phil.2:2 this morning – “make my joy complete by being of the same mind,

maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.” Our desire to serve God together is becoming an inseparable reality that brings nothing but tears to my eyes from the heart.

2. Read Psalm 76 this morning and sensed a real need in my life for a greater depth of humility.
3. I am learning patience in traveling.

+ Now on to the ministry in Africa. God, use me for Your glory.

Johannesburg, South Africa

Dec. 8, 1975

The work has begun and oh how I need the strength, presence and the divine unction of God! I’ve begun teaching at the DTS here to about 50 students and it has not been easy. All I can say is that I need God so badly right now. I want to please Him and impart life to these kids. To be honest, I’ve been a bit lonely.

*Lord Jesus—I flee to You for love and power. I am Your servant.

Dec. 15, 1975

Today I finish my week’s series here at Bethel Manor and I praise and thank God for His blessing upon it.

On Thursday as I spoke on sin, there was a powerful move of conviction—great as I’ve ever seen. Kids were weeping, and we were praying so earnestly that we went right through the dinner hour. The same solemnity was present in the evening.

Many young people have hopefully been saved during this time. For this I humbly give thanks for the outpouring of God’s grace.

Now I pray that “in humility they will receive the word implanted which is able to save their souls.”

*God has been taking me much deeper in prayer and I only long to go on. Oh, to know Him in the prayer closet! The key to my usefulness lies here. If I cannot learn to prevail with God, I will certainly never be able to prevail with men.

Dec. 18, 1975

John 4:34 – “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work.”

+ Various ministering opportunities have been offered here in South Africa, and I want to very simply and fully do God’s will and accomplish His work.

Dec. 21, 1975

I am ending my stint here in South Africa among the discipleship camp young people by being involved in a weekend of outreach in the heart of Johannesburg. Last night we had an open air and did street work and today we'll be going back to the same area. Tomorrow I leave for Salisbury (Rhodesia).

*This has been a lovely and profitable time of ministry and I'm praying that the fruit will only multiply.

Salisbury, Rhodesia (Zimbabwe)

Dec. 22, 1975

As I fly into Salisbury, the word of the Lord is: "show discernment and ask of Me" (Ps. 2).

Dec. 24, 1975

I must hear from God concerning my remaining months in Africa. Many doors are opening wide and I only want to be obedient to my Savior. Lord Jesus, please "direct my paths."

Christmas Day, 1975

On the day in which we commemorate the birth of our Savior, I am reminded of how I am born into His family and saved from my sin. How precious is His salvation! Praise God for what He has done.

+ I believe this is going to be a year of prosperity. Oh, may the fullness of Jesus be born into my life.

Dec. 31, 1975

As another year is ending, I can only fall on my knees and worship God for what has been a tremendous year of blessing.

The opening month saw Shirley's God-encounter along with many others as I shared the word of God at home. The ensuing month saw the Lord bring Shirley and I together to show us that we were to marry in 1976 to work for Him as a couple. As I continued to minister the word at home and in Africa, though there was much opposition and trial, the word of God triumphed and bore much fruit.

The summer months were important days of ministry in the streets of Europe as twenty of us (from Kitsap County) went to share and grow as disciples. In the fall I completed the work in

Port Orchard and stepped into God's service full-time which He had promised and prepared me for over nearly three years.

Following a great time of study in Illinois, I have been ministering truth on different continents, bringing many "the knowledge of salvation," beginning my call, growing in God, preparing for marriage, growing in grace and learning to labor for revival.

*Lord Jesus—thank You for Your abundance. 1975 was a year of beginnings. 1976 will be the same, and in it, I pray that You would expand my capacity for service and effectiveness and use me to bring glory to Your Name. Amen.