

The Journal of Ron Boehme - 1976

Salisbury, Rhodesia (Zimbabwe)

My Numbered Days – January 1976

Motivation: Prophecy

Ministry: Teacher/Evangelist

+ Long-range Goal: Evangelistic team ministry that will labor for revival and teach others to do the same—worldwide.

+Prayerful Steps:

1. African Ministry [3 months]
 - a. Rhodesia – Jan. 1-16, South Africa Jan. 16-30
 - i. South Africa SOE – Jan. 17-25
 - b. Pietermaritzburg – Jan. 26 – Feb. 22-29
 - c. Bethel Manor
 - d. Leave Mar. 4?
2. Germany – Mar. 5 on
3. Return to United States.
 - a. New Jersey
 - b. Gordon Olson's – week
 - c. Join Dallas base
 - d. SOS – Philadelphia and Montreal.
 - e. Home with Shirley – Sept.
 - f. 2 months: study & prayer? (Jim Hamilton)

+ Personal Growth Objectives:

1. Deepening as a man of prayer.
2. Reading a minimum of three books a month.
3. Getting a license to minister – Dallas.
4. Learning principles of revival.
5. Preparing for marriage.
 - a. Trusting Shirley
 - b. Freedom from jealousy.
 - c.

Jan. 1, 1976

As I began today what I believe is going to be a year of real fruit for God, I was especially reminded of God's three gifts to me as found in Genesis 2 and Luke 1.

First, are the precious promises of the Savior in Luke which reminds me of my greatest gift, the gift of life—eternal life as found only in Jesus. As well this morning God quickened to me portions in Luke which I believe are applicable to my ministry—my second gift—that I will go on “before the Lord in the spirit and power of Elijah to prepare His ways, to give to His people the knowledge of salvation. “My call is revival.”

And third, in Genesis 2 are some precious verse concerning God making a “helper suitable to him,” and in Shirley, God's third great gift to me, I find my final joy.

+ My salvation, my call and my Shirley. These are God's three great gifts to me which will be reminders year by year.

*Lord Jesus—how could I thank You but with the offering of my life...

Jan. 4, 1976

God is solving some problems we've been encountering here amongst the team which has been a heavy weight, and I now feel that we are truly ready to move forward in unity. God's words for me concerning the need for discernment and prayer have been very appropriate.

Jan. 7, 1976

God has quickened many verses in the past few days concerning His faithfulness and specifics in guiding me regarding my remaining time in Africa and my time in Germany. I will rest and be confident in Him.

Jan. 9, 1976

Because of the difference in views on the team here and what appears to me to be a lack of willingness on the part of some, as we shared on the atonement last night, there were real problems.

This morning God showed me my error—I must stress the positives in this area so that I do not put people on the defensive. I have been wrong here and confessed it to the Lord.

After a “heavy” beginning, He has encouraged me to “proclaim the Kingdom of God” and to let the “dead” remain in death (Luke 9:60), but to be encouraged because I will see the “goodness of the Lord in the land of the living” (Ps. 127:13).

+ I will wait for God, be strong, take courage and keep on speaking more positively, more humbly, and prayerfully desiring that the unity of heart and mind will come to the team here.

Jan. 12, 1976

As I finish up my time in Rhodesia, I believe the following are my godly priorities:

1. To be humble and thorough in finishing my teaching.
2. To be individually prayerful as to the “legs” of ministry now approaching.
3. To pray a lot with Steve (Herzig) and others.
4. To finish *Revival Lectures* and prepare my heart.

Jan. 16, 1976

I finish my work in Rhodesia today. This morning we sat around and shared concerning our understanding of the Gospel and then I prayed over each one. My pray for them is that oneness of heart and soul that they must have to realize revival in this nation.

May Acts 6:4 be their theme and mine: “Oh God, how I desire to see people directed to prayer and to truth, and in so doing, will be used to usher in your Kingdom (Matthew 6:33).

*Now I move on to bring these things into being in my own life.

South Africa

Jan. 18, 1976

The keys to my South Africa ministry: humility and prayer. Tonight, I begin, and I am trusting God for this school.

***God gave me lovely and full revelation this morning concerning my attitude toward Shirley and our sexual union. May I ascribe before heaven and hell this day that I am called wonderfully and lovingly to forgive and forget all past sexual sin and love her from the heart. As I gather her into my arms on our wedding night, from that moment forth and for every day of our marriage, I want to make her feel as a pure virgin flower. My love for her will “cover” all things. With the help of God, I will live out 1 Corinthians 13 to her in this area. My Lord—this is my promise this morning. Thank you for this truth. I will show Your love to Shirley. Amen.

Jan. 20, 1976

My calling in life is to teach the ways of salvation and in so doing to proclaim the Gospel. This was the style of Jesus Himself (Luke 20:1) and God strongly emphasized to me this morning that this is to be the norm in my ministry as well.

Jan. 24, 1976

Praise God for His faithfulness! This had been a very hard week as I had been ministering with a great burden, little sleep, and not much conviction. Well, last night as I spoke on the

atonement, God came down in power, and though I stood dry-eyed and tired before the whole room, kids just broke down and wept and hopefully got right with God. It was glorious and moving and I thank God that despite my shallowness, His work in human lives is truly “by His Spirit.

[Some time during the month of January—not recorded in my journal—I took an eight-hour train ride to a town in South Africa where a friend helped me cut a special diamond and have it set for an engagement ring for Shirley. I would give it to her as a surprise in Germany in March—not knowing that the greatest “surprise” would be for me.]

Pietermaritzburg Revival Crusade

Jan. 29, 1976

Having finished my work at Bethel Manor, God has been pleased to take me down south for nearly a month of ministry—most of it in the city of Pietermaritzburg. Right now, I’m taking a “working holiday” in a small town up in the mountains called Matatiele. As yet, it hasn’t been much of a holiday as I’ve been ministering in a Full Gospel Church here—also my hay fever has been acting up and this has caused some concern.

Today, I felt much refreshed, burdened for those around me, and dependent on God to take me on. The Scripture in Ex. 23:20-22 was quickened to me this morning. I must “obey” God’s voice, follow His “lead,” and prepare. He will not disappoint me if I have FAITH.

Feb. 3, 1976

[While in the city of Pietermaritzburg, east of Johannesburg toward the coast (Durban), I stayed with Geoff and Libby Milborrow and their son, Peter (whom I’d met at the Jo’burg school and who asked me to come to minister in his home city. We became close friends and Peter came to America six months later to be in our wedding party. I also met David Peters—a leader in African Enterprise—during these weeks, spent time in his Indian home (eating “mother-in-law curry”—the hottest), and enjoyed great fellowship with his family.]

In bringing me to the city of Pietermaritzburg, God has given me the greatest privilege and challenge of my life. I arrived here on Saturday and since then God has thrust me into the full swing of a three-week campaign that I trust will bring revival to this city.

This first week I have been speaking in many places around town, introducing myself to the Body of Christ and sharing my reasons for coming. Thus far God has truly answered prayer and a lovely spirit of support and expectancy have been prevalent. After the first week, I will begin two weeks of revival teaching to an interdenominational gathering in a downtown hall.

+ Oh, God—use me for good. Establish this work of my hands by using me to bring Holy Ghost revival to the people.

[In my journal what follows is a page spelling out the details of my weeks of teaching in Pietermaritzburg. I include it below.]

the Call to Revival



A SERIES OF MESSAGES CONCERNING THE TRUTHS OF GOD THAT IF APPLIED,
WILL BRING SPIRITUAL AWAKENING TO OUR LIVES AND COMMUNITY.

SPEAKER: Ron Boshac, Fulltime Teacher-Evangelist with Youth With A Mission.
VENUE: Methodist Hall, Chapel Street, Pietermaritzburg.
DATES: February 9 - 14, 17 - 20
TIME: 7.00 p.m.

SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED:

- | | | | |
|-----------|------|---|--|
| Monday | 9th | - | <u>"The Call to Revival"</u> - general introduction to the subject of revival and its blessing through the life of an Old Testament Saint. |
| Tuesday | 10th | - | <u>"Prayers that Prevail"</u> - the means to effective intercession that releases God's power. |
| Wednesday | 11th | - | <u>"The Law of the Lord"</u> - a discussion of the philosophy, necessity and beauty of the moral law of God. |
| Thursday | 12th | - | <u>"Exposing the Syndrome"</u> - answering the question of what sin really is. |
| Friday | 13th | - | <u>"The Reconciliation of the World"</u> - a fresh look at the wonderful atonement in Christ. |
| Saturday | 14th | - | <u>"True Conversion"</u> - what it really means to become a Christian. |
| Tuesday | 17th | - | <u>"You are to be Perfect"</u> - the truth about Biblical holiness as a condition of salvation. |
| Wednesday | 18th | - | <u>"Love is not a Feeling"</u> - what it means to really love - the whole of Christianity. |
| Thursday | 19th | - | <u>"Guard your Conscience"</u> - the importance of spiritual sensitivity and the need for maintaining a blameless conscience before God and men. |
| Friday | 20th | - | <u>"The Challenge - It's Yours"</u> - practically applying these truths to revival, beginning with yourself. |

* * * * *

+ God has given me many lovely promises concerning my time in “Maritzburg”—and these Scriptures tell the story: Is. 66:2, 1 Tim. 4:12-16, Eph. 1:15-21, Ex. 10:26, Luke 20:1, Acts 5:42, and Deut. 31.

For this time, I must be humble, prayerful, as a young man, be an example—press in to know God and teach His ways.

Feb. 5, 1976

During this intense ministry schedule God simply calls me to FOLLOW—to obey, to do simply what He asks me to do. In that I rest.

Feb. 10, 1976

As I’ve begun my labors for revival in Pietermaritzburg, a terrific heaviness and uncertainty concerning my meeting with Shirley has been hard to bear.

In prayer this afternoon I felt God lift the weight... and I believe He would have me to fly into Germany for a short time, possibly the first week in March to share with her, and give her the engagement ring, and then to move on in wisdom and discretion. This is the second time God has led me this way in prayer and I will now await confirmation from other sources.

+ Thank you, Lord, for giving me peace in this which frees me to concentrate on my labors here. I love You for it—and want to be used for Your maximum while in this city.

The meetings continue tonight...

[I worked with a “team” during the “Maritzburg Revival Crusade” in which Steve Herzig was my “Father Nash” in prayer and others stood behind our work of revival.]

Feb. 13, 1976

Our meetings are being attended by the blessing of the Lord, and yet we are still praying and believing God for the breakthrough--. Was a splattering of conviction and breaking last night, but we are still waiting for the showers of blessing.

*I believe God gave me specific direction concerning the duration of my stay in Africa. I believe God wants me to leave here the weekend of March 6 as that will make 3 months that I’ve been ministering: “And there he spent three months” (Acts 20:3), “and continued speaking out boldly for three months (Acts 19:8).

+ I will accept this from the Lord and await confirmation.

Feb. 16, 1976

It's a day of "refreshing" for me as I sit beneath a large waterfall I've hiked up to which is located on the property of a friend who owns a farm here near Natal. I've come out for the day to gather my strength in preparation for the coming week.

God is beginning to move... On Saturday evening as I spoke to a full house on "True Conversion," as I gave an appeal at the end, many streamed forward to get right with God. There was a lovely emphasis on the need for confession and restitution and this brought a sense of humility to all.

As I preached twice on Sunday, I was very aware of the indications of God that His people were being revived. Yet, though, this has only been individuals.

Coming is the crucial week, and I believe if the ministers of the people will lead their flocks in humbling and confession of guilt, the showers from heaven will come.

*Lord—open my lips and heart to meet the challenges in humility and compassion.

Feb. 20, 1976

My two weeks of city meetings end tonight. They have been profitable, grueling, and though I am not fully satisfied, I believe that many people have been personally revived, gone through lovely encounters with God, and that the seeds have been sown that will bring a mass awakening to this city.

Much remains to be done—some barriers need to come down... some sins need to be faced, and I am just praying that in my remaining week here, God will use me to the greatest degree to meet these needs.

"The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want."

Feb. 25, 1976

After a lovely weekend camp of furthered prayer and teaching out of God's Word, last night the people of the city gathered for one final evening together, and it was precious.

God has lit revival fires in the hearts of many, and as we shared and interceded together last night, it was evident that the work of God had begun.

I was led to share out of Philippians 2 on the need for deep humility now as we face the task ahead. There has been much opposition to my work—even public criticism in the newspapers—however it seems like the attack of the enemy is only rallying God's children together to fight him in force.

For this, I give God glory. After a few days of final ministry around town, I will be on my way. Lord—**keep the fire burning**, ever only for You.

Feb. 28, 1976

As my time in “Maritzburg” comes to an end, God is dealing with me, speaking to me, and I pray using me, as I minister around town. What a precious time of learning this has been. I thank the lovely Savior for it all.

As I’ve continued to wait on the Lord concerning some of the details in Shirley’s and my relationship, I have been conscious of my tremendous need for growth in love and understanding and insight.

Today I believe God gave me this principle concerning our relationship: Give to her-----
Receive from Me---Pursue your work.

*I have much to learn in these areas, and I only ask you, Lord, to teach me.

Mar. 2, 1976

My time in Pietermaritzburg now being finished, I am again at Bethel Manor for a few days until I leave Africa. God has given me some ministering opportunities and I take advantage of them gladly as well as to prepare for the weeks and months ahead.

More than anything this morning I worshipped God for His goodness to me and for His guidance. I feel assured of His will in many areas and am just going to move ahead in faith. He will direct my paths.

Mar. 3, 1976

“Go your way...and he began following him on the road” (Mk. 10:52).

+ I’m on that “road” again as I have finished my work on the Dark Continent. It’s now on to Switzerland and Germany and then back to the States.

*I’m very weary...but even more grateful. I follow my King...

Switzerland

Mar. 5, 1976

After a lovely but quick day of reunion and fellowship in Lausanne, I am now on to Germany. God is so wonderfully giving me strength and understanding as I travel. I praise Him for this. **He never fails**. *Was so good to see Don Stephens, Dan and Bob, Tom Jennings, and Wilbert van Laake at the Hotel. Lord—bless and use them I pray.

Germany

Mar. 11, 1976

These have been days of intense learning. Shirley and I have now been together in Germany for a few days, and after an emotional start, God has once again been molding us together, teachings us deeply what it really means to love another person and has given us much insight into our plans for marriage and how to pursue that path.

[I surprised Shirley with the ring I'd taken great time and expense to purchase in South Africa. To my shock and dismay, she didn't like it! It wasn't her simple style—and she gave it back to me. She wasn't rejecting me, just a SA ring. This was a great, but humbling first lesson in marriage on the importance of “knowing your spouse...”]

God has probingly been showing me personally how very little, intimate Christ-like love I do have. This has been a good revelation, but hard to bear. Oh, do I want to love as Jesus loves!

It has also been a joy during this time to have Brother Gordon Olson teach at the school and to help him in ministry among the students. Jesus' love dwells in his soul. That is my prayer during this time.

March 15, 1976

I just finished spending eleven very important days with Shirley in Hurlach. Little did I know what I would encounter upon my arrival...and it certainly turned out to be eleven surprising days. However, I can truly say that the Lord humbled us and taught us and met us during this time—and because of that our relationship now sits on the surest foundation we've ever had.

Out of the conflict, doubt and tears has emerged a depth of realistic love and commitment that I believe has been sent down from heaven. God knew that we needed it badly. Our love was unsure, our feelings running rampant, and worst of all, we were doubting God's desire and ability to merge us into one.

We no longer doubt. And as we now face our last long separation of three months, we do it with healthy expectancy. God is in control.

He has shown us to meditate in Galatians 6, 1 Corinthians 13 and Philippians 2:2 until we meet again. He is teaching us to love: we want to learn, and we WILL with His help and direction.

*Thank you, Lord Jesus, for caring so much for us. May we ever live for Your glory and come together in the beauty of holiness.

Morristown, New Jersey

Mar. 16, 1976

I am staying with Jack and Joy Pinajian and their kids in Morristown, New Jersey for a few days. Two priorities of learning for me in the coming months: patience and trust.

[I also gave Jack the ring to dispose of somehow in Morristown. He later told me that he hocked it in a pawn shop. I hope some bride did enjoy it.]

Mar. 19, 1976

As I prayed and waited on the Lord concerning my vision for an evangelistic team in '77, I felt that God would possibly wait until summer or fall to launch it. And that the first part of the year Shirley and I would spend time together traveling and ministering and beginning our marriage on a firm foundation. I will continue to seek the Lord concerning this.

Mar. 22, 1976

Today I'm off again...this time to Chicago for a week of business and material preparation. I really thank the Lord for this week of recuperation in New Jersey.

New York/Chicago

On Saturday we visited New York City and what I saw there greatly increased my burden for this nation. Oh, does this sin-sick world need the precious Savior. With His help, that is my task.

Mar. 23, 1976

God quickened to me some items in prayer this morning as I just waited before Him. Many are details, but I believe all are important in His work.

1. I'm to send Edward a "large quantity" of money for his trip to America. This will depend on my expenses here.
2. I'm to keep the ring that I bought for Shirley.

Mar. 25, 1976

"So, the Lord gave Israel all the land which He has sworn to give their fathers and they possessed and lived in it." "And the Lord gave them rest on every side." "Not one of the good promises which the Lord had made to the house of Israel failed" (Joshua 21:43-45).

*God quickened to me these Scriptures this morning, reinforcing to me that ALL He has promised me for my life He will bring to pass.

Mar. 27, 1976

Today I fly into Texas to begin to possibly “root” my ministry there. God has been “testing” and “humbling” me during these days in Franklin Park, and I bless Him for it and thank Him for caring so much. I go prayerfully in faith—this is an important step in the unfolding of my work for God.

*Lord, may it be to Your honor and glory. I want to clothe myself with Your love and humility and in so doing, be a blessing to Your heart.

Texas

Mar. 28, 1976

God has brought me to the “Lone Star State.” Jim and Jan Rogers met me at the airport yesterday when I flew into Dallas and then we had a lovely day together as we drove up to Lindale, talked and looked around.

At dusk, Jim took me on a little tour of David Wilkerson’s ranch, the Agape Force property, our [YWAM’s] large property, and then after dinner we came out to the school.

*This morning as I waited on God, of course, my biggest and apparent need was for guidance. What am I to do here for these months? How does this fit into the clear vision God has given me?

I believe these questions will be answered soon so I can get on with the work. Lord, I’m trusting You with all my heart. Show me the path You have for me.

[At this point in the journal is my vision sheet with the same colors I used to write it.]

My Numbered Days – Apr. ‘76

+ Long-range Goal: Evangelistic team ministry that will labor for revival and teach others to do the same—world-wide.

+ Prayerful Steps:

1. Join Dallas YWAM Ministry
 - a. Apr. 1-18 – Spirit in ’76 Rally prep – CA & WA – 26th.
 - b. Apr. 26 – July – Spirit in ’76 – New Jersey.
 - i. Office coordination – rally program
 - ii. Teach on the Wagon Train – Pennsylvania DTS
2. Summer of Service – Philly through July 16
 - a. July 17 – Aug. 2 – Montreal, Aug 3-16 – Boston.
 - i. Leadership Conference – week in Morristown, NJ – Wash. D.C.?

3. September 4 to October – home with Shirley
4. November – month of study – with Gordon? Jim Hamilton? Mike Cruz?
5. December 13 – marriage.

+Personal Growth Objectives:

1. Becoming a tender-hearted man of prayer.
2. Deepening my love for Christ and sinners.
3. Revival.
4. Getting my license to minister.
5. Preparing for marriage
 - a. Trusting Shirley – relaxing in our union.
 - b. Freedom from jealousy and expectations.
 - c. Solidifying our plans – base.

Mar. 31, 1976

God has once again gloriously answered prayers and given me clear guidance for the coming months. I spent most of Monday seeking His face concerning it, and yesterday it all fell together.

For most of April, May and June I will be traveling in the U.S. helping to set up “Spirit in ’76 rallies” especially in California and Washington and teaching in a number of DTS’s. I rejoice in God for I felt very strongly that the Lord wanted me to continue with the priority of “teaching” for these months, as well as helping with the preparation for the summer.

*Hence, the Lord continues His faithfulness to me in giving me the “desires of my heart.”

California

Apr. 1, 1976

I’m in Sunland, California and this morning God seemed to quicken out of Judges 12 my intentions of spending “2 months” in study before marriage. Was an interesting parallel.

*Today I go to work here in California.

Apr. 3, 1976

I believe the Lord wants me to do more Scripture “meditation” as a way of Him healing me from my emotional insecurity and dependence on others like Shirley etc. I will begin doing this morning, noon and evening, beginning in the books the Lord shows me.

Nevada

Apr. 7, 1976

My work finds me today in Reno, Nevada where I have come to set up a rally. I'm praying God's blessing on all these endeavors.

As I sought Him in prayer this morning, He spoke to me out of Psalm 66:10,12 – For You have tried us, O God. You have refined us as silver is refined... We went through fire and through water... Yet you brought us into a place of abundance.”

God has been trying and testing me personally, and I believe this applies as well to Shirley and I during these months of separation. I feel God is leading me into a place of emotional security in our relationship “through fire” that will be pleasing to Him.

Apr. 9, 1976

The past two days **God had put it into my mind that He wants me to spend at least a month every year (even when I get married) seeking His face and writing.** I need this time set aside every year to meet with Him. What a wonderful thought to contemplate that He wants to spend time with me.

“Now Samuel...used to go regularly on circuit to Bethel and Gilgal and Mizpeh, and he judged Israel in those places. Then returned to Ramah because his home was there” (1 Sam. 7:16,17).

+ I believe my ministry is going to involve a “circuit” of ministry with a regular return to Texas. God has sure been speaking to me about this through a book on “Methodism” I read the other day. God impressed me with the genius of a mobile, circuit ministry.

Washington

Apr. 16, 1976

My rally preparations in Washington have brought me to Bellingham for a few days.

God spoke to me a couple of precious things this morning concerning Shirley. First, He quickened out of 1 Sam. 18:1 paralleling the fact that over these months God is “knitting our souls together” to love one another as ourselves. Second, in September when we truly become engaged in God's sight by committing ourselves to one another, we will make a covenant. And last, this precious promise:

“When the devil knew that the Lord was with Ron, and that Shirley loved him, then the devil was even more afraid of Ron” (personifying 1 Sam. 18:28).

*Our true godly union and love will only increase our fruitfulness for God and hence our threat to the kingdom of darkness. Bless the Lord for His care.

Also received this morning confirmation and direction to some messages I believe God is leading me to give.

Apr. 21, 1976

FAITH! God was speaking to me richly on this subject this morning and my heart just rises to trust Him for all the different areas of my life in which He is truly in control. To the enemy I say this morning: “I believe God that it will turn out exactly as I have been told.”

Apr. 26, 1976

My very busy and profitable time in Washington has come to an end. Two weeks just seemed to fly by as I finished setting up our rallies and spent a lot of personal time with people.

They weren't easy days...and my heart was weighed down with many large needs. Oh, is this a world that needs Jesus! Oh, do I want to be a man that can share His love and satisfy hungry souls.

Wearily I am now on to new challenges. Thanks God for His care.

*The Lord has been good to me financially. I never want to take this for granted.

Texas

Apr. 27, 1976

Was a real blessing to be at *Christ for the Nations* this morning to see Loren especially and to hear him speak. I believe that God wanted me there as he spoke on the “Traveling Church,” and as I listened, it only confirmed in my heart and quickened in my spirit my desire for a multi-everything mobile team that will labor for revival and show the unified love of Jesus to the world.

After a hectic day in Texas tying up things in Lindale, I am heading into Philadelphia for what I'm sure will be some months of real learning and service in the only work worthy of my heart and soul.

Pennsylvania

Last night and this morning God impressed on my mind some reasons as to why I'm really here for this season (Philly and Hammonton, NJ for the *Spirit in '76 Rally*).

First, I have a desperate need for true, deep-seated humility in my mind—an attitude of willingness to serve and not be in the limelight. Second, God wants to teach me some practical leadership skills through my responsibilities here. And third, I believe the Lord wants to make this time one of continued learning through reading and prayer.

*Priorities for now: Humility, service, practical responsibility, and study. Lord, I want to learn them well...and begin with the first one until I can live in the reality of Philippians 2.

New Jersey

[I came to Hammonton, New Jersey, the first U.S. YWAM base, to serve Leland Paris and the *Spirit in '76 Rally* due to our common burden for awakening in America. I stayed at the base on staff and primarily oversaw mobilizing the local churches to support the event. My home for this time was the men's dorm--"The Dungeon"—on campus.]

May 1, 1976

The Lord gave me much revelation this morning in different areas. First, I believe He wants me to write an article on "Revival" for *Logos Magazine* and I just pray for the inspiration and the time.

+Also, I feel I'll be going to Montreal after finishing my work here and then on to New York for the Summer of Service. I will await confirmation on these.

+Out of Ps. 132:1-5 He spoke to me about making it a practice of my life to not end a day without meeting with Him. I must not "give sleep to my eyes until I find a place for the Lord."

May 6, 1976

Had some sweet meditations this morning in 2 Sam. 11,12 and Ps. 51 in which is the incident in David's life with Bathsheba and his prayer to God.

Oh, the grace of God! I thought deeply on how this applies to Shirley and I, and those thoughts were meditative, with greater understanding and with thanksgiving for God's mercy and blessings to us. It is wonderful to now be...after much rebellion and wickedness in our lives—"Jedidiah—beloved of the Lord."

May 12, 1976

Three things "abide" in life and these three things need to be the pillars upon which I build my house:

- A work of faith
- A labor of love
- And steadfastness of hope – 1 Thess. 1:3

My work continues here in Hammonton with my prayer that God will continue daily to build the firm foundation in my life.

May 16, 1976

Some of these days in Hammonton have not been easy ones as I've changed my area of ministry somewhat as well as faced some other problems. Today from the Scripture I believe the Lord confirmed a lot of the "plans" concerning my ministry and my marriage that just encouraged me to go on.

"All this, said David, the Lord made me understand in writing by His hand upon me, all the details of this pattern."

"Be strong and courageous and act. Do not fear or be dismayed, for the Lord God, my God, is with you" (1 Chr. 28:19,20).

May 20, 1976

I was blessed this morning in my meditation in 1 Kings 6 and 2 Chr. 3 concerning Solomon's building of the Temple. Took him seven patient years...and he overlaid everything with gold. In seven years, I would like to have "built" my ministry and "overlaid" it with the "gold" of truth. What a lovely parallel and goal to aim at.

God continues to bless my labors here in Hammonton, and the lessons in humility continue.

May 24, 1976

This morning the Lord also just encourage me in my work and again exhorted me to "fulfill my ministry," to keep my eyes steadfast on the call to revival.

May 25, 1976

I believe God wants me to help Dave Peterson and Lori Varick financially this summer--\$300.

[I included the following sheets in the journal about the above entry.]

Preparing for Marriage – Shirley and I

Books:

1. Sexual Understanding Before Marriage – Miles
2. Sexual Understanding in Marriage

3. Christian Home – Rice
4. Marriage Affair
5. Total Woman – Morgan
6. I Married You – Trobisch
7. Please—Help—Love
8. Better Than Wine
9. Happy Ever After – Mumford
10. Adam with Love – Roberts
11. Christian Family – Christianson
12. Feminine Principle – Miles

My Growth Goals:

1. As a man – leadership, gentleness.
2. Being a godly father.
3. Living by faith securely.
4. Beginning my ministry.
5. Freedom from lust and doubt.
 - a. *Trusting Shirley – insight.
6. Set priorities of God first.
 - a. Not being overly dependent.
7. Letting God lead.

+ Galatians 5, Phil. 2:2, and 1 Cor. 13

*Seeing our common, united vision in companionship (complimentary) and ministry.

September:

1. Formalize engagement – rings and picture.
2. Wedding preparations.
3. Time together – unity of mind—Gospel—and our call together in life.
4. Contraceptives.
5. Reading – Design for Christian Marriage – Dwight Harvey Small.
6. Prayer
7. Business details: medical, banking etc.

“When God Gives a Man to a Women”

November 1975, Franklin Park, Illinois

When God gives a woman to a man, He is fusing two into one. When God gives a man to a woman, it is a precious work begun.

He took a rib from Adam's side to mold a mate for him. To make into one what was to be two. A new joy that would not dim.

When God gave the woman to man, to be his compliment. When God gave the man to the woman, Man knew the gift was heaven-sent.

Looking one another in the eye, they knew they were meant to give. Joy and love and warmth to the one whom God had given them for with to live.

Our gracious Lord has given you to me, a special flower in His sight. Our loving God has given me to you, to walk with you toward His perfect light.

Hand in hand we will go His way to serve the Kings of kings. Kneel at His feet to heed his call, to grasp the vision that He brings.

And now though we're a part, we rest assured in His love. Though there's an ache in each heart, we must look to the One above.

Oh, praise His Name for joining us in love to serve our Lord! He is our hope—He is our song. Forever we'll adore...

Tennessee

June 1, 1976

God was good to me to give me five worthwhile days on the "Wagon Train" just recently. I flew down to Tennessee and taught them from God's Word and spent a lot of time just chatting and counseling.

I believe God had sent me to bring some "healing" to the group and some balance in certain areas of truth, and to exhort them to a holy walk in God.

They have a tremendous ministry—the "medicine shows" are moving to say the least, and I pray God's blessing with rest on them as they finish their cross-country journey.

Pennsylvania

+ I'm now in Pennsylvania to finish a week of teaching at the DTS here.

*I have some things that I feel I need some guidance on soon: 1) Plans for the summer after Montreal, 2) My exact itinerary – Sept. – December 12, 3) Exactly where Shirley and I will base ourselves.

New Jersey

June 6, 1976 – The Lord's Day

God in His faithfulness has given me clear guidance for the summer and beyond as I've sought Him recently. For this I stand in increasing awe as to His willingness to lead and guide me in all that I do.

After finishing a very fruitful time in Pennsylvania, I am now in Morristown for a day to visit Pinajians and Pastor Dave Jacobsen who is visiting from New Zealand. Lovely reunion! Now the work goes on...

June 11, 1976

Being Friday, I have been fasting and praying for America. What a burden my own nation has become to my heart. How I long for God to pour out His Spirit on this rebellious people.

Lord – teach me to be a real intercessor for you! Oh, to pray and see countries revived in answer to urgent supplications.

Washington, D.C.

June 15, 1976

Yesterday was a day in the history of this nation that I believe God was pleased with. At 12 noon on the steps of the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., the IF MY PEOPLE musical (by Jimmy and Carol Owens) was sung—and we gathered with them to pray and testify to this nation our need to return to God.

Pat Boone and Dean Jones were on hand and a couple thousand people listened and prayed. Though there was not much depth, I felt it was a beginning...at least getting the nation's attention somewhat to begin laboring for spiritual revival.

This morning as I read God's Word, this Scripture was quickened to me out of 2 Chr. 15:

“For many days Israel was without the True God and without a teaching priest and without law...but in their distress they turned to the Lord...But you be strong and do not lose courage, for there is a REWARD FOR YOUR WORK.”

*The reward of our labors this year will be the harvest of a nation. Praise the Lord.

*A confirming word this morning concerning my decision to become a licensed minister: “Of this church I was made a minister according to the stewardship of God bestowed on me...that I might fully carry out the preaching of the Word of God” (Col. 1:25).

June 23, 1976

Recently God has really been placing an urgency and concern in my heart for the political situation this year in America. In fact, it has been such an issue that last week as I was just waiting before the Lord, I believe He began to share with me that **He wanted me to forego my plans to go to the Montreal Olympics and consider staying in Hammonton** to write some political papers to release to the Christian community in the States.

As I prayed this morning and meditated on 2 Kings 9 & 10 (the story of Jehu), I again sensed this call on my life—that God wanted to expose Jimmy Carter for who he was and use Ronald Reagan to turn the nation around. It seemed like a fascinating parallel in the Bible—Jehu riding furiously to turn the kingdom around and first killing Joram and then Ahaziah and then Jezebel.

Jehu also sent “letters” (2 Kings 10:1-6) to Ahab’s sons in his mission of righteousness.

*I believe God is leading me (and Steve Hulst) to release to the Christian community in letter form a paper on the candidates and their moral stances (Ford, Reagan and Carter) and a paper exposing Jimmy Carter. Lord, guide my steps.

[This later became my first book called *What About Jimmy Carter?*]

June 26, 1976

Did a TV interview last night with God’s help and this morning finds me seeking the face of my Lord and Master.

Talked with Shirley on the phone from Germany yesterday and God has miraculously provided a way for her to fly into New York next Friday and to join me here in New Jersey.

I believe it is on God’s heart for us to re-unite and really catch a burden for America together—hence, the perfect timing of the Lord.

Concerning our relationship, I believe the Lord is saying: “Relax and let me lead you.”

July 2, 1976

God has been stretching me and dealing with me as the preparations for the *Spirit in '76 Rally* have been in full swing. I’ve been tired, and He has spoken to my conscience in a few areas. This morning I just drew close to Him. “He is my Rock.”

Today Shirley arrives, and I pray that during this time I will remain “in His rest” and be pleasing in His sight. **My burden for America and the desire to DO something continues to grow.**

July 7, 1976

I haven't had time to write, and by now we're well into the *If My People Rally* here in Cherry Hill just outside of Philadelphia. Finally, this morning God gave me a refreshing time with Him and I'm able to sit down and record what He's done.

I believe the rally has been a real blessing. The night of the 4th, around 6,000 people gathered in the rain as the *If My People* Musical was sung to God's glory, and rain stopped! It was an amazing evening...an important evening in the history of this nation and I believe God was greatly pleased as we sang and as we prayed.

The rest of the intensive week of reaching has gone well. We have some big needs and we want much to be done, and we are confident in our God.

*Reuniting with Shirley has been a test as well as tremendous joy. Two nights ago, as we were walking the property, it seemed like God put it into our minds to even consider getting married earlier than we had originally intended. That evening, we committed it to God in prayer.

This morning I believe God confirmed to my heart that this was His will. Out of two Scriptures (Numbers 11:20 and Lev. 16:29,30) God spoke to me saying that we should get married on October 10th. I will share this with Shirley and allow God to confirm this change of plans.

July 9, 1976

I set my will again today to serve and love the King of kings!

Hammonton, New Jersey

July 15, 1976

I have a lot of back-tracking to do. Since the conclusion of the *Spirit in '76* Rally and our subsequent evacuation of the property, my Bible and all my notebooks have been lost until today. There's some catching up to do.

The rally ended Friday evening on a real note of triumph and expectancy. As Loren (Cunningham) and Joy (Dawson) shared and a \$70,000 offering was taken (1) we worshipped God and set our hearts to see our nation turned around. The precious gathering lasted until the wee hours of the morning, culminating in a mass time of communion and dedication to the work of the Gospel.

What a privilege it was to be a part of this work. Since that time, various things have happened that are worth noting:

1. Shirley and I have continued to learn what it means to love as we set our sights on an October wedding. This is priority in the coming weeks.

Washington, D.C.

2. Yesterday Steve Hulst, Shirley and I met with Russ Walton and his wife in Washington, D.C. and had a very meaningful time with him. He is a very humble, godly man and gave us much insight into some things we had been discussing [out of which the *What About Jimmy Carter?* Book would soon be born).
3. God's beginning to show me what He'd have me to do concerning writing some material concerning this year's presidential elections and the candidates.

[One item I failed to mention in the journal was that coming back to Hammonton from Philly, Shirley and I were towing Steve Hulst's travel trailer we'd used as a mobile office at the event. Late at night we watched in horror as the trailer came off the hitch—at high speed—and crashed into the roadway—totaling it. With the help of some people who stopped at the accident, we were able to get the trailer upright and limp it back to the YWAM base. When I broke the news to Steve the next morning, he taught me a great lesson in forgiveness by asking more about our welfare than the state of his ruined, and uninsured trailer. Powerful lesson.]

+ My priorities for the next month: 1) Prepare for marriage, 2) Write politically for God, and 3) Renew my first love to Him.

New Jersey

July 22, 1976

Precious times of learning continue here in Hammonton. Shirley and I grow closer and closer every day as we learn about one another and adapt to one another. **God's blessing has rested upon me as I've been teaching the student body here. In the afternoons I've been working on my book** which is currently titled, "Back to National Righteousness."

July 23, 1976

I fasted and interceded strongly this morning for the coming election and for the GOP Convention to be held in Kansas City next month. May God move in power!

July 24, 1976

+ I was encouraged this morning. No heavy revelations. Just a solid desire to stay close to my Rock and keep looking up.

July 28, 1976

Isaiah 55 has been a tremendous comfort to me today as I (and Shirley especially) have faced a few days of real spiritual warfare. What stand out to me the strongest in this chapter is that those things which God has willed are going to take place. "His word will not return void."

We're learning some deep lessons about love, and about "pressing through" problems into a state of victory in God. These are important days for us—and the enemy knows it and is doing his utmost to make us fall.

"But we will hope in God."

Aug. 2, 1976

"My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work."

Amen. My work on the book, "Back to National Righteousness," is now in full gear and I thank the Lord He is giving me much encouragement and revelation.

The book is going to be eight chapters long and so far, the flow has been good as I've sought the Lord. The crucial weeks begin now. Shirley and I continue to grow stronger every day.

*One thing worth noting: God seems to be leading me to consider heavily basing Shirley and myself here in Hammonton. This has been coming to my mind and I only submit it to the Lord and await total confirmation.

Aug. 6, 1976

After some tough days physically and emotionally, the Lord has refreshed and encouraged me this morning. Out of my readings in the book of Habakkuk, I was inspired to continue writing my book as God said, "Inscribe the vision." I am receiving "joy in the God of my salvation."

Aug. 12, 1976

In the past few days God has confirmed much of Shirley and my guidance for the coming months—and I am very pleased with it.

Had a good chat last night with Lynn Green as well concerning apostolic teams, and this again was re-enforcement of my vision for the coming years.

I also praise the Lord for the ease with which He is helping me to write my book. He is truly faithful, and for this I worship and adore Him...and all of this during a somewhat testing time.

Aug. 15, 1976

"The fear of the Lord is His treasure." "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Aug. 18, 1976

We continue to persevere in prayer for the outcome of the Republican Convention. Yesterday Shirley and I fasted and prayed, and God was with us. Today is the crucial day.

God encouraged me in my writing today to “not omit a word” that He wanted me to say. He also showed me that Jeremiah wrote his scroll twice and I am doing my book the same.

*Lord, bless our endeavor for You.

Aug. 27, 1976

After talking with Shirley on the phone last night, the Lord showed me a wonderful truth that I have struggled with since March. It is this: **God does not ask me to trust her or anybody else. God asks me to love her not trust—love.** God does not ask us to unreasonably put our trust in people who have not earned that trust. However, it is our privilege and responsibility to love and reach out.

This was quite a revelation! I’ve struggled with this area of “trust” for years, let alone months.

It is GOD whom we trust (Ps. 143:8). We learn to trust people as they become more and more like Him. This is really freeing. Now to work on the love aspect...

My Numbered Days – September 1976

My ministry: Teaching-evangelism (2 Tim. 4:1-5, Acts 26:18, and Luke 1:76).

+ Goal: **To preach the word, to labor for revival, and to train others in the ways of holiness.**

+ Prayerful Steps:

1. Preparation for marriage at home – Sept. 3 – Oct. 10. Work for the election.
2. Getting married and spending time with Shirley in relaxation and study.
 - a. October 10 – Christmas.
 - b. Speak at Bozeman DTS – Dec. 13-20/
3. Hawaiian LTS (Leadership Training School)

Sept. 1, 1976

“Son of man--make known to Jerusalem her abominations” (Ez. 16:2). God encouraged me this morning to prepare that message on “Abominations” that He has asked me to prepare, and to be willing to speak out against sin as Ezekiel did.

The Lord has also been gently dealing with me about guidance and trusting Him, and I feel His assurances and releases are coming. I believe some of my priorities for the coming months are now in focus and for this I praise my “Shepherd” Who leads His sheep.

[I finished my first book before I left Hammonton and sent it to the publisher in Washington, D.C. Russ Walton edited it, feeling that its focus should be an expose on Jimmy Carter. It was finally titled *What About Jimmy Carter?* It came out one month before the 1976 election.]

Sept. 3, 1976

The [YWAM] Leadership Conference is now over, and I am again homeward bound.

The conference was a tremendous time in which God gave me much specific wisdom concerning the continual development of our call to world evangelism.

It was a tiring time for me of many joys and other hesitations. Now that we’ve reached the end, I feel confident in God to step forward and continue to pursue His mandate on my life.

Now for a month of preparation for marriage to Shirley, my “Bright Meadow, God’s Gift of Grace.” Then we pursue the call together.

*I need You, Lord Jesus. I want to please you in these days of development. Restore and refresh me and link me with my bride to be thrust forth in the war against sin and for the Kingdom of God.

Washington

Sept. 7, 1976

After a moving time with Shirley last night, the Lord refreshed me and spoke to me this morning in different areas. First, He spoke to me concerning our guidance for the coming year through this Scripture:

“Look, the whole land is before you. Go wherever it seems good and right for you to go” (Jer. 40:14).

+ I believe in our guidance this year as well as our apostolic team. I believe God is saying that the land is before us. Just choose.

+God also confirmed to me the rightness of our wedding date (2 Kings 25:1 – the tenth day of the tenth month”).

*I also received some lovely revelation out of Rev. 12. God is so good to speak to us and encourage us in His ways.

Sept. 9, 1976

The role of a prophet: “to expose iniquity.”

Sept. 10, 1976

One month from today Shirley and I will unite in marriage. Because of things that have been happening and the pressures of this time, I believe the Lord showed me this morning that the following areas are to be necessary themes for the last month of my single life.

- Prayer
- Purity
- Preparation
- Ministry.

*With the help of the Lord, I will be faithful to these commands.

September 18, 1976

So much has been happening that I’ve found it hard to put down on paper just what the Lord has been doing in my life.

There have been a few struggles concerning the preparation for our wedding and God has also dealt with me individually in some areas.

All in all, I want to press on—and please Jesus. To “grow” and be “strong in spirit.”

*I felt impressed to order copies of *One Nation Under God* [Russ Walton] to give to those who are a part of our wedding.

September 23, 1976

As I again meditated on Psalm 51 this morning and prayed, I realized afresh the mercies of God and set my heart to obey—for the two short week we have before marriage.

I am ashamed...yet hopeful. Jesus WILL be the Lord of my life, and my “portion forever.”

September 28, 1976

The Lord continues to do great things as Shirley and I prepare to be married.

There have been many answers to prayer as to the people that will be coming. His Hand has been with us, “showering” us with blessings through various meetings and actual wedding showers for both Shirley and I.

Last night the two of us had a time of openness before one another and out of it has come some good things. [During this time each of us shared our “sexual past” in detail so we would

have no hidden closets in our marriage relationship. Was a tender, tearful, and forgiving time—based on the idea that true friendship is based on mutual intimate knowledge.]

This morning as I prayed and meditated over the areas of my life that need to be more Christ-like, the following were the reminders that God showed me. As to my relationship with Shirley:

1. I cannot “expect” things from her. I’m commanded to love her.
2. The Holy Spirit is going to heal my insecure, fearful personality and change it into His image.

+ In these revelations I rejoiced as I once again saw how marvelous it was that God has joined Shirley and I together. Oh, the depth of His wisdom and the height of his love! Twelve days and become ONE in Him.

October 3, 1976

The Lord refreshed me with His grace this morning after some doubtful things last night. This week is going to be a week of strength and joy (Ez. 6).

“The Lord will accomplish that which concerns me.”

+ I believe the Lord would have Shirley and I go on a 7-day honeymoon.

**Oct. 10, 1976 Our Wedding Day –*

“Rest in what you know to be the will of the Lord.”

Today is the big day! After a week of lessons and preparations, the day of my marriage to Shirley has arrived. God has been so faithful in providing for our every need and has made all our plans flow smoothly.

Now the time is here. We had a warm dress rehearsal [including pictures] last night and then dinner and some good fellowship at our home on Lidstrom Hill. God was with us and know that He will be today.

In prayer this morning I simply sensed His sustaining power and Presence with me. I’m clean. I’m ready. I’m expectant.

+ Lord--Glorify Yourself as Shirley and I join our lives together into one in You. Speak to many people through our marriage ceremony and Reception and lead a number to salvation. Unite Shirley and I that we may truly serve you in the beauty of holiness.

[Our wedding party for our special day included: GIRLS: Wendy Wiedenmeyer – Maid of Honor - who came in from Montana, Lori Varick, Sharon James, and Diane Pitke - the other bridesmaids. All of them had gone to Europe with us on the '75 team. GUYS: David Saavedra -

Best Man - Steve Wilson, my New Zealand compatriot, Dan Gardner, a '74 SOE friend from Abbotsford, B.C. and Peter Milborrow, my new friend from Pietermaritzburg who flew all the way from South Africa—formed the Groomsmen. The Davison family also drove in from Highwood, Montana.

As I mentioned above in the journal, Shirley and I truly wanted our wedding today to glorify God—not draw attention to us (1 Cor. 10:31). To do that, we planned a few unusual things for our wedding day that were special, and talked about for years:

- The wedding was deliberately on a Sunday after church, at 3 pm. in the afternoon at Harper Church. October 10 was also my Grandma Boehme's birthday.
- We flew in the YWAM music band "The Family" whom I'd met at Lausanne in '74 to minister that day. (Steve Grisen married Nellie Ward of the "Second Chapter of Acts" soon after this.) They performed at Harper in the morning service, sang a special during the wedding, and did a few sets at the evening reception.
- Pastor Steve Watkins married us, and we asked him to "preach" the Gospel at the wedding service because we knew many unsaved people would be in attendance. (The church was packed.) He did.
- We shared our own written vows to each other, and mine included that "I couldn't promise her houses and riches but a heart that is sold out to God."
- We held a "New Zealand style" reception (sit-down dinner and extensive program) at the new Cedar Heights Commons because it was the only facility in Port Orchard at the time that could handle a dinner for 300 people.
- We used the reception to share testimonies, musical sets, and even showed a special slide-tape Shirley and I put together talking about our calling to revival in America. We were so bus at the reception that we didn't even get a piece of wedding cake! It lasted from about 5 pm to 9 pm with many helpers and our wonderful parents and others carrying the burden of the logistics. Shirley and I were two of the last people to leave after the clean-up.

We booked our honeymoon night at the Rodeway Inn in Tacoma (now Days Inn) because it was close, and we knew we'd arrive late. After the first night, we drove up to Snoqualmie Falls where Larry and Kathy Dullum allowed us to use their chalet for three days. Enjoyed hikes in the mountains and the wonderful Indian summer. A relative of David Saavedra gave us their cabin on the ocean in Lincoln City, OR for the final three days of honeymooning. Great time on the beach there, then back to Port Orchard.

October 12, 1976

I'm now a married man and what a joy it is! Our wedding was truly a blessed time as God surrounded us with His presence and His blessing.

The ceremony at Harper to a packed church was moving. At the reception, God seemed to be in every song and every testimony as things just flowed together.

The ministry of “The Family” was tremendous, and both Peter (Milborrow) and Wendy (Wiedenmeyer) shared things that I believe were from the heart of God. By the time I stood up and finished the evening, I believe that the reality of the Lord Jesus Christ had been vividly seen.

Praise His Name! Shirley and I then had an intimate and funny time together becoming one flesh—seeing each other’s bodies for the first time—and now we’re on our honeymoon.

Oh, how I thank the Lord for these days of JOY and NEWNESS as we begin our married lives. In a lovely time of prayer together last night, we want Him to be the center of it all.

Oct. 15, 1976

“True instruction was in his mouth and unrighteousness was not found on his lips. He walked with Me in peace and uprightness and turned many away from iniquity...”

*This is the mandate of the Lord on my life.

Oct. 24, 1976

The past week has been the “settling” in time of marriage for Shirley and me. It was very busy and full of new lessons. We are learning daily what it means to love and submit ourselves to each other, and how to complement one another as man and wife.

[My parents graciously allowed us to use the “Cabana” next to our family house on Lidstrom Hill as our first home. We had many wedding gifts to open after returning from the honeymoon and setting up our large studio apartment as our first home.]

One slight change in our plans came this week after I talked to Brother Gordon Olson on the phone. Due to some circumstances in his life in Illinois, Shirley and I feel that we will not be going away to spend some time with him.

I have a real peace about this and feel it just may be for the best that we remain in Port Orchard for the next three months. Priorities will be: 1) Marriage, 2) Local ministry, and 3) Study.

*I pray these will be fruitful days.

Nov. 2, 1976

Today is **Election Day in the United States**. It is the day we’ve been praying about for months and deeply concerned about for days.

It was for this day that I wrote *What About Jimmy Carter?* I had never thought much until this year how important it is that Christians get involved in the promotion of good government in the cause of the Gospel. This year it all changed as I believe the Lord led me in this area.

Today I believe God is going to do what would amount to a tremendous miracle. I believe today, despite all the odds, He has heard the prayers of His people, has extended His hand of mercy once again, and He will appoint Gerald Ford to continue as president of our nation.

For this I give Him praise! These have been long months, Yet today I will:

“Have faith in God” (Mk. 11:22).

Nov. 3, 1976

With great grief in our hearts we watched last night as Jimmy Carter defeated Pres. Ford in the race for the presidency.

I can only conclude from this that our nation has been given over to judgment by God, yet there is much to think over.

Through the tears I believe we have experienced God’s heart in this matter, and now all that remains is even a greater desire to work for His truth. The wicked have triumphed for the moment, however the war against sin is still to be won by the King of kings and Lord of lords.

I have much to think about as the bubble has been burst...God give me wisdom and a touch of His great heart to move on for Him.

Nov. 10, 1976

God has begun to release some specific tasks to do in the coming weeks. This includes teaching a Sunday School class at Harper Church, a possible trip to Michigan in the spring, and the confirmation of a trip to Montana in December.

In the meantime, I have begun my studies and want to “remember to exalt His work.” Oh, for my heart to be like that of Jesus!

November 13, 1976

This verse struck me last night. It contains some vital truths:

“In addition to him being a wise man, the Preacher also taught the people knowledge and he pondered and searched out and arranged many proverbs...The words of wise men are like goads, and masters of these collections are like well-driven nails. They are given by one Shepherd” (Ecclesiastes 12: 9,11).

Nov. 24, 1976

Some days have gone by in which I've filled my day with study, ministry, and just an easy pace of living. This has been a good time—relaxed and not too pressing, and I thank the Lord for it.

Dec. 3, 1976

The days just seem to slip by as I continue my studies and Shirley and I progress in our marriage. Seems there are lessons daily that need to be learned.

My involvement in others' lives (especially those preparing to go to SOE's) has increased and I am very happy to do it. God is teaching me to GIVE emotionally, spiritually, and financially in new ways.

I've also been extremely blessed as I've prepared to teach a new Sunday School class at Harper Church which will be called "The Conscience of a Christian." What an important truth it is that "conscience is the most sacred of all property" (James Madison).

+ Lord—Strengthen my hands to trust in God's might and power and the consistency of your steadfast love. I cling to You and pray for insight as to how to preach and live your truth.

*As I fasted and prayed for America today, God spoke these words to me: READY MY PEOPLE. I believe I will speak on this at our Saturday evening love-feast. I pray that God will show me how His Church needs to ready to face the judgments that are coming upon us.

Dec. 7, 1976

Had my first Sunday School class at Harper on the Lord's Day, and I believe it could be a powerful time. I'm speaking on the "Conscience of a Christian," and there seems to be much attentiveness and good response. I'm praying that we'll have a "visit from God." This week I prepare for Montana and continue to grow in the truths God is releasing to me.

THE CONSCIENCE OF A CHRISTIAN

A Biblical look at holiness, or purity of heart and mind in the life of a believer.

We are living in an age that is quickly dissolving the God-given coordinates of morality. This decay of conscience is characteristic of any historical time period in which Biblical holiness is not expounded and practiced by the Church of the Living God.

The purpose of our class will be:

- to analyze the basis of right and wrong which source is to be found in the Character of God Himself.
- to clearly understand what holiness of heart and life entails.
- and to be so quickened in our minds by truth that our very beings are kindled afresh with the wonder of God and His ways and our responsibilities to Him in our depraved world.

Weekly subject material:

1. Introduction to the subject of holiness, or Christian conscience. Starting point: The Being of God as the Source of all holiness, and thus the standard of all morality and the basis of conscience.
2. The Being of God: (cont.)
The revelation of and the philosophy behind God's moral law.
3. What is Biblical holiness? Its definition and description in the Word of God.
4. Who Shall See God? Is holiness of life optional or essential in the life of a believer.
5. The Heart of a Man - understanding the make-up and function of the human will.
6. Salvation: The Liberation of Conscience. A discussion of repentance, faith, confession and restitution as vehicles of freedom to the guilty conscience.
7. Guard Your Conscience - How the human conscience can become seared.
8. Guard Your Conscience - (cont.) What are the evidences of a seared conscience, and what are the consequences of a bad conscience.
9. Being the Conscience of a Nation - our role as "children of light" in a dark world.

God bless you as you pray, prepare your heart, and seek to understand why "conscience is the most sacred of all property." (James Madison - 1792)

"But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith."
(1 Tim.1:5)

Dec. 9, 1976

After speaking last night at the First Covenant Church in Tacoma, God really showed me some things about depending on Him (being prepared in prayer and knowing my strength must be in Him).

Today: “Oh, Ron, guard what has been entrusted to you...” I must prepare my mind and heart for Bozeman.

Montana

Dec. 16, 1976

I finally have the time to sit down and record the happenings of God in my life. Shirley and I left for Bozeman on Sunday (after a little escapade in which she accidentally dropped our plane tickets in to a post box!). [We re-purchased tickets at the airport, still made our plane, and got the original tickets back from the post office after our return.]

I have been teaching at the school all week. The time has gone well except for the deterioration of my voice, and so for this needed strength I've been trusting my God.

Shirley and I have spent some valuable time with Wendy (Wiedenmeyer) as well—encouraging her in the circumstances she finds herself in. [Bozeman is her hometown.]

How I pray to be able to unfold this series on CONSCIENCE that it may radically change the lives of the students here.

“My voice and my heart fail, but God is the strength of my life and my portion forever.”

[We met Dean & Michelle Sherman for the first time in Bozeman as they were leading the base—started by Dean Shennaman.]

Washington

Dec. 18, 1976

Our week of ministry in Montana has come and gone quickly, but not without fruit. God granted some moving times of blessing at the school as I poured out my heart on conscience. I was also impressed of the Lord to minister on our Christian history in America, and God blessed this in a deep way.

The time that Shirley and I spent with Dean and Michelle Sherman was also profitable as was our time with Wendy. What a precious sister she is, and we want to remember her in prayer as she serves the Master in her own home town for the present.

Praise God for His blessings! What a privilege it is to be a mouthpiece for Him.

Dec. 22, 1976

While battling tiredness and a fight to press in to God, the cry of my heart still is: “Lord, use me to see revival.”

As Christmas approaches, I pray that our center of attention will be upon Jesus and Him alone.