

The Journal of Ron Boehme - 1984

Washington, D.C.

January 1, 1984

*A new and awesome year begins—1984. May the Lord be pleased to pour out His Spirit in a marvelous and mighty way.

I have rarely felt such need, both physically and spiritually, as I do now. The busyness of the Christmas season has now given way to my family responsibilities, sick children, long hours moving into a new house, and many responsibilities in our ministry. O am very tired and have had little time with God in the past month.

This must change and I am crying out to God for revival in my own life. He will be faithful to do just that—I am confident in Him.

In many ways it's been an exciting week of moving into our new home. LORD, WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR THIS SPECIAL PROVISION.

Shirley and I have spent many days shopping and every evening hanging pictures, emptying boxes, and organizing our earthly goods. Some of our things have been in boxes for seven years. Today I write from my new office [in the basement of our home]. What a blessing! **It is place to pray, seek God, plan, and direct my life into God's pursuits.**

Thank you, my Wonderful Father. We hold your blessing lightly and gratefully. **Our security is still in You and You alone.**

January 8, 1984

The Lord has begun a “reviving” in my heart this week. My sleep is also being restored and this is a great help. *But I long for the “rhema” of God once again permeating my spiritual walk. I need it so desperately and am crying out to my King and God.

*January is always such a busy month here in the nation's capital and this one seems extremely so as our staff are away, and things have been a bit dis-jointed. Part of this is because some of us have moved and are also establishing new homes. **It means that right now we have twenty staff living in seven homes and apartments in the area.**

The other thing is that God has provided for us to finish a portion of the building (133 C. Street) and we are moving ahead full steam. Right now, we are scraping and puttying, buying furniture and generally readying the front section. May it only be the beginning.

*I still really need a touch from heaven—especially God’s clear rhema for this year and the direction and fruitfulness of our ministry. To do this, I must spend more time with God.

Father, forgiving me for neglecting this. I must and will change. I must abide in Your Vine or there is no life to be a blessing to others.

January 15, 1984

A busy and cold week has begun. Today a beautiful snowfall came—about 6 inches. Just another part of God’s great faithfulness. Luke 18 is a tremendous guide to me right now. I must pray and persevere.

*Last night the Lord spoke to me out of Psalm 91:14-15: “Because he has loved Me, therefore I will deliver him. I will set him securely on high because he has known my Name. He will call upon Me and I will answer him. I will be with him in trouble. I will rescue him and honor him with along life. I will satisfy him and let him behold my salvation.”

*I have received this as a precious and wonderful promise for my life at this time.

+ The week ended with some very busy but exciting days of finishing the first three rooms at 133 C. Street. We worked practically around the clock to do it, and when it was done, we opened its doors for many visitors of the Right to Life March. Nearly 100,000 people came to the event and it was by far the most moving one to date that we have attended. What a thrill to see the Church rising more powerfully to the challenge of wickedness in this nation!

January 22, 1984

Truly a “tide of righteousness” is forming and will sweep away the sands of darkness. I cried as we sang “God Bless America” and then marched in unity down Constitution Ave. Many were praying and other songs were sung.

*We were there for the unborn. God, we pray that You will see our repentance and faith in You so you can do away with this national holocaust and disgrace. May this year be the last march for life that is necessary.

Jackson, Mississippi

*In the evening I boarded a plane for Mississippi to begin again sharing the vision of 133 C. Street. I’m coming in obedience and with an eye of faith to My God who supplies all of our needs.

The word of the Lord today: Zechariah 2:4,5.

*I'm in the air again and on my way home. I've just finished four "learning and fruitful days" in Mississippi on the obedience trail for 133 C. Street. As has happened many times, the Lord Jesus really lifted my perspective and guided me by His Word. It truly is "a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

Some learned lessons:

1. I need to continue to "travel the nation" four-or-five days a month, visiting possibly donors, speaking on revival, ministering to individuals, and spreading the vision of 133 C. Street.
2. We must never swerve from trusting God for the provision. I cannot dictate the money and amounts. I can only be faithful to share.

January 29, 1984

This is one of the busiest times of the year, and this has been proved to be true. Today, the NRB (National Religious Broadcasters) Convention began and ran for four powerful days. As it was last year, the conference was extremely prophetic in its messages and simply a joy to be a part of. The president spoke today, and his words were very warm, loaded with Scripture, and enthusiastically received. We will again circulate his words to the parts of the nation we touch.

Psalm 109 was given to me this morning.

During the week, I've continued to live on little sleep, little time with God and many pressures. It is a terrible rut I've gotten into and one of the most difficult times of my life.

*The National Prayer Breakfast was very good toward the middle of the week, as well as the breakfast in honor of Israel. On Friday there was a national consultation on Concerts of Prayer, which was a highlight of the week. Over 200 delegates were in attendance from many different churches and organizations.

What a thrill it is to see this growing burden for intercession for spiritual awakening and world evangelization.

February 5, 1984

After a good family weekend, I rose early on Monday to seek God's face for restoration and renewal. It was wonderful to spend time with Him and I deeply renewed my commitment to be "a man after His own heart that would do His will" (Acts 13:22).

***Lord, my desire is so great for intimacy with You, I have such a great longing for your logos and rhema in my own life. Answer my thirsty spirit and revive me in Your presence. Set my feet again on solid rock in relationship with You. I love you and resolve to go on.

Racine, Wisconsin

After another busy week I find myself in Racine, Wisconsin where I have been invited to share in an interdenominational Prayer Rally. I am truly in the heartland of America here and have found it a blessing thus far.

The more I travel to places like this, the more I realize what God is doing all over America—and even in the denominational churches. A revival is underway, and it has affected many people. There is a hunger for God’s Word, a burden for prayer and an increasing desire to be involved in the issues that affect the entire nation. This is true here in Racine.

*I hope I am looking at the beginning of a grassroots, Spirit-led reformation that is destined for our time. The older I get, the more I long to fulfill my part in this great revival.

February 12, 1984

Praise God for the good weekend in Wisconsin. I am continuing to “get acquainted” with America and minister on revival here and there. The “Prayer Seminar” went very well and it ended with a Concert of Prayer and a tremendous sense of commitment to pray for the revival.

I also appreciated a quick and encouraging luncheon stop with the Muesings outside of Chicago. Was able to minister to their pastor and his wife who are facing a difficult inner-city division. We prayed together and looked to the Lord for His gracious intervention.

Washington, D.C.

For a couple of days, it has been refreshing to have Loren Cunningham in town to attend the national Freedom Council meeting and meet some Congressmen and Senators to try to unravel some difficult bureaucratic restrictions that are placed on our YWAM ship, the MV Anastasis.

It is always such a privilege to be around Loren. He is such a man of faith and vision. Through him, the Lord has reminded me to learn the ways of God in all situations and see them through the purposes of God’s eternal eye and not the confusing and doubtful eye of the flesh.

*At a time of deep soul-searching and almost despair in my life over our ministry, this is a much-needed perspective. I stand in great need of revival and will ask for it until it comes.

Antigua, Guatemala

February 19, 1984

This week I have the joy of being with about thirty of our YWAM leadership in Central America—our first stop being Guatemala. It's wonderful to come to a place you've labored much for in prayer.

We're staying at a beautiful hotel for four days in the city of Antigua. The Lord is going to reveal much to us during this time, and last night He shared with me this Scripture as a preview: "Go near and hear all that the Lord our God says, then speak to us all that the Lord our God will speak to you, and we will hear it and do it (Deuteronomy 5:27).

*The Lord really spoke to me this morning as I sought him early. He said, "*Draw near to Me and I will give you rest. You will not stumble. In my presence shall be your renewal. And I will give you spiritual children.*"

*I also made a commitment before the Lord today to join the army of 100,000 men who will seek His face for revival for two hours each morning—primarily from 5 to 7 am. This will be more of a delight than a challenge that I gladly surrender to You, O Lord.

*It has been a great blessing to become "acquainted" with Guatemala. Now we are on to Belize (through El Salvador) as we continue to get God's heart for Central America and the Caribbean nations.

Belmopan, Belize

*I cried out for America today and prayed for the Caribbean region. God led me to Proverbs 3. It must be applied in all our efforts in this region.

Our leader's conference in the Caribbean has been, as usual, a wonderful time of fellowship, revelation and vision. One area God has given me much understanding was my own role in the leadership in YWAM.

After talking to Nick Savoca, and then later with Leland, it seemed clear to me that I should step away from my area director designation (Mid-Atlantic) and recommend that YWAM in our area be viewed as the "Eastern Area" primarily under the leadership of Nick. This appears to be God's will for the following reasons:

1. We are both small now and so inter-related as to make two separate regions cumbersome and divisive.
2. Nick is more of a general visionary who will most capably oversee the area.

3. I do not have the leadership gifts necessary to multiply extensively the general YWAM vision and raise up and make room for new leadership.
4. **My prophetic calling and specialty burden for revival in America shall be my special domain of focus and leadership.**

*There is much here to pray over and to clarify in the Holy Spirit. In it all, I want to humbly seek God's best for our part of the world and my own role in it.

Washington, D.C.

February 26, 1984

Back on U.S. soil after a wonderful week in Central America. Jesus—you spoke many things into my life and walk, and I am very grateful. My priority in coming home is always to spend quality time with my family—this time was especially precious. I grow to love my family more and more as the months go by.

***Father—you have greatly blessed me. Thank you for my wonderful wife and children. They are a great source of encouragement and joy and my most precious heritage and investment in this life.**

[Here are some points I brought back from Central America.]

STEPS OF OBEDIENCE

1. Shirley and I need to start supporting a 3rd world missionary on a regular basis. Pray about Fernando Hernandez people in Belize?
2. I must become part of the 100,000 praying men. This will be a joy.
3. I should order Loren's book [*Is That Really You, God?*] in a 10,000-25,000 quantity and use extensively at our base for mobilizing young people and raising finances.
4. **Shirley and I need to pray about going to Hawaii from December '85 to June 1986 for the YWAM 25th Anniversary, LTS, and trip in Asia and the Pacific.**
5. I must not hold people back in our ministry but release them out into new works.
6. Beginning our Washington, D.C. DTS is crucial to our future—its focus on evangelism and missions must be central to our YWAM community because this is our anointing.
7. I need to consider paying my way to Belize and this region to teach and preach on revival.

8. **I need to move immediately in getting a personal IBM computer** and finance it through selling 1000 of Loren's books. I am not to wait. It is something I am to make happen by faith.
9. Would be wonderful to raise \$1250 to build a building for the property in Belize.

Now I continue the task that you've given to me—the completion of 133 C. Street.

Jackson, Mississippi

I am now in Mississippi for a few days to do just that. The first night I was here, the Lord encouraged me out of Haggai 2. I will meditate in this chapter and do the will of God. His GRACE is very precious to me these days. I have sinned and fallen short of His glory, but truly He has drawn me closer to his side.

Rockcastle, Virginia

*We've now all gathered at Rockcastle for an East Coast Staff Conference which looks to be a refreshing and vital time. Lord Jesus—send Your Spirit of uplift and revelation. Change us that we might change the world!

March 4, 1984

This week turned into a very busy one with incredible fatigue for me and then some very difficult times.

During the week, I spent an evening with Don Stephens, Wick Nease, Leland and Nick in a time of hard questioning and loving ministry. They had come into town partly to help with our difficult circumstances.

Around a meal, we did a lot of sharing. I emptied my heart and wept, exposed my weaknesses and really listened to their counsel. It was loving, specific, hard, and so encouraging because it was the strength of family and caring leader friends.

A few days after this we gathered as a team with Nick Savoca with us and had a time of open sharing and bearing our hearts over our present time of difficulties and need.

It was the hardest time I've ever been through in ministry. And it revealed such tremendous sin among us and a decaying state among us.

All of us walked away very sobered by the meeting and since that time, have really sought the face of God.

Shirley and I really talked and prayed together and thought out loud about what we should do:

1. Should we leave the ministry and turn the leadership over to others?
2. Should I simply give myself to an “at-large” teaching ministry?
3. What was God saying to us?

As we looked to the Lord, He showed us very clearly that we were not to leave or in any way run from the situation. On the contrary we were to stay and “strengthen what remained.” Yes, it was a time of soul-searching, death of a vision and being topped in our tracks. This we greatly needed. But as we humbled ourselves before God, repented of our sins, and made the change He was requiring of us, then He would forgive us and begin to help us rebuild.

During the week, Shirley and I began to read a book that had been given to me by Marty Berry in December called *A Tale of Three Kings*. It is an extremely insightful story on the leadership character of David, especially in contrast to that of Saul and Absalom. It is greatly ministering to us.

Through the deep testing time the Lord has really spoken to me about the following:

1. That I have much to change in my leadership, especially in learning to share authority and not dominate a council or leadership team.
2. That I have relationally neglected my people and need to deeply repent of this. People are more important than the treadmill we’ve been on.
3. That I am to lead and keep the vision before the people. They greatly need me to do this.

**All praise to the Father for His righteous dealings. All week I’ve had precious time with our staff, and we are beginning to regroup and re-unify. Praise God that reconciliation and rebirth are possible.

*On Friday, in conjunction with Bick Savoca and Don Stephens coming into town, we had a very important all-day meeting of our staff. It was a very awesome time of sharing concerns, needs and hurts, and basically coming to the desperate realization of the fact that we are dying as a ministry and desperately need to be revived by God.

Much came out during the meeting, a lot of it aimed at my leadership and failures toward the entire ministry. Right now, I have never been as confused and low as a person and as a leader as I am right now. God is greatly dealing with me and for this I am thankful. However, there is still much more that I need to understand and press in to know. On the weekend I have rested my mind and heart and begun to seek my God.

*My and YWAM's future are at stake during this time. It's like a FINAL vicious attack from the enemy to crush me and us before we march to victory in Washington, D.C.

Washington, D.C.

March 11, 1984 – School Prayer Amendment

We lost on this bill on Wednesday 56-44 after many days of prayer and labor. We lost the battle but will win the war. We are obviously not yet ready to lead. But we will be and are only more motivated to cast out the wicked and raise the army of God.

[A national Christian leader group had met all week at our building, led by Dr. Jerry Falwell and worked hard to lobby various senators. I got to know Dr. Falwell during this time and appreciated his humility as a man of God—not how the press painted him. As the vote took place, I sat in the balcony next to Jimmy Swaggert who would be disgraced in the future over sexual infidelities.]

On Tuesday night right after Shirley and I had finished our evening devotion together, God caused a visiting Christian leader to call and greatly encourage me about 133 C. Street. He shared “in the Spirit” that its completion was just a “matter of time” and exhorted me out of Hebrews 6 to have faith and great patience.

I took the call as an angelic act of God at a crucial moment during a crucial time from a loving Heavenly Father who comforts us in our trials.

Most of the week I spent sharing with our people. That brought tremendous encouragement and love.

On Thursday I was involved in a bad accident on the 66 freeway that involved four other cars. Amazingly, my dad's friend, Peter Eichmann (in a passing car) happened to see it, recognized me and took me home. That was amazing timing.

Praise the Lord no one was hurt, and that God's hand of protection was clearly there. *I am under attack, but very much safe in His care.

March 18, 1984

*After some weeks of great difficulty and soul searching, I “rose early” (Joshua 3:1) this morning and was greatly refreshed in God in prayer and in the Word—especially from the book of Joshua. Our ministry has been between Jericho and Ai and in great danger and need. But I know in the Lord that we will come through in repentance, prayer and faith.

Lord—revive us that we might rejoice in You.

A couple of other Scriptures have really been key in my understanding during these weeks, and I want to list them below. I believe that they are really “words” for us right now.

“Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail. And you, once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers” (Luke 22:31,32).

Also: “I know your deeds and your toil and your perseverance...But I have this against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen and repent and do the deeds you did at first” (Revelation 2:4,5).

March 25, 1984

We continue to go through our “sifting” and “death” time but I sure sense that now it is a depth of humility and openness. I know that in my own life, the defensiveness and reaction is gone, and openness and brokenness have taken its place. I thank the Lord so deeply for His work in all of us and want to come forth as gold.

Death of a vision. I wondered if I would ever experience it. Now that wonderment is gone. A challenge to my leadership. It has now been fully experienced. A total sense of failure. I know how painful it is. Waiting upon God.

This is now what I am doing most. I have been meditating in Revelation 2 & 3. These messages to the churches contain so many insights into what we are going through right now. We have brought them before the ministry and are letting them bring about encouragement.

But the greatest thing I can personally do at this time is, in weakness and wonderment, be committed to prayer, wait upon God, and be willing to die.

This is so painful, but I want to be like David, the broken-hearted shepherd boy. To my great shame do I realize how little I have had of the character of Christ. I am learning from David. I am LONGING to be like Jesus.

April 1, 1984

After a “terrible” staff meeting on Monday, I sought the Lord about the lifelessness and “death” that exists among us. He led me to 2 Corinthians 1:9,10:

“Indeed, we had the sentence of death within us in order that we should not trust ourselves, but in God who raises the dead. He delivered us from so great a peril of death and will deliver us. He is the One on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us.”

Amen! The God of hope really showed me that:

- Faith = shows your dependency

- Hope = confident optimism
- Love = the bond of relationship.

2 Corinthians 4 speaks so deeply to our current situation. Praise the Lord for this encouragement of common experience from His Word.

April 9, 1984

*****Monday, April 9th was one of the darkest days of my life.** After weeks of soul-searching, prayer, great difficulties on our team, and many sessions with our YWAM leaders—the climax came, and it was basically this: That I should step down as base director of our work in Washington, D.C. and that Nick Savoca (and his family) step in to take over the leadership of the base.

As we shared with the staff, I could not hold back the tears...I was filled with so many emotions of hurt, identity crisis, uncertainty about the future, and thoughts about the unfairness of the situation. It hurt so badly that all I could do was weep and weep and weep.

It seems to be truly and totally a death for me personally, and I learned how painful the act of death is.

Things are all changed now. I know that I have made the right decision based on humility. I've felt for a long time that we've greatly needed the addition of YWAM leaders and other staff to help us through our crisis, and praise God, that is now coming. I just never realized how deeply I was going to have to personally die.

*In my heart now is a word to not be discouraged or embarrassed (2 Corinthians 4) but to humbly rise and help to rebuild. As the pain subsides, I will flee to my God and for His approval and pleasure and seek to do what's right. Within this framework and a attitude, the following questions will be answered:

1. Was our situation dealt with properly and completely by Leland and the YWAM leadership? What am I and YWAM to learn from it?
2. Can a prophet/leader like me function rightly in secondary leadership? Can prophetic personalities work well within YWAM?
3. What does the future hold for Shirley and I? Can we fulfill our vision within Youth With A Mission? Or, are w to move into another dimension of the Body of Christ?
4. What really are my gifts and calling in God? In what ways am I to lead or be involved in leadership? How does all this affect my life dreams and goals?

At this point I have many questions that the gracious Lord will have to bring answers to.

I have never been so devastated, hurt, and uncertain about the future as I am right now. Until this all happened, I felt very secure. Much of that is now undone.

It makes we realize very so clearly now that the only truly secure things in life are:

- Our relationship to God and His great salvation.
- The visions and dreams that He has given to us.

Many of the details of life are shifting sand. After a terrible storm, only salvation and heart vision and burden truly remain. All the rest can be completely washed away.

I know that in a lot of ways I am over-reacting and very emotionally vulnerable right now. It will take awhile for the feelings to begin to ebb. Then I will move on.

Through it all I have learned much about my Savior and His Word. Suddenly, many portions of the Bible that I could personally never relate to become alive with meaning and understanding. I feel like I've felt many of the feelings of Jesus—of rejection, unfair treatment, misunderstanding, inner anxiety and death. I am deeply grateful to God for the experience and want to separate my flesh from the sure voice of the Spirit in responding to it all.

And I want to become a brokenhearted shepherd boy. The only way to achieve this is to be broken.

I am broken. Many of my aspirations, plans and dreams are now in pieces. Left intact is my salvation and heart burden for revival in America and the world.

Gracious Shepherd—lead me forth from here. May all YOUR plans and dreams for us all be truly and totally realized.

Out of death, now bring great and vibrant LIFE with Your seal of approval and not man's upon it. A point of revelation from the past week:

- I do not have an "area leadership" calling because my "area" or arena of ministry is the American nation.

April 15, 1984

It was a refreshing morning at church as the choir presented an Easter cantata. The presence of the Lord was very precious and tender. It was easy to be "teary" over the wonder of Jesus' love on Calvary and what blessed joy it is to know Him.

Concord, New Hampshire

*This week I am in New Hampshire to speak to the SOE there. I am very weak from all that we have gone through, but confident in the strength of the Savior.

The Lord showed me very clearly that I was to come alone for Him to be able to speak to me and share with me about our “death.” I am very excited about this.

*One little truth that He gave me already was the understanding that I need to begin more praying in advance for my speaking assignments. God wants to give me revelation and power and this primarily comes through prayer.

*I have not had an “easy” week of teaching here in Concord, but I have had a fruitful time with God. It is a “rebuilding” time for me, and that is not automatic. I thank you, Lord, for your patience with me and your great encouragement which has continued to flow.

Today is the day of the crucifixion—Good Friday. I have learned more about “death.” I want to fully identify with You, Lord Jesus, and offer my life afresh to Your service and ministry.

I was refreshing to take a good hour’s walk with Jesus last night. Strolling in the dark up and down Mountain Road was very peaceful. I bound the enemy, asked the Father for the fear of the Lord, and then opened my heart for Him to speak to me.

One of the first things He shared was his pleasure with me over the choices of humility I had made over the past weeks. This greatly warmed my soul and I thanked and loved Him in return.

I then deeply pondered our situation in Washington, D.C. and felt that God revealed these insights to me:

1. That my and God’s desire was that Shirley and I remain in YWAM. I felt this would be “sealed” by my time with the International Council of YWAM.
2. That my role in Washington, D.C. was akin to Al Akimoff’s role in Salem or Graham Kerr’s role in Tacoma—leading separate ministries, part of a local council, but not a general YWAM base director. (This is where Leland is correct about my role.)
3. That YWAM International needs to “buy in to 133 C. Street” (they first need to determine whether it is a vision from God). This could come in the form of:
 - a. An Office of Public Affairs.
 - b. An Office of International Affairs.
 - c. An Office for International Prayer Coordination.
 - d. An Anastasis/PACU office.

*These were the main revelations. I still am thinking and praying about the way our situation was handled and what shared be shared there.

Thank you, Father, for your steady and guiding hand.

Washington, D.C.

April 22, 1984 – Easter Sunday

*It was wonderful to praise and magnify the Risen Savior today. The empty tomb is the bulwark of our salvation. Praise the Lord!

Rockcastle, Virginia

This week the whole family and I have been at Rockcastle to teach. It has been a grueling week from a sleep standpoint, but God has given a lovely anointing as I have ministered on revival. I must admit however that I have rarely been so tired in ministry. Fatigue has almost overwhelmed me. But I have cried out to God and He has delivered me and sustained me and for this I am grateful.

I have continued to think and pray this week about the future. In just another week, I will be in Hawaii and then many of the questions will begin to be answered.

God continues to lead me forth and raise up my inner being from uncertainty and despair. He will restore my soul and lead me in His pathway for His Name's sake.

As I prayed for America on Friday, the following verses were spoken to me:

“There was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David. And David grew steadily stronger, but the house of Saul grew steadily weaker” (2 Samuel 3:1).

May the Church in America fulfill this Scripture, O God, for Your glory for revival in our day.

April 29, 1984

I find myself in an airplane again—one of my “favorite” places to write in my journal and seek revelation from God. John Wesley had his horse and Charles Finney his coach. But we now live in the age of airplanes. I'm thankful that God is God! All these trivial human technologies change, but He remains the same.

*I'm on my way to the YWAM Strategy Conference and a real date with destiny. On Friday I am to meet with the YWAM International Council to begin discussing our Washington, D.C. situation. Oh, how I am looking for revelation and wisdom to come out this time! I feel like my whole life is hanging in the balance and I really yearn to see clearly and move on in the call of revival.

*Lord, prepare my heart and mind. Speak to your servant and I will obey. Thank you for the privilege of this meeting and opportunity. I will follow YOU.

Kailua-kona, Hawaii

*On today—the National Day of Prayer—I flew to Hawaii for the Strategy Conference with YWAM's International Leaders. It is a great joy and privilege to be here, and I am so thankful to Jesus.

Lord—do your work in my life. Rebuild what you have chastised and caused to die. Reawaken my heart and soul for the lost and your purposes in the earth. Pour down Your heart of “light” and truth upon me and guide me in a narrow and straight path for Your Name's sake. I seek Your face and Your strength. You are my God in whom I put my trust.

May 6, 1984

It has been a very good week here at the Strategy Conference, including tremendous times of:

- Fellowship with godly men and women.
- Sun, rest, and relaxation.
- Intense planning for world evangelization.

But it has also been a very agonizing time for me personally as I've not been able to participate and share fully due to our circumstances and need for decisions in Washington, D.C. Right now, my soul is at rest, but deep within me is an empty feeling of aloneness that I have cast on the Lord.

The death process continues, and it is extremely painful and unnatural. Yet, I am seeking the Lord. I am calling upon His Name, and I KNOW that He will answer me and deliver me. I have never felt so weak...Maybe I have never been so strong.

*This week finished on an encouraging note. I have been really blessed by attending this conference. My eyes have really been opened to:

- The priority of evangelism and missions.

- The priority of revival and the rightness of its pursuit.
- My deep appreciation for the family of YWAM.
- The importance of PACU [Now the University of the Nations].
- My utter need for God in all things.

*Today was a great day of rest at Hapuna Beach **I even swam out to a boat and witnessed to Cliff Coker, former middle linebacker for the University of Washington.** Praise God for the prompting.

[This week included an encouraging note from Carol McGowan (Conkey). It contained much encouragement and faith and ended with, “Your co-worker and prayer partner in the Gospel, Carol.”]

May 13, 1984

*This has been quite a week, and Monday was the turning point. After a time with Loren, Leland, Don Stephens, and then Nick, I went out onto the beach and wept and cried to the Lord. From all the times that we’ve shared, and all that has been looked at, it seems like it always comes back to this:

That I must humble myself and die to everything in my life. I did last night. I died to everything I could think of—my leadership, position, reputation, ministry, future, guidance, opinions and my rights. I laid it all down and stopped fighting...

Though I do not fully understand, I have seen a vision of the pride of my heart and it is horrible and great. I repent before You, my Lord, and before my leaders. It is the one thing I know clearly to do. **I am to stop striving and be a David.**

You have so richly spoken to me about this and I honor You and submit. I rest my being, ministry and future in Your hands. I will not pick it up of my own accord. I will die that Christ be formed in me.

I know that this is just the beginning (Loren warned me so). There will be much to be done and worked out and many painful things to go through. But in obedience to You, and not in self-pitying reaction, I want to go forward.

Where did I or we go wrong? No specific point. We, and I especially, needed to fall to the earth and die, and in so doing, bring forth fruit. Could it have been avoided? I don’t think so. There was too much pride in my heart and a need to be humbled.

My Gracious Father—lead me on from here. If you are finished with me, I thank you for the years that you gave me in Your service. They were the best years of my life. I now leave the future to You. My desire: to humbly obey.

Revelation from God: Luke 22:25-27 – the importance of humility. He who is greatest is the servant of all. “Humbly” build relationship with the leaders here. I was “called” to YWAM twelve years ago [NZ calling]. That calling remains.

Wait on Me. Renew the vision.

Washington, D.C.

May 20, 1984

Home again. It’s always good to be home. The older I get, the harder it is to be away from Shirley and the children. That is a good and godly attachment which I am very thankful for.

We began the Great Commission Discipleship Training Institute tonight with about fifteen students in attendance. It was a good beginning. [This was held in the inner city at Bishop Nehemiah Rhinehart’s church.]

I must really begin to seek the face of God upon my return. I have sensed so much spiritual warfare over my life in this city...and this week it has seemed tremendously strong. But greater is He in me and he that is in the world!

It was great to have Keith Warrington in town for a few days. He was able to see the “pulse” of Washington, and he also shared some good insights with me. I appreciate him deeply as a man of God and will pray for him in Germany.

These three words came to me the other day: Humbling. House-cleaning. Help. *They seem to speak to the heart of the purposes of God in our present trial.

*I got up early this morning to seek the Lord. May this become a way of life again in which the Lord Jesus will be pleased. In my time of great need, I continue, O God, to fix my eyes on You.

*I received the “bombshell” news today that Nick Savoca will not be coming to Washington to help us. This was a real shock and completely leaves us in a state of limbo. But, at the same time, it is really another opportunity for God to be given all the glory by raising us up from the dead.

May 27, 1984

And so, our time of testing and death continues. How and when we will emerge is up to our caring Father.

*I've been doing a lot of thinking about what God is teaching me during this time. It seems to all center around my being allowed to "fellowship in the sufferings of Christ" (Philippians 3:10) and truly learn many intimate and sorrowful lesson that Jesus Himself went through during his earthly ministry.

I really want to take the time to pray over and record these experiences that I may get to know Him better. After all, "knowing Him" has been my prayer and desire for many years. Some of it—through death—is now being realized.

June 3, 1984

*Psalm 60 is sure appropriate for us right now. This is to be an important week. May God arise, and His enemies be scattered!

*God has been giving me the grace to begin rising at 5 am to seek His face. The 5=7 slot is a commitment I've made to the Lord, and so far, has been most refreshing.

This morning I sensed a real peace in my soul about Nick and Rozanne not coming to Washington to help us and mused on the thought of our need for revival ourselves right now. This is our message and God has taken us through a death so that if we can experience it, anybody can. It will also bring an important aspect of humility into our lives.

*Nick and Leland came in to be with us toward the end of the week for kind of a "final time." It was busy but good and now the ball is clearly in our court. We must seek the Lord and do the following: "Wait patiently for my salvation."

My head and heart are spinning right now with thoughts and possibilities. There are so many things to consider and insights to get from God.

*Father—we now throw ourselves on Your mercy and will seek Your face as to the future. May Your word come forth to heal and lift-up a needy people. We deeply thank you for your faithfulness and care for us—a disobedient people. Now glorify Your Name in our resurrection and new beginning.

June 10, 1984

*2 Chronicles 12:14 – "He did evil because he did not set his heart to seek the Lord."

"Let us build these cities and surround them with walls and towers and gates and bars. The land is still ours because we have sought the Lord our God. We have sought Him, and he has given us rest on every side. So, they built and prospered" (2 Chr. 14:7).

"Lord, there is no one besides You to help in the battle between the powerful and those who have no strength. So, help us, O Lord our God, for we trust in You and in Your Name have come against this multitude. O Lord, our God, let not man prevail against You "(2 Chr. 14:4).

I finished up this week very expectantly waiting for the word of the Lord to be revealed to us this coming week. Beginning on Tuesday, we are going to seek the face of God for His guidance, correction, strengthening and grace.”

One simple prayer: Come, Lord Jesus.

June 17, 1984 – Father’s Day

A wonderful day of reflection on God’s Fatherhood and the privilege of being a “father” for Him. Now we begin to seek God’s face for direction. *Lord--be pleased with what You find in our hearts and responses to Your revelation.

*God has led us in a series of meetings that have been very good and from which a CLEAR COURSE is emerging for the future of our ministry here. The first evening the Lord led us in a few hours of “Remembrance.” We spent this time being directed by the Spirit to thank God with great and humble appreciation for all the FRIENDS that He has given to us in the Washington, D.C. area.

Out of this came a practical summons: that we schedule in the fall a special “Night of Appreciation” for them all and really share our love and gratitude. This was an exciting and non-self-centered way to begin our time waiting upon God. Lord—I am very excited about doing your words.

(*2 Kings 8:12 is an incredible verse quickened to me about abortion.)

Our second evening together was oriented toward the exposure of our sins and especially some tender aspects of RECONCILIATION toward each other. Rich and Bev, Carol and a few others were really singled out, and we went into the wee hours of the morning.

Was one of the most intimate times we have ever had.

June 24, 1984

On the third evening the confession continued, but all-in-all there seemed to be a logjam somewhere that was preventing us from really getting a clear directing word for all of us. As I pondered this the next day. I really felt the Lord say to me that I needed to step in with some recommendations to guide the floundering ship.

First, He made the following truth come so clear to me. I have been wondering about this for years, and now we are experiencing it. He said, “You are going to have to die and this process must be complete.” God had first spoken this to me when Shirley and I were in prayer one evening, and now it has come forth.

**What is completely necessary for our ministry at this crucial and painful juncture is summed up by 2 Corinthians 5:17: “The old has passed away and all things have become new.” We have needed to die that something totally NEW can be born to take its place.

And so, on the fourth night, I brought the following recommendations to our whole staff:

MINISTRY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Why are we where we are?
 - a. God’s leading – wilderness.
 - b. Our sin and mistakes.
 - c. Satanic attack – Luke 22:31,32
2. Meditation and Revelation.
 - a. Isaiah 58-66
 - i. 58 & 59 – sin, 60 – hope, 61 – evangelism, rebuilding and praise, 62 – intercession and comfort (*new name—v.2 and standard—v. 10), 63 – grace/redemption, 64 – revival, 65 – new creation, settling, fruitfulness, and 66- walk in humility, travail to birth, and missions focus (v. 19).
3. Recommendations:
 - a. The old must pass away (2 Cor. 5:17)
 - i. Let’s “die” for the summer—take a break for refreshment and re-direction.
 1. i.e. Peter went fishing.
 - b. A new creation will come forth.
 - i. Form YWAM Community Center (prayer about using Christian Service Corp. building. Reasons?
 1. Being a unified family, financial considerations, housing, multiplication (team thrust, DTS, Appreciation Night and evangelism and missions focus.
 - ii. Re-form National Revival Team
 1. C. Street update
 - a. Finishing front, live in hosts, Contact America.
 2. Answer C. Street question. If YES:
 - a. Prayer Watch priority, launch ministries, God’s word on finances, N.R. Teams.
 - c. Further or refined revelation.
 - i. Individual choices – 1 Kings 18:21.

*At this point some things are very clear:

1. We are to take a BREAK for the summer—to let the old die a complete death.
2. We are to establish a new YWAM Community Center to begin a DTS and other programs.

3. People are to leave, and others are to come to form a NEW CREATION.

***This morning, June 29th, I came down to my Quiet Time on steps of the Capitol—something I have not done for months. It was a beautiful morning and the Lord really ministered to me,** even though many things are pressing in on me and decisions must be made.

The book of Amos (chapters 1-9) really ministered to me and God greatly spoke out of 2 Timothy 4. I am to hang on to this chapter right now and learn from the Apostle Paul. With joy in my heart in God and his leading, I am to continue. What lessons...but what a Savior.

July 1, 1984

We spent the fifth night seeking God about the possibility of establishing a YWAM Community Center on the property of Christian Service Corps. God overwhelmingly shoed us YES.

Thought: Faith is what you're holding onto. Hope is what you're looking toward. Love is what you're embracing.

July 4 – What a blessed day, day of liberty! We had a very good celebration at Leonard and Marilyn Abram's home and then a final staff meeting as a group.

We are now on a break awaiting resurrection—and God is moving.

***On Friday evening I brought together twelve men to share my heart with about 133 C Street and our need. It was a very good time as I humbled myself and asked for their input. God's word really came forth:**

- **That 133 C Street is from God and is not to be given away.**
- **That it is to be a true united effort by the Body of Christ.**

What is going to happen now is that we are going to continue to meet and pray as a “working committee” and then possibly see 3-5 groups emerge to unitedly birth the Christian Center.

Other groups would be “associates” that would also share in and use the center.

God also showed clearly that now is the time for 133 C Street to move forward. We are in the center of His leading and actions.

*****I have truly felt like a 1000-pound weight has been lifted off my back...The vision is being resurrected and is about to come forth. Praise the Lord.**

July 8, 1984

Regarding the major decisions and time for the resurrection that we have come to, the Lord spoke to me out of the following verses today:

“Writhe and labor to give birth, daughter of Zion, like a woman in childbirth, for now you will go out of the city, dwell in the field, and go to Babylon. There you will be rescued. There the Lord will redeem you from the hand of your enemies” (Micah 4:10). Also, Micah 5:3 and 7:7-10.

*I have really needed a rest and today one began. Prior to it, however, I attended a very important formational meeting of the new national organization The American Coalition for Traditional Values (ACTV). It was a splendid gathering of about 240 ministers from around the nation.

It was a privilege to hear from President Reagan, Vice President Bush, Edwin Meese, James Watt, Jerry Falwell, Tim LaHaye, Jimmy Swaggart, D. James Kennedy and others.

*I believe that God is going to mightily use this group, representing some 45 million evangelical Christians. It is the right moment in history—an idea whose time has come.

And now, on to the REST at my parents in Port Orchard. Rest and healing are really needed in my life right now. Then to be built back up in faith.

Salem, Oregon

July 15, 1984

*I am speaking in Salem, Oregon this week—one of my favorite YWAM places. I am also just so pleased to kind of “be away” where I can spend time with God and be refreshed. So far, my prayer times have been very special—very much a RENEWAL in prayer and intimacy with Him.

*I am grateful, Lord Jesus. Complete your “healing from death” in my life and use me to deliver Your word to this group of Your saints.

These days in Salem have seen the Lord minister HEALING to me in the area of relational hurts I have experienced in the past few months. Today I completely released them, prayed for all that were involved, and sensed a tremendous freedom being born in my spirit. In the past, I have not had major difficulties with “hurts.” Now I can identify—and will conquer in Jesus.

Port Orchard, Washington

After a quick weekend at home, I have now traveled down to South California for the Olympic Games Outreach. God has really spoken to me about this event, and now I know why. So far it has been an utterly tremendous time.

Pasadena, California

I have been helping to lead the leadership council here in the Pasadena area. We have about 1000 participants involved in the orientation and it has really been very excellent. I believe this is going to be one of the greatest outreaches of our mission as well as this nation.

July 22, 1984

So far, we have heard from Loren & Darlene Cunningham, Kalafi Moala, Alan Williams, Dr. Ralph Winter, Landa Cope, Floyd McClung, John Dawson and others. There has been a wonderful spirit of prayer and praise and the teaching has been so good on evangelism, God's heart, revival and other aspects.

*These large corporate "advances" are very special. Thank you, Lord, for the privilege.

*Isaiah 44:1-5 – A wonderful promise concerning children which I claimed for Nathan, David and Bethany. Three children are mentioned specifically by name.

The Lord really spoke to me today about self-image. Because of the failures and inadequacies of y leadership and our YWAM ministry, I am currently struggling with a self-image problem I have never faced before. It is a good thing. It is an important part of God's pruning of my life. It will help me relate to so many different people who have struggled in this area.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for Your growth in my life.

As I was interceding for our nation today, I asked the Lord to show me if it was truly upon His heart to allow President Reagan four more years as president. He spoke to me out of 2 Chronicles 2:12: "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who has made the heaven and the earth, who has given King David a wise son, endowed with discretion and understanding who will build a house for the Lord and a royal place for himself."

July 29, 1984

The Outreach phase has now begun—the 23rd Olympiad is underway. The cry of my heart is the cry of John Hyde, "give me souls or I die."

I preached this morning at the Open Bible Church and God's anointing was present. Now a couple of weeks of evangelism begins, and I am asking God for three clear converts during this time. He will be faithful.

*So far, the Olympic Outreach has been tremendous. The whole city seems to be alive due to the presence of the Games and I believe that God has answered much prayer to prepare the hearts of many to receive the gospel. Already there have been stories of many converts and significant witnesses being made, and in all of this we deeply rejoice! May Christ be lifted exceedingly high!

I was able to tour Fuller Theological Seminary and the U.S. Center for World Missions today. It was a special privilege to meet and talk with Dr. Tom Brewster and his wife. I do so want to do my part in the unfinished task.

Today we are going out into the streets of Hollywood and believing God for a harvest. May this continue to be a lifestyle of evangelism lifting high the good news of Jesus Christ every day of my life.

OLYMPIC OUTREACH REVELATION

For months...in fact for years, God has been speaking to me about my lack of fruit in soul-winning or evangelism. The desire and the burden have been there, but I have been very much hot and cold and not intensely committed as I should be.

Here at the Summer Games Outreach the Lord has really spoken to me. There has been such a wonderful emphasis about love, naturalness and boldness in sharing our faith. In fact, the one revelation that I have clearly seen has been this:

- The greatest mark of a life of revival is a lifestyle of soul-winning and evangelism.

In seeing this truth so clearly now, I realize that I have allowed myself to rationalize having a burdened evangelistic heart out of my revival vision. But this can't be!

To live in revival is to be full of the life of Jesus. Jesus' burden is for the lost. It is a contradiction in terms to talk about revival without focusing on its greatest fruit—evangelistic fervor. A revived heart will evangelize.

Last evening, I attended a large rally at the Angeles Temple, home of the Foursquare Church of America. Two thousand people came there to hear Joy Dawson share on revival, and she so greatly amplified this point.

In the moments of application, I asked God to do two things in my life during this outreach. First, to give me a convert and disciple. Second, and more importantly, to make me a soul-winner—one who is centrally focused on Jesus for the rest of my life.

In my prayer time this morning, I reiterated this commitment. May it not be another false start. If I am to be a revivalist and carry the message to the nations, I must be a soul winner.

God, help me for Your glory in redeemed lives.

This truth is so important to our YWAM ministry in Washington, D.C. And the timing is so right. Evangelism must be the number one priority if we are to live lives of revival. I want so desperately to take this back.

This is also so greatly true regarding 133 C. Street. We have had our priorities just all out of whack. The focus of the ministries of C. Street should be:

- Evangelism
- Prayer for Revival
- Unity, and
- Training in Righteousness.

In fact, it should be a place in which we see at least one person a day getting saved for Christ's sake. I want to set this as a target to aim for.

REGARDING AMERICA AND THE 1984 ELECTIONS

We sure have a battle on our hands and my heart has been greatly burdened since watching portions of the Democratic Convention. The destiny of a nation is at stake.

As I sat on the stage of the Angeles Temple last night, the Lord really spoke to me clearly. This is what He said:

The Olympic Outreach in 1984 is to America what Washington for Jesus was in 1980. It is an event of which the power and grace of God will be released to righteously guide the destiny of the nation. Without it, there would be no hope in the fall elections of 1984.

I continued to pray about this in the morning and the revelation continued. With hope in my heart I will continue to pray.

August 3, 1984

What a tremendous day of new release in evangelism! The convert I'd been praying for was given today—and what a story.

Pastor David Cole and I were standing on the corner of Hollywood and Cherokee after walking the streets and praying. Suddenly Dave looked down and saw a green American bill blowing along the ground. He picked it up just as another man saw it as well. He unfolded it and realized it was a \$100 bill!

The man who had seen it also could hardly believe it and we started to talk. His name was Percy Gage—from Texas—and he'd been on the streets for a week. Six months before his marriage and family and had split up. Two months ago, his parents had been killed in a car accident (his father had been a pastor).

Now he was on the street, needed Jesus, and had just missed the \$100 bill.

He got more than that! We took him out to lunch and shared the gospel with him. There in the restaurant he teared up and prayed and asked Jesus to forgive him and change his life. It was a wonderful conversion.

We went out witnessing with him in the afternoon and then brought him home with us. He showered and shaved and stayed with us. He was a new man. Two nights later he helped lead another many to Christ. The multiplication had already begun.

*I have learned so much through making this new convert—Percy Gage. Through him and other good witnessing situations, my heart has really been set on fire for evangelism. And my prayer has been answered:

Win one—Disciple one—Send One.

And more days are left to see other souls come to faith in Christ Jesus.

Palo Alto, California

The Lord directed me to drive on the weekend up to the Bay Area to spend time with Colonel Doner and to meet Jay Grimstead. It has been time well spent. Out of the time with Jay, I have been asked to join the Coalition on Revival (COR) and attend a major conference this month. I believe I am to go.

Los Angeles, California

August 5, 1984

I had the privilege of ministering at Trinity Church (Anaheim)—Pastor Lou Sheldon this morning and in the evening at Mission Hills Christian Center (Pastor Roger Story). I didn't feel that anointed in either place, but I'm sure this was partially due to fatigue. God's blessing on His Word was still evident.

Roger then offered to put me up in a Holiday Inn for two nights [after sleeping on the floor for weeks]. What a wonderful provision of God! The Lord wants me to “seek His face” for two days and so I will. I have a great expectation for what He is going to do and say.

It was a neat couple of days seeking God’s face in seclusion. There were no great revelations just much encouragement to obey what He has already shown me. I interceded, sang, took a walk, planned, pondered and rested. It was a time that allowed me to “catch up with God.” On revelation was very clear about our future in Washington, D.C.:

We are now to move from being a team to a community.

*A gem of revelation God gave me this morning while praying for America:

One of the reasons we’ve experienced revivals in this country has been the continual influx of new people or immigrants. Any culture that tries to “save itself” will harden. A culture that lovingly accepts others will be continually revived by Jesus through the freshness and openness of the newcomers.

OUTREACH ’84 – LOS ANGELES PLYMPICS

It was the greatest outreach of my life and also of Youth With A Mission. What a glorious occasion of unity, evangelism and the burden of God for revival in our nation. It was a wonderful privilege to be involved and I will never be the same.

After two weeks of outreach ministry, the event culminated yesterday in a large all-day rally attended by 3400 YWAMers from seventy-seven nations.

It was a blessed time of worship, burdened intercession, fellowship, dance and festive ceremony, many dramatic presentations and so much more—lasting from 10 am to 11 pm.

*In many ways, the glory of the occasion was the closest glimpse of heaven that I have ever experienced. Waving the flags of many nations, praising God in many tongues, we proclaimed:

“It’s the Name above all names...and we will declare it to a dying world.”

*Lord Jesus, THANK YOU for the staggering privilege of knowing and serving you. I am refreshed and changed. Send me home with the same spirit to re-ignite the flame of revival.

Port Orchard, Washington

August 12, 1984

This week went by very quickly and served as a week of rest and fellowship following the good time in Los Angeles.

It was very important to be back together with my own wife and family and to spend quality time with our parents. Families are the building blocks of societies. Thank you, Lord, for mine.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, I surprised Shirley and took her out and stayed overnight at the Rodeway Inn where we went on our honeymoon night. We rested and read books at a park, had a lovely dinner together, went to a movie, enjoyed the beauty of intimacy with each other in hours of seclusion, prayed together, walked and talked together and renewed our love and relationship.

We had not done something like this for about 6-7 years and Shirley hadn't slept in for three years.

It was glorious! We're going to do it again and keep on growing our relationship.

*We then finished our days in Port Orchard and flew home. Going standby, God wonderfully provided great seats for us. Praise Him. No to unwind, gear up, and rebuild.

August 19, 1984

*Scriptures to look at: Acts 9:15,16, Zech. 3:16,17, Isaiah 54:2-10, Psalm 65:4,5,11, 66:5,8-12, 16-20, and Deuteronomy 1:30,31.

Back in Washington, D.C., the phase of "death of a vision" should now be coming to an end. This means that these days will not be easy ones, but just the final "hours" of a time that God has used to greatly work His character into our lives.

But as I face this ending, I am very much aware that it will be a time of "burial"—and burials are very hard and emotional—not easy. This is especially true of certain relationships like Jim and Gail Waller who left his week. Both Shirley and I greatly wept and embraced them and sadly said goodbye. We will pray much for them and look forward to a future that hopefully will allow us to minister together.

*For a major part of this week we enthusiastically watched the Republican National Convention on television. It was a wonderful affair compared to the Democratic Convention.

We will labor long and hard in prayer for President Reagan this fall. May God be pleased to exalt the righteous and move the nation closer to spiritual awakening.

August 26, 1984

A wonderful family day! For the first time in seven weeks, Shirley and I and the children were alone. It was a very nice and relaxing day and I thank Father for it—for my wonderful family.

Most of this week was low-key and family oriented. It is the final days of the “break” before we go back to founding and establishing the “new creation” of YWAM here in this capital area. I have really been impressed to rest and make sure the foundation of my own immediate family is safe and secure. Then we can effectively rebuild the YWAM family.

A man who is running for state legislature in Minnesota sent me an encouraging word in email today. Here is a portion of it:

“I can see an absolute powerful force of righteous influence and lobbying taking place at 133 C. Street. I think what will be happening through you in 6-8 years will be beyond your most inspired prayers at present.”

“Such a man will not be overthrown through evil circumstances. God’s constant care of him will make a deep impression on all who see it. He does not fear bad news nor live in dread of what may happen. For he is settled in his mind that Jehovah will take care of him. That is why he is not afraid and can calmly face his foes” (Psalm 112:6-8 – TLB).

September 2, 1984

I’m now “running the race again,” rising early to seek God in prayer and Scripture reading and jogging about 2-3 miles a day. The older you get, the harder it gets. Right now, I’m sore but the process is very healthy. I felt in the fall I needed to begin again and to really prevail in our YWAM circumstances here in Washington, D.C.

May the Lord be pleased to place a fresh strength and anointing upon me.

It was a very hard rebuilding week—this time in my personal life as well as in our ministry because we are in a “waiting time.” God has put me “on hold” to deal with me and to move in my life. This removal from the frontlines is very painful and humbling. But deep down I know it is necessary and good.

It is a “good thing” to wait for the Lord. To be emptied of self and filled with Him and His ambitions.

Though hard for my pride to accept, I know that it is right, so I wait and pray. I’ve also begun to rise early again to seek Him and to “run” again. I want to “run with You again” Lord Jesus.

September 9, 1984

A couple of busy weeks have gone by and I have failed to record the blessings of God in my journal. This morning I rose early to seek the Lord, and this allowed me some time to record a few things.

*Our ministry remains in a time of slow rebuilding. New people are beginning to be added to us and more are on the way—but it is taking some time and right now we are pretty stretched to the limit. In the ministry overall, two major things seem to be unfolding.

First, the united coalition of 133 C. Street is being born. At this point it looks like 8-9 different groups will be joining together to give birth to the center, and I see the hand of God in these happenings. We had our first meeting together just a few days ago, and I believe the Lord has so much in this unity of his people that we can't begin to imagine all that He will be doing.

Lord Jesus, if I ever needed your mind and heart in decision-making, it is NOW at 133 C. Street. I deeply thank you for your undeserved faithfulness. I do not want to give up on the vision. I see it in my mind's eye and want to possess it with all my heart. Guide me in humility and wisdom for Your Name's sake.

September 16, 1984

The other great decision we've been facing has been the move into a community setting for the good of our work here in the capital area. I have been persevering in this negotiation with Christian Service Corp and we finally seem to have broken through. It does look like we will be moving our base of operations to Silver Spring and joining forces with them. The goal: 500 missionaries sent out each year. I believe this is totally attainable and is certainly the vision behind the logistics. Again, we need the Lord to direct us every step of the way.

*I had a very edifying time recently with Jim and Joy Dawson who really spoke the word of the Lord to me:

1. 133 C. Street is of God. Don't look back. Don't doubt. Resist the enemy, and, as YWAM, retain ownership of the building. This was a crucial and timely word to me.
2. To allow our work to take off here in Washington, D.C., another leader of equal stature is needed—a Barnabas must come forth.

I whole-heartedly agreed with this and felt a tremendous release as they shared and prayed with me and committed themselves to help. My call will now be, "Barnabas. Come forth!"

September 23, 1984

I rose early this week to seek the Lord. This morning as I sat in the dark and quiet of the early morning hours, the reality of what God has been saying to me this year really came across my heart and mind. It can be described by Philippians 3:10,11:

“that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death. If by any means, I may attain to the resurrection of the dead.”

*This has been a year of learning painfully but necessarily the “fellowship of His sufferings.” I want to learn well and produce the peaceful fruit of righteousness out of it.

The week finished in a flurry. The pace and lessons of this year have been very difficult, but very good. Yet, in so many ways, I feel like I am on a treadmill that is going and going and impossible to get off.

Father, I look to You for strength and deliverance. Only God can see us through.

September 30, 1984

*We began the move this weekend to Christian Service Corps obeying a “word of the Lord” to do this that God gave some months ago. We have been negotiating for some time, and finally the Holy Spirit has been able to break through and guide the process. I believe this is a very significant and important step for us. It is a major move of faith, but we clearly believe that God has led us to do it.

Now, as always, we are desperately needing Him to guide and provide.

Today we had our first staff meeting at the Corps—with some new faces, really a whole new family that is being built together. Was a good start. I sense a new spirit of faith in a new environment. Lord—make us a family established for Your glory here. Out of death, breathe new life and fruitfulness into every dry bone.

I have come down to C. Street to write and seek having “the good hand of God upon me.” How desperately I need Him at this time in my life. And deep down in my heart, I know that my Lord is going to come through. Amen, Lord Jesus.

October 7, 1984

The weeks have been scurrying by and I have not had enough time with Jesus and do feel the telling effect of the loss. It’s hard to get off a treadmill once you are on it and that’s where I still find myself. My hopes and my dreams for ministry in Washington, D.C. are still a “pregnancy” and I am very weary from “carrying this child” this long.

In my heart, I know the time is drawing near. I was told again this week that we must see a breakthrough at 133 C. Street by December 1st. This means that the “squeeze” is on and oh how desirous I am that it be completed! On the surface, in my great weariness. I hope that I will make it. Deep down, I trust in the Living God who has guided me every day of my brief life.

*Thank you, Lord Jesus, for helping to organize us this week. Thank you for the new people, and their fresh spirit and attitude. Mold us into an evangelistic family and plant us in this great city.

Rockcastle, Virginia

October 14, 1984

I've brought the family to Rockcastle for a week of teaching. I believe the Lord really wants to “bring healing” to me while I'm here and I sense that this is taking place. I'm learning that healing is sometimes a slow process. But it takes place yet the same. God has raised up a good work here and in this I fully rejoice.

*Regarding C. Street—I believe the Lord has encouraged me to suggest that we go on a 40-day fast as a community beginning October 24 and going through December 3rd. It may be the time to push and get out the forceps. If so, I want to be obedient. Confirm this word, God, and give us the strength and faith to rise to meet you.

I've had a good week at Rockcastle. Last evening the Lord really began to breakthrough is gentle, stable streams of repentance and commitment to Jesus. Sometimes these gentle, rational, but deep moves of Jesus are the best molders of character.

We've also had a good time with friends. However, some of the “hurt” of the “break” with this base continues. I suppose Jesus will heal it over time. I sure don't want to stand in His way.

Today I give an all-day seminar on “Conscience.” Lord, give me Your strength and Your power.

Washington, D.C.

October 21, 1984

“But I will wait for better times, wait until the time of trouble is over. Then you will call, and I will answer you, and you will be pleased with me, your creature” (Job 14:14,25).

Many things are happening in our ministry right now. 133 C. Street is reaching a point of possible final “travail.” For the first time in four years, we have received a concrete offer to financially finish the center and are prayerfully moving ahead. It appears to be God’s moment. The coalition of eight ministries has come together in the spirit, the setting of the national election has brought us to a crucial time in our nation’s history, and in our own hearts, I believe the work of humility and brokenness has been accomplished.

And so, the moment of victory may be at hand. We are humbled, ready, hopeful. There is no boast in the flesh—just eyes fixed lovingly on the mercy and grace of the Living God.

Father, I ask for Your wisdom and counsel to be mightily upon the decision-making process right now. I want to see Your will all the way through. Stop the will of man and bring into being the perfect will of God.

*I am also praying fifteen minutes a day right now for the national elections and believing God for some mighty miracles. Revive Your work, O God!

Hammonton, New Jersey

October 28, 1984

I traveled to Hammonton, New Jersey today to give a “National Affairs Briefing” and speak at the YWAM base. Though I have struggled with a throat cold for most of the week, I am believing God for some good results among the students and staff. God IS giving me enough strength to speak. That’s all I need. Grace is enough. When I am weak, then I am strong.

Recently I was given some Scriptures to meditate on: Jeremiah 1:1-10, 2 Chronicles 20:1-22, Deuteronomy 1:21-31, 10:12,31:6-8, Joshua 1:1-9, Proverbs 2:6-10, and Matthew 11:29-31.

*Lord, give me revelation from Your Word!

From Psalm 121: “He will not allow your feet to be moved...The Lord shall preserve you from all evil. He shall preserve your soul. The Lord shall preserve your going out and coming in, for this time forth and even forevermore.”

*I have felt that I needed to “preserve the vision of 133 C. Street.” Last evening, I sought the Lord about this. This morning He reminded me that He is the One that preserves us. He is far more committed to this than we are to Him.

This truth makes me very humbly secure and confident to move on today.

The Lord quickened to me this morning a possible theme for our December “Missions Banquet.” –The Testing of our Faith (James 1:3).

Washington, D.C.

***It appears that the “victory from the Lord” that we have longed for at 133 C. Street has now arrived. After much counsel and prayer and fast-moving events, the Lord has led us to accept a proposal that will fully give birth to the center.

It has been a sobering and cautious decision, but since we have made it, my heart has been assured that it IS the will of God and truly for the highest good of His kingdom.

Basically, out of the Coalition of Eight that the Lord began to form, some men have stepped forth and a new creation has been formed. 133 C. Street is to be a new and distinct entity, based in a separate corporation. A new board has been formed made up of myself, former Congressman John Conlan, Cartter Frierson and Harry Conn. This is quite a yoking of men from different decades and from all four the regions of the country.

The “new creation” meant us giving up some “control.” But I believe it is right as a step of humility, balance to our ministry, and simply God’s way.

Various perspectives on this come to mind:

1. The new and independent corporation allows ownership by the Body of Christ with roots stemming from YWAM.
2. John Conlan’s key role brings in a former Congressman with vast experience and many contacts. In my own life, God seems to be saying:
 - a. I need to be disciplined to an extent by this man.
 - b. That he will be used to introduce me to many people that Jesus wants me to know.
 - c. It is right for the financial burden to be lifted off my shoulders and to again focus on my primary calling of preaching and teaching.
 - d. That I am to preserve the vision that God gave to us.
3. 133 C. Street will now be wisely separated from YWAM and thus not jeopardize our tax status or reputation by direct involvement in the political arena.

*To sum up: the bay is now coming forth! It has been one year for each hour that Nathan lay in travail. But God has been faithful, and we have grown.

HALLELUJAH. Praise be to His Name and the Great Wisdom of His Name.

November 4, 1984

We’ve been praying much for the national elections and now that time is upon us. Specifically, thousands of believers have been fasting and praying for fifteen minutes a day, and we are participating. On Friday evening, we helped host a Concert of Prayer in the Cannon Building for about 200 people that was a tremendous blessing. We prayed for two-and-a-half

hours in repentance and contrition and God certainly heard and will answer our fervent supplications.

*Today is the day of destiny. Today we act as rulers of a republic in choosing our leadership under God. It is a sobering and exciting moment. May od arise and His enemies be scattered! And may we humbly use His blessing in the reformation of a nation for God!

***It's history now. Ronald Reagan has won the U.S. presidency by an historic landslide. Praise the Lord. We labored for this for months. Certainly, it has come in answer to prayer. A national reformation continues to take shape and I thank God for the privilege of being a small part.

We ended this week heading into yet another week of "great decision. On Saturday morning I met with the board of Christian Service Corps to make a formal proposal of joint venture with them. On Sunday night I heard the result. No go. They felt led to keep the property on the market. This puts us back to square one in terms of guidance.

I was honestly quite surprised by the decision and taken back. But after prayer this morning, I am more open to what God is going to do.

November 11, 1984

We are now to keep rising to another level of faith. The mountains continuously get bigger. I want my faith to yet arise to a new place.

Now, Father, prepare my heart for this trip to Bolivia. Open my eyes to see your world as You see it.

La Paz, Bolivia

(also, Ecuador and Peru)

*It's wonderful to be in Bolivia, a poor and needy nation, very unstable and insecure because of a lack of honor to Christ. Being here has prompted much thought about the great need for reviving and reforming nations.

*The Lord spoke tome today out of Job 42: "And the Lord restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends."

I believe that God wants me to come to South America in the spring to minister here. I sought Him about this, and I believe that He gave me understanding. I will look forward to obeying Him.

“For ten years you’ve invested in laying the foundations for ministry. Now, invest in people.”

A great **Conference of Bonding and Vision** has come to an end. Truly our time in South America was a good time of building bridges of love between the leaders of the two hemispheres, I greatly enjoyed it and praise You, Father, for speaking so much into my life. It will take a few days to assess everything that God said here and how to apply it. But I’m excited about doing so.

Even coming down with “Montezuma’s Revenge” on the final day did not dampen my spirits. And I greatly look forward to coming back to South America in the spring.

[A story I didn’t recount in my journal was being “tested” as a leader during this time by Leland Paris. He asked me to do something that he knew I wouldn’t like to see if I had a submissive spirit. I somewhat reacted to him and did not pass the test. I repented later and learned a valuable lesson. You can’t be a good leader until you’ve learned to be a good follower.]

Washington, D.C.

November 18, 1984

*Back at home. I am still recovering from the “cruds” but am glad to be back. Upon returning, I again face the challenge of **our very difficult and complex situation that we face here in Washington, D.C.** We need to continue to cry out to God and experience His salvation.

After a day of work, Shirley and I were fortunate to have a family Thanksgiving at home for the first time in our short history. It was a wonderful, relaxing family day in which we enjoyed our God and each other—and gave thanks.

“Oh, give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His lovingkindness is everlasting.”

November 25, 1984

I spent a lot of time this week meeting with various staff members to hear from them and encourage them. God really spoke to me during this time on my need to really concentrate on developing out own staff. I need to once again: 1) Teach them, and 2) Live among them.

*This was a very important revelation for me to see and I thank the Lord for His voice to my heart. I ask You, Father, for your grace to obey You in these things in 1985.

Toward the latter part of the week our staff really sought the Lord about our current situation and relationship to Christian Service Corps. He met us in a wonderful way and pointed us toward our need for **revival and deep repentance before the CSC staff. On Friday morning we

all got together, and we humbled ourselves before them and asked their forgiveness for our lack of Christ-like example among them. It was a wonderful time of gentle streams of revival in Jesus and brought us a warm sense of love and support.

God's central word was clear: He is more interested in who we are than in properties and housing decisions. *It was a wonderful revelation to receive and live by.

Salem, Oregon

December 2, 1984

As I was praying for Kampuchea (Cambodia) on Wednesday, the Lord gave me a real revelation about unity. The unity of the church is the greatest means of showing the Father's love to the world because those beaten down in esteem and low self-image have been crushed by estranged and broken relationships. Those who come in Christ's Name in unity display just the opposite spirit—that of oneness and cooperation. There is no greater healing than this in a fragmented and tortured society.

*Was a good week of ministry at Salem, but I must admit, I need a new anointing on my life and ministry. There needs to be a freshness and new flow of messages and revelation. It was a very good week but also a busy one. God did give me a new message one evening out of Philippians 3:10-4 – “That I May Know Him.” One evening I lived in some wonderful moments of revelation on this subject that went on for an hour or more. It was wonderful.

*This evening we had a tremendous 2nd Annual Mission Banquet with John Conlan as our special guest. It was attended by about 100 people and had a good and inspiring flow. I believe many were encouraged and Shirley and I were greatly honored. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for our friends and precious supporters. Their love and help are much more than we deserve. We honor You in them.

[One unrecorded memory of the banquet was John Conlan breaking a tooth just before he spoke and having to navigate his ways through his remarks using gum or some such thing to hold his smile together.]

Edmonton, Alberta

It has been a real blessing to be here in Edmonton for this week. It is a good new base that is growing and will make an impact in this area of Canada. I have really wanted to build a good relationship with Karl and Debbie Mueller and I believe that is coming to pass.

*In a lot of ways, my mind has been all over the map this week thinking about our team, our ministry, 133 C Street, the future for my wife and family and many such things. I have even had difficulty sleeping and believe this can be attributed to much that is upon my heart and mind.

This morning in my quiet time, I re-affirmed my thankfulness to God for His discipline in my life and my utter need to spend time with Him. He refreshed me in His presence and encouraged me out of Hebrews 11 and 12.

*We had a wonderful moving of God's Spirit today as I spoke on "The Wages of Sin." It was deep tender and moving. Its impact was great in my own life and carried over into my quiet time on Friday. It was very precious and a good time in intercession. In restoring my quiet times, I must restore good intercession. I was also impressed to pray for the coming year, "Give me souls and give me fruit."

Port Orchard, Washington

*I flew in from Edmonton today for a Missionary Support Team meeting with our friends. It was a good time. We now have 35-40 couples and individuals who stand behind us in ministry, and for every one of them, we deeply thank God.

The rest of the week I have given to my family. We've had some short nights and very full days, but I have loved on my wife and children and tremendously enjoyed their company.

*What a wonderful creation, Father, is the family! What a source of learning and development or sharing joys as well as sorrows. I love my family very much and want to learn as much as I can about You from them.

It's been a great week of personal interaction with friends and God has again showed me how important roots and relationships are. I have been so guilty of neglecting them in Washington, D.C. and for this I am very sorry. What a deep desire I have--to repent and do differently.

I've also been thinking quite a bit recently about intimacy of relationship with God. I've learned from my strong desire for relationship with Shirley how much more important it is for me to long for an even greater intimacy with God than the love relationship shared by a man and woman. A lot of thoughts have come to me recently on this and I want to forge them into my life. By His help, I shall!

December 23, 1984

*Was good to be "back home" at Harper today. Thank you, Lord, for our church home. All these things are a token of Your love.

It was a very good time of winding down a very difficult year here in the Pacific Northwest. Christmas was a very rich family time, and I had a lot of great fellowship and personal times with others. This will possibly be the last Christmas we spend in Port Orchard as we will be changing our patterns and practices in the coming year.

Next year, Lord-willing, we will be in Hawaii. After that, we really need to establish a family tradition in the Washington, D.C. area. It is time to begin it and both Shirley and I are excited about it. We hope that there will be opportunities for our parents to come to us. The advance of the years and the emergence of the new young generation really dictates this. It is a part of God's plan.

Father—1984 has been the hardest year of my life. Yet, I also believe that it has been the best because I have learned much about myself, our ministry, and have grown to know Jesus more in suffering than at any other time in my life. This has been very painful, and yet so good. I have never been so hurt and discouraged. I have never been so weak, yet so strong.

*As we return to Washington, D.C., I want to start anew.

“Alive in 1985.”

This would be a wonderful prospect for the coming year. I will wait on You, Heavenly Father, and seek You with all my heart (Jeremiah 29:11-14). That was your word to my heart today. I want to LIVE it for the coming year.