

The Journal of Ron Boehme – 1986

Washington, D.C.

January 1, 1986

*I begin this year restfully and with renewed optimism in the promises and power of God.

I've sure learned in past years that nothing other than God is stable and secure. I cannot trust myself and I cannot trust others.

*Only the LORD GOD is truly trustworthy.

TRUSTING IN HIM, I BELIEVE THAT 1986 WILL BE A YEAR OF BLESSING, STABILITY AND JOY.

Glory be to God—I'm meditating on Deuteronomy 8 & 9 and endeavoring to obey every detail.

January 5, 1986

Adam "walked with God" in the Garden. Enoch and Noah "walked with God." I want to walk with God this year and for the rest of my life.

"Arise, walk in the land through its length and its width for I give it to you" (Gen. 13:17).

"And in your seed, all the nations of the earth shall be blessed because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes and my laws" (Genesis 26:4-5).

*God looks for unconditional obedience. Oh, how I long to meet these conditions this year in my walk with Him!

Lord—give me the grace to do so. And may it begin with seeking Your face early every day. Good time of meditating in the Word and seeking God's face in prayer. I have been rising early to seek the Lord and it has been very refreshing.

*For the first time in months we had a very good, relaxing family weekend together. My family is such a delight to me. I want to be the same to God. *And for the first time we have established a stable pattern of daily Bible devotions. Praise the Lord for this. I want it to begin a lifetime of devotion to Christ in us and our children.

Christian magna carta

Because God so loved the world that He gave His own Son, everyone on earth has the right for an opportunity to:

1. Hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
2. Have the Bible available in his own language.
3. Have a Christian fellowship nearby, to be able to meet, have Biblical teaching, prayer and worship with others in the Body of Christ.
4. Have a Christian education available for their children.
5. Have the basic necessities of life: food, water, clothing, shelter and health care.
6. Lead a productive life of fulfillment spiritually, mentally, socially, emotionally and physically.

The Christian Magna Carta, developed in 1981 by international YWAM leaders, expresses what we believe to be every individual's basic rights implicit in the Gospel.

Thank you for your
testing, Lord. I rise
again to lead. I
commit myself afresh
to the task of seeing
revival in the USA
for world evangelism.
I ask for Washington
D.C., for America,
for world-wide
spiritual awakening.
I commit my life to You.

Dec. 6, 1985

Date

Signature

Allen Cunningham
International Director



[On the front flap of this year's Prayer Diary I placed the above personal copy of the "Christian Magna Carta" that we all signed together at the YWAM 25th Celebration and Strategy Conference in Kailua-kona, Hawaii.]

January 12, 1986

*I have continued to rise early and seek God and He has refreshed me in this new-found commitment and act of obedience.

This has been a week of much encouragement and many answers to prayer. The Lord is beginning to bless in many ways the work of our hands and I am patiently and expectantly waiting for Him.

Zechariah 13:7-9 and Zephaniah 3:17.

*One of the most encouraging answers to prayer this week has been God allowing my dad to get his Washington State medical license renewed after almost twenty years of battling. His voice broke over the phone when he told me—and deep inside I have been rejoicing in this lifting of his self esteem and great answer to pray. Thank you, Faithful God.

*Genesis 32 has been my identity chapter of the past two years:

- I have been wrestling with God (v.24),
- I have said to him, “I will not let you go until you bless me” (v. 26),
- I have struggled with God and prevailed (v. 28),
- And I am “limping” on.

*Dwelling in the land and cultivating faithfulness has been a key.

January 19, 1986

*I'm not sure that I've noted in my journal that the Lord has completely healed me of my next problem. I had it for one year. It was a part of God chastening me.

*We are now heading into a “springtime,” a time of addition, growth and then multiplication. There is a newness in my soul. Branches in fruitfulness in ministry are beginning to grow. How I praise You, Father! Your ways are truly past finding out.

Our busy time of the year is upon us. On Wednesday our whole family got out and marched with at least 40,000 others in the March for Life. It was awesome, but not as awesome as the fact that we will 4,000 children a day in this country. When will the killing stop?

Oh, God, may it end soon!

*Shirley marched on Wednesday with our fourth child only five weeks from birth. All our children have “marched” in this event while in the womb. May history record one day that they marched and won the battle that the children of their generation might live.

I had a low day on Thursday. While sitting at my desk, I dropped my head and prayed and reached out for more faith and strength. As soon as I had finished praying, the phone rang. It was Glen Jones whom I hadn't talked to in months. His reason for calling: God had shown him to give \$10,000 to C. Street.

I let down the receiver, rose to my feet and thanked God for his timely encouragement.

Denver, Colorado

January 26, 1986

Spent a good and "quick" weekend in Denver for a North American Council meeting. It was a good time of prayer, bonding and unity. *I am still somewhat searching for my "role" among the group, but I believe this will come. Now to just continue walking "humbly" with my God.

Washington, D.C.

We are now in the busiest "national corridor" of the year. We began our Anatole meetings today and they have gone very well. Because of the good things God is doing in my life and in our ministry, I feel like I have contributed more and could more input than the past.

Oh, how I praise the Lord for brining me up from the shadow of death and mourning. It is a springtime of blessing and encouragement that only comes from God's hand. O matchless King—I praise the glory and goodness of Your ways! They are merciful and good and beyond finding out.

*I am so grateful to God that Mike and Lynn Davison are re-joining our staff here in Washington, D.C. And last night Barry and Jennie Baker flew in from Manila to lead our DTS. They are wonderful gifts from God's hand. How I want to be a faithful steward and servant-leader of your blessings, My King and my God.

February 2, 1986

The National Religious Broadcasters Convention (NRB) began today. Our second week of busyness begins.

But I am exulting in God and blessing Him for his salvation. He is doing so many wonderful things and "holy is His Name."

*One thing the Lord spoke to me yesterday was the theme of the message I am to give at our April banquet. It is to be on UNITY. This theme greatly excites me.

It has been a great but tiring few weeks. The word of the Lord has been rich at the NRB—and the National Prayer Breakfast was also very good. God is doing great things in the city and nation. He is doing great things in our lives as well.

I am weary, but at peace and at rest in His embrace.

*In the coming we move into a very important time of growth and trusting God. It is trusting Him in resurrection, not in death. I feel a bit overwhelmed, but that is good. If I have learned anything from the hand of my Father, it is: “When I am weak, then I am strong.”

***Lead me, Lord, back into prayer, waiting upon You, and Your gracious power. I am ready in You.

February 9, 1986

The Lord quickened Isaiah eleven to me this morning. I believe that it applies to our work in Washington, D.C. and our relationship to Rockcastle.

*What a wonderful promise: Exodus 32:34 – “Now therefore go, lead the people to the place of which I have spoken to you.”

“Three times in the year all your men shall appear before the Lord” (Ex. 34:23).

*This week has been a week of some great testing. It seems like the spiritual warfare over us has intensified and we really need to breakthrough in prayer. There are many things to pray about. O Wonderful Shepherd--let your unfailing word be heard in our hearts.

***A remarkable event that transpired this week was the restoration of our relationship with Rockcastle. After three years of going our separate ways the Lord brought Greg and Ramona Musch and David Swarr up to DC to ask that we rebuild our unity. This has always been on the heart of God. After three years, God’s word is becoming fulfilled. How blessed are those who wait for the true fulfillment of God’s unfailing words.

We have sought the Lord and believe that both of our bases will be blessed by the re-establishment of our unity.

February 16, 1986

How God has been speaking about UNITY:

- Unity at 133 C. Street.
- Unity at and with Rockcastle.

- Unity in the summer outreach—Washington to the World.
- And UNITY as the theme of our April 18th banquet.

***Unity is a taste of the Trinity.**

The word of the Lord for us right now: From unity and with endurance = SPRING FORTH!

*Father, in my life and ministry show me how to be rich toward God (Luke 12:21).

We had a wonderful staff meeting this week with people from almost every continent including Wedge and Shirley Alman from South America and the Scott and Erika Morey from Switzerland. It was a rich time and loaded with prayers for many areas of the world. A spark is beginning to light again in our ministry. Praise be to the Faithful God.

*Because we are at such a crucial time, we have gone into a five-week time of PREPARING IN PRAYER AND WORSHIP. Every day two people are fasting and praying for the C. Street project, the new schools, the new No. Virginia office and community, Washington to the World, and the like.

Between now and April 1 is a crucial time. Speak to us, Lord Jesus.

February 23, 1986

*We began a series of special prayer meetings on Tuesday as a part of our “Preparing in Prayer” during this time period. Barry led us in worship and after not seeing a time of breakthrough, the Lord really led us into the depths of praise and consecrated worship.

His word to us was that we were to set ourselves apart again in holiness to worship Him. I thought back on the years of difficulty and realized that God was giving us a breakthrough in worship this very night. From now on we were to worship again. Oh, how wonderful was His Presence. How warming and free! Ezekiel 45 was also impressed to us for study and thought.

This morning I basked in His Presence and read aloud from Psalm 148. Hallelujah!

*The Lord has been speaking to me about getting my body into better shape. Our two years of testing took their toll on my physical body as well, and beginning March 1, I am going to begin to come back. Help me, Holy Spirit.

I've sure enjoyed some fun times this week in the snow with the kids. Thank God for snow! I want to give quality time to my children, to be a godly husband and father that lives a life with no regrets. What a wonderful life goal.

March 2, 1986

“I will command my blessing on you in the sixth year” (Leviticus 25:21).

While the staff have been away at a Northeast Staff Conference (but Shirley and I stayed home because our fourth child is due any day), I have endeavored to get a few personal things done and to keep seeking the Lord.

He has helped me, and I especially rejoice that Shirley and the kids seem well prepared to receive our new baby. **We really believe this child will be a child of peace and joy.** He or she will also represent a new beginning, a bringing forth of new life.

*Psalm 63 was tremendously quickened to me this week. Truly God's love is better than life itself.

***It has been a week of difficult spiritual warfare and waiting. We are in a special time of prayer and battle, but that still doesn't make it easy or clear. On Friday I rose at 5:30 am to seek God. One thing **He led me to do was to read over my journal—the month of March—for the past two years. Very sobering and insightful.** Then as I was reading Numbers chapter eleven, the Lord quickened these verses to me:

“Has the Lord's arm been shortened? Now you shall see whether my word will befall you or not” (Numbers 11:23).

I should note a very significant **prayer meeting that took place on Friday, March 7, that I participated in with about five other men (included Congressman Mark Siljander). We spent an hour in Room FF-100 in the dead center of the Capitol Building binding the spirit of Freemasonry** and re-laying in the spirit the very cornerstone of the building on the Lord Jesus Christ. It was a powerful time and very significant in God.

Also, this week I received a hand-written note from Tom Giglio that is below:

“Ron—when I heard about the various trials you were going through a few years ago, I had a definite word of encouragement for you.”

“You are a Joseph. You have enjoyed special favor in the eyes of Your Father for a season (the coat of many colors—i.e. the favorite son), but due to some God-ordained circumstances, you are experiencing hard times as Joseph did.”

“But Ron, just as God raised Joseph up beyond what he could dream of, so I believe with you there is a time of release, refreshment, rejoicing and refurbishing ahead of you. This is the word that God impressed me with.”

“I love you and believe in your ministry and look forward to hearing about the great things God will be doing in D.C. Your brother—Tim Giglio.

March 9, 1986

I need to move more in **my ministry strengths which are: 1) Teaching and preaching, 2) Writing, 3) Strategic planning and leading, and 4) Ministering to and unifying leaders.** This is a word to ponder and see the Lord fulfill. Also, John 8:14 – “For I know where I came from and where I’m going.”

***On Sunday during a precious time of worship at Christian Assembly the Lord really spoke to me about this being the beginning of weeks for me and for us. I believe that I am to go into a fast and spend special time with the Lord.

Through Pastor Emmerson we were encouraged to mediate on Hebrews 10:19-39.

***I am personally going through a very difficult period. God has really shown me that I have not been a servant leader and the dealings of God have almost overwhelmed my soul. I am in despair. I am caught in my sin and need.**

“But I will hope continually and I will yet praise You more and more...I will go on in the strength of the Lord God...You who have shown me great and severe troubles shall revive me again” (Psalm 71:14,16,20).

*It has been a hard week of painful examination and waiting. Once again, I’ve agonizingly looked at the failures of my leadership and cried out to God.

One thing He has led me to do is to begin a study on LEADERSHIP by once again reading *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. *I have learned much from it.

*Father—come down among us and release us from our sins and failures into the bearing of good fruit for God.

God’s word to me during this time of testing:

1. ***I am not asking you to be a pastor. I am requiring that you be a true servant leader.***
2. *You have participated in the sin of Ezekiel 34. Repent and all the promises will follow.*
3. *Operate by the 1-3-12-700-Multitudes model. In it you will truly make disciples.*
4. *Minister to your leaders and staff the way you do to your wife and children. Love first, then impart vision.*

*Could Derrel Emmerson give a teaching to us on offices/ministry gifts perspective?

***I must be released from being a pastor.**

March 16, 1986

“Difficulties are proving ground of faith. They give it nourishment and strength” (Andrew Murray).

***What a glorious DAY summed up in these words: Megan Joy Boehme. This morning at 1:31 am the Lord brought to us our “child of peace”—Megan. She is a wonderful addition to a tremendous family that God has already blessed us with. “How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them.”

And another Sunday baby! All our children have been Resurrection Day babies! But Megan’s birth was not without incident. Her umbilical cord had a knot in it, and she had a dangerous case of Mikonium (fetal waste in the amniotic fluid). It was touch and go for a while. But the Lord gave Dr. Solano at Arlington Hospital wisdom and skill...and she came forth.

[When the doctor told Shirley there was a problem and they needed to move quickly, he turned to her—not fully dilated—and said, “This is going to hurt.” I thought I might faint at those words, but my dear wife gritted her teeth, they took the suction cup, and pulled her right out.

We were not able to hold her for some hours as they worked on her, and when she was finally given to Shirley, she cried every time someone wanted to take her away. Making up for lost time!]

What a perfect family of six!

Father—I am embarrassed by your love and blessings. Thank you, thank you for these gifts of life.

*Our Leadership Team of Bill, Barry, Mike and myself met for the first time this week. I am so excited about giving my life to these men. What a freeing and exciting prospect. It is truly a time to rebuild and see new life come forth.

Charlotte, North Carolina

*I spent today in Charlotte, North Carolina. It was eye-opening to visit PTL—Heritage USA as well as have some good fellowship with Bob and Mary Lance Sisk. Mary Lance and I have a real common heart for revival in America.

March 23, 1986

I have begun a time of fasting, praying and seeking God. It seems like five years has come down to one week, travail, trying to hear the voice of God, and establishing a fresh foundation in our ministry.

I feel very weak, tired, confused and insecure. I want to cling to God and get to know Him and His ways so much better! I want revelation from You, Father, more than anything else this week. Do not be silent. Be it painful or pleasant, I want to be washed in Your truth.

“Your work will not be in vain.” “He who diligently seeks good finds favor” (Proverbs 11:27).

*Today Jim McIlvaine and I decided to move the 133 C. Street project ahead. Is a time of resurrection coming? I wait and pray.

*God told me to fast for a week. I have done so and God has given me great revelation, especially in the areas of integrity. For the rest of my life, I want to be a man of integrity—in all areas—especially in the areas of finances.

This is the second-longest fast I’ve ever taken. The first one, of ten days was in November of 1975 when I was launching my personal teaching ministry. I believe THIS FAST is truly launch our corporate ministry, my commitment to disciple others, and our next phase of influence in national revival.

Longer fasts are to come. Because when “we are fully trained we will be like our teachers.”

Some things God has been speaking to me about personal holiness:

1. Honesty – John B. Smith, confession letter to our mailing list, not fudging on our income or taxes, sharing about our ministry and foodbank.
2. Be a man after God’s own heart. Being “aflame” for righteousness.

“No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly” (Psalm 84:11).

March 30, 1986

*Glorious Resurrection Day! I fell like I and our ministry are new and that the life of Christ is now flowing again.

Hallelujah! All Glory to God!

We have been meeting all week as a Leadership Team “turning over every stone” and beginning to rebuild.

Hammonton, New Jersey

*I also got away for two days to preach in Hammonton, New Jersey and it was a very good time. I was very tired, but the Lord refreshed me, and I believe used me there for which I am grateful.

Righteous God—lead us into Your righteousness.

Washington, D.C.

We are now rebuilding our ministry on a solid foundation. I am very excited about our four-person Leadership Team. We are moving through the pains of working together and looking at everything in our work. Our priority is our people and God has really given us revelation as to how we can care for them.

*During the middle of the week we re-financed C. Street and have finally arrived at the place of having money to finish the project. God's word to me has been: "You have wrestled with God and prevailed."

With much revelation, excitement and integrity we are moving ahead. Praise be to our Great and Patient God.

April 6, 1986

A week went by without my writing. It was a good week. One of the very "noticeable" blessings of God was the provision of a second car for Shirley and me. I had felt we had come to the time of needing a second car. I may have even prayed about it (not sure). At any rate, God who knows the heart moved upon a man to begin looking for us, and after a short time, he came up with a 1977 Oldsmobile station wagon. It is a wonderful provision of the Lord.

Thank you, Father, for your constant and detailed care.

We are still re-forming and rebuilding our ministry. There have been many leadership meetings and many needs that we need answers from God on. But I am still encouraged that resurrection has begun. We have a new leadership team. There is a new focus on relationship and pastoral care. We've inaugurated a new schedule.

Breathe Your breath of life down upon us, O Holy Spirit. Pour out your Spirit of anointing, joy, love and grace. Make us like new-born babes before you...fresh and new and totally dependent upon you.

I am weary again...but resurrection is underway. Hallelujah!

April 13, 1986

It's good to have Shirley mom with us for a few days. Today we took our first family trip to Pope's Creek Farm. It was good and refreshing and again motivated me to give a heritage of godliness to my children.

Chicago, Illinois

*I've just finished a very inspiring three days in the windy city of Chicago. I was privileged there to meet with 70 national and city-wide prayer leaders for three days of prayer and consultation. It was excellent under the leadership of David Bryant and the National Prayer Committee.

It was one of the greatest united prayer times that I have ever enjoyed. A united prayer movement is being born in the nation and the world for revival.

I have much to ponder, apply and live out as I make prayer and a united prayer movement a priority in my life.

Port Orchard, Washington

*It has been good to be in Washington State. On Friday evening we had our much prepared for Renewal '86 Banquet with Sen. Ellen Craswell and Dr. Tim LaHaye. The theme was "Father Make Us One" and I believe everyone sensed a tremendous anointing upon it all. About 175 people were in attendance from over twenty different churches. I believe the Lord was truly honored by it and that it will leave a godly effect in my hometown.

There are now many thoughts for building on into the future. A plaque on my wall with a saying of Abraham Lincoln came often to my mind this weekend:

"I like a man to be proud of his hometown. I like his hometown to be proud of him."

I'm on my way home after a good weekend away. I want to return in the power of the Holy Spirit and see God arise and do miracles! Lord, I wait for your powerful word.

*I've been away from the journal for about two weeks, so I had better take the time to catch up. I suppose these weeks can be summarized as ones of developing our new Leadership Team and watching God guide us in our decisions and priorities.

A big part of this has been seeking the Lord about our corporate financial situation. I have never been a good ministry financial manager, and this weakness, coupled with all we have gone through with C. Street has left us in a very difficult situation.

But thanks be to God that He has given us grace to straighten up the past and re-order the future. We needed seven-to-eight thousand dollars to just get out of debt, and really have been pressed about this. In the past week the Lord has really moved mightily, and we are on the way to getting a handle on this area.

One week it looked so bleak. A week later God had greatly turned it around. At this point in my life I marvel at his SOVEREIGNTY which I've never seen so clearly before. He is the God of timing, release, and deliverance. We are simply to obey, but always to attribute victory to his great acts and love.

April 27, 1986

*This week was a very busy and eventful one—both for us and I believe for this city. All week long we had the Billy Graham Crusade in town and thousands responded to the Gospel message. I believe its effects will roll on in this city.

*It was also the week of the National Day of Prayer on May 1. God seemed to sovereignly move on our ministry and especially, the 133 C. Street project and to pour out His blessing. Various times tears came to my eyes as I pondered the reality of the word God had given to me a few weeks ago: “You have wrestled with God and prevailed.”

The NEW DAY is dawning! God is making all things new...

1. It looks like a major possibility that Shirley and I will be taking a 4-5-month sabbatical to the Kona LTS in the fall. The time is now, and the way is being prepared.
2. The “Lazarus” of 133 C. St. is coming forth. Money is being provided. Leadership and staffing are being raised up. Relationships to national leaders are emerging. The crews are beginning the work. A dream is arising out of the ashes with beauty and strength.
3. Other programs such as a School of Evangelism and School of Biblical Studies are coming forth.

“We have wrestled with God and prevailed.” Thank you, Gracious Father for not letting go of me. I stand only by Your power and commitment to me. *Make me a wise servant and fulfill all your desires for our lives and work.

May 5, 1986

We sought the Lord this week and the Lord truly confirmed that we were to go to Hawaii to the Leadership Training School (LTS) this fall. I am very excited about it and believe that the Lord will really use it in our lives and for the base. It means:

- A month on the west coast.
- Three months in Hawaii.
- And me taking a trip to Asia in December-January.

*I believe the Lord wants to do a lot of “healing” during this time and also really show me where I fit in leadership in the Body of Christ and in YWAM.

O Lord, how can I thank You for your kindness toward me! How loving and abundant are your ways. How great and gracious are your acts toward all your creation. I am a thankful recipient.

*This week the Lord also confirmed that we are to start a School of Biblical Studies here in Washington, D.C. under the leadership of Dr. Earl Morey. This is an exciting development—and begins our TRAINING emphasis here in the capital. And it starts it in the right place—with the Bible. I'm thrilled and expectant.

May 11, 1986

Was a good family weekend. I so thank you, Lord, for my wonderful wife and mother of my children, Shirley. Marriage in Christ is so rich and so full.

*On this day we also had Megan Joy dedicated to the Lord at Christian Assembly. A prophetic word given over her was that she would be a "Little Singer" who would sing to the Lord with joy in her heart. Amen! May the Lord add his blessing to this word of encouragement.

*It was a good week of moving forward in our ministry—slow, but very sure. During the middle of the week we had a "financial powwow" and really sought the Lord for his guidelines and principles for our YWAM work. It was strenuous but good. God has been very faithful to us through a very difficult time.

*I am very tired and greatly in need of renewal in my relationship with Christ. Time in His presence has been sparse, with other things pressuring and clamoring for attention. Revive me in your righteousness, my King. Sustain me during this building time before we go away for five months. I hunger for your fellowship and direction.

May 18, 1986

"Though I walk in the middle of trouble. You will revive me. The Lord will perfect that which concerns me" (Psalm 138:7-8).

Another week has quickly come and gone, and my journal has been neglected. I also feel in some ways that I have neglected my relationship with God during this time and I want so badly to restore its personal glow and warmth.

Father, I'm so sorry for allowing the pressures and responsibilities of life to draw me away from You. They should draw me to You. I want to return and say that in Your grace You will lead me.

I know that life has different stages and phases that we go through. I am entering into the important middle stage of my life...my time of family-raising, ministry establishment and spiritually, the time of my greatest strength. Oh, prepare me for this important time and these years that should be laden with fruit. My only good comes from You, my Shepherd and King.

May 25, 1986

Had a good relaxing Memorial Day weekend with my family. It was refreshing, though I am sure feeling tired at this stage in my life. May the God of all strength quicken my tired being and invigorate it in Christ's service.

*We got good news today that the Athens 3—Don Stephens, Alan Williams and Costas Macris were acquitted in Greek Court! Hallelujah! What a tremendous answer to worldwide intercession. God be praised and magnified for His providential actions in the affairs of men.

*It has been a hard week for me. I have been rebuked by God through a few people and know the dealings of God in my soul. This has produced both a heaviness of spirit and a desire to seek the Lord. Truth hurts, but its result produces greater godliness.

*This Saturday morning, during my quiet time, the Lord really ministered to me out of one of the life verses that He has given me: 2 Timothy 4:5:

“But you, be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”

On all four accounts, I want to obey, and a great quickening of these words has nourished my soul this morning. Thank you, my Lord, for Your words to me.

June 1, 1986

*Shirley and I have begun a new pattern this week. We are rising at 5:30 am to have time to exercise and spend time with God. It has been especially encouraging to Shirley, and in this, I rejoice.

All-in-all, these months and years have been very important ones for me to give time to my family. I want to live my life without regrets, and this is especially true as I think about the children. It would be so easy to “miss” these early stages and not have the intimate friendships that God wants us to have.

It is also a very important time to stand with Shirley during one of the most responsible times of her life. She really needs me, and I want to be there. It is my first responsibility.

*This week, due to some changes, we have continued to seek the Lord about going to LTS this fall. This has been a very difficult decision to make—not easy to hear the voice of God—but we are open and waiting and praying.

Lord—lay out Your pathway for us that we may walk in it.

June 8, 1986

Months ago, the Lord spoke to me about Leadership. That this was to be a year of learning godly leadership and rising once again to lead in the strength of the Lord. At that time the Lord quickened this Scripture to me: “And David guided Israel with integrity of heart and skillfulness of hands” (Ps. 78:72).

*To be this type of leader is again one of my great prayers this week. I want to rise humbly to this great challenge and lead. We’ve also begun to earnestly pray for the CAMPUS that the Lord would want us to have in the Washington, D.C. area. We need the Lord to work a miracle and my eyes are beginning to earnestly focus on Him.

*I had a very nice Father’s Day on Sunday with my family. What a privilege it is to be a father! And four times over! My Heavenly Father, kind and good, has made it all possible. He is the Father of all time and I praise Him for being the perfect example and my source of power to walk righteously.

*We are seeing great releases for future ministry and in His Leadership, I rejoice and desire to imitate Him.

June 15, 1986

I have not been able to write much recently. In fact, for the past few years the joy of writing and flow of revelation have dimmed. I really want to be restored! It has really struck me recently that I am really in my middle years of life at this point. The years of YOUTH are now gone, and I have truly entered middle age. Oh, how I desire this season to be the best time of my life!

A man of God said this truth the other day: “To be old is to always be looking back at the memories. To be young is to be always looking forward toward the future.”

Our summer outreach, “Washington to the World ’86” begins soon and this morning the Lord gave me a word for it. “Be Confident in my Salvation.” With great boldness and clarity to want to go out into the harvest! God will lead us.

*It has been an excellent start to the outreach. Larry Tomczak gave a tremendous word Friday night out of Colossians 4:1-6. It was one of the best messages on personal evangelism—Divine Appointments—that I have ever heard. Then on Saturday we had Michel Patterson, evangelism and the Twila Paris Concert to a sold-out audience of 1200. Hundreds committed themselves to follow Christ.

June 22, 1986

The Lord gave me a “word” in my devotional time this week. It was substantially this: “*You are walking in my will. Be under no condemnation regarding your lack of evangelism*”

during this time. It is not primarily your gift. Yet, I will give your disciples this city who will affect the world. Keep walking in my confidence and feeding on My Spirit and my Word.”

*Washington to the World has been going very well. Dean Sherman and Danny Lehmann have been fantastic, and the Lord has really given many divine appointments while we have been out on the streets.

*In my own spirit, the Lord has been stirring me in some areas—and one is in personal evangelism. I really want it to be a lifestyle. It also needs to be scheduled just like everything else is here in the capital. This is a good word for me, and I look for the help of the Holy Spirit to apply it.

***Lord, you’ve done much for us in one short year. A year ago, we had no leaders here in Washington, D.C. By fall we will have seven. May ALL Your visions now begin to come true.

June 29, 1986

*We’ve entered a new phase of testing. Within my family, the enemy has stirred up some bad things. On this home front we are being tested with the lease on our house.

Proverbs 30:5 was a comfort this morning: “He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.”

It has been a busy and exciting week. Our second Washington to the World outreach has gone well. There are a lot of things to ponder and change, and we have really learned from this experience. But all-in-all, it has been good, and I believe the Lord has been pleased by our desire to serve Him in this way.

*On the 4th of July we mobilized probably about 1000 believers who were involved in evangelism on the Washington Mall. It is building. There was also a very good “spirit” on the Mall this year and I believe this is the wind of the Holy Spirit blowing in this nation.

***The Coalition on Revival has its final convention and solemn assembly in town, and I hope and pray that it will affect history for Jesus. It was driving a stake in the ground for Christ.

[The finale of the COR was many Christian leaders joining together on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and signing the Articles of Affirmation and Denial—to rebuild the foundations of America upon the principles in God’s Word. It was a privilege to be a part.]

July 6, 1986

*This morning at Christian Assembly we had a puppet team from North Carolina minister to the children. At the close of their ministry, Nathan responded to the altar call and went forward. It was his first public expression of faith at five years old. We prayed for him that night

that it would be one of the divine launching pads of his Christian life and ministry. Praise the Lord for his leading in all our lives.

“Wealth and honor come from You” (1 Chronicles 29:12). Solomon asked for wisdom and knowledge to lead or govern God’s people. Oh, how I need wisdom to lead! What a time and needful request this was.

*It was an uneventful week of wind-down after the summer outreach finished. I almost left for California for a trip, but the Lord stopped me, and in so doing, reminded me of a truth:

Right now, with our young children, my greatest priority is to Shirley and the kids. We are in the years of “holding back” and laying strong family foundations. I have bucked against this at times, and the Lord has always gently pulled me back. I know that the days of RELEASE will come. Father--help me to be patient and be fully obedient to You in this stage of life.

July 13, 1986

God has given me an extra week at home now that I am not traveling. I want to use it to the utmost. I had really felt that the Lord wanted me in Los Angeles. It would have brought a \$250 honorarium to me. But the Lord intervened and showed me that I was to stay home. Shirley needed me and my family was my first responsibility.

When I made the decision to stay home, that very day we received an unusual and totally unexpected \$250 check. Oh, the perfect way of the Father! When we obey Him and keep His priorities, His blessings always follow. *This is not an easy lesson to learn, but it always proves God to be true and just.

***It has been a good and semi-restful family week. One thing I have learned in the past couple of years is how to handle pressure better and to rest in God and await His timing. He never disappoints.

I love You and bless You my Father. You are everything to me.

July 20, 1986

*We had a good word in church this morning on worship—good insights. This is a time of a great outpouring of worship and song—both devilish and from God. We must use this medium for God’s glory.

Rockcastle, Virginia

*I spoke to the Rockcastle DTS the first few days of this week with a good anointing upon the ministry. In the final session, a brother stood up and gave me a “word” that I am not to

become too busy that I do not continue to train young people in character, righteousness and vision. He exhorted me to fulfill this calling.

I write these words down to honor the word of the Lord and to help in pondering its application to the future.

Port Orchard, Washington

Today our family let for a time of ministry and rest in Washington State. I believe it will be a good and refreshing time from the presence of the Lord.

***On Saturday is my 15th year high school reunion. God has really placed a burden on my heart for it, and I have been much in prayer. Lead me, O Lord, to use this time wisely and to faithfully be a fisher of men. I know that it will be a time of great warfare. Help me to put on the armor of God and push back the gates of hell.

July 27, 1986

[Attended church as Harper and] Pastor Monkemeier spoke on “Evangelism and the Church.” “Whenever the church is healthy and vital, it will grow” (Acts 2:42-48). Quality brings quantity.

Three Hindrances to Evangelism:

1. Flexibility – Luke 5:36-37. *Revival brings a flexibility of structures.
2. Authenticity – Matt. 23:27-28 – must deal with our hypocrisy and walk in purity and holiness, admitting we’re sinners (1 Jn. 1:8,9) and creating a climate of openness.
3. Fellowship – quality of koinonia is the greatest draw of the church – Jn. 13:34,35, 17:20-23. *The fire of love.

*The temple was rebuilt “in the sixth year” of King Darius. “For seven days they celebrated with joy...” –a word, I believe, for 133 C. Street.

***It has been good to be on vacation in in the Northwest though I have sensed an awful lot of warfare over our lives. It is amazing how the enemy attacks through your own family and your own hometown. Still my desire is, to paraphrase the words of Abraham Lincoln, “to be proud of the place from which I have come and to live so that my hometown will be proud of me.”

August 3, 1986

*I was reading in the newspaper on Wednesday evening and learned that **Congressman Mark Siljander had been upset in Michigan**. What a loss! I felt as if a friend had died and began to mourn the loss of a great man of God in the U.S. House of Representatives.

About 10 pm I walked outside to pray and share this burden with the Lord. Why had he lost? Why had God allowed this to happen? Within me was a desire to write Mark and Nancy a letter. But what would I say to those gripped by the sadness of defeat? These words came:

“Mark—you are called to lead. To lead in my Kingdom, you must learn defeat, failure, death to self, and then rising again. Learn this lesson well—then stand up in My renewed power and give leadership to this nation.”

*Though very tired. The Lord has helped me these days to rise early and seek His face in the mornings—and I have really enjoyed this time and entered effective praise and spiritual warfare. It has helped a lot. **I’ve also re-committed myself to the study of leadership—my goal for this year**—and have begun to study the character of Moses. Beginning in Exodus. It has been good and stimulating.

Father—make me a wise, loving and effective servant leader. This is the cry of my life and my great pursuit.

August 10, 1986

[We attended First Christian Church] and Teed Nail spoke on “The Supreme Love”—1 Corinthians 13. Agape love of the will is our most important pursuit.

***We concluded our weeks of “vacationing” in the Pacific Northwest. It was a good time, though there were also moments of tremendous spiritual warfare. But the Lord really blessed us in the following ways that I want to thank Him for:

1. Through the **Morrison family, the totally unexpected provision of all the money for our Hawaii trip**. Praise His Name. We were shocked and blessed.
2. I felt that I had a very good time with our personal board and Missionary Support Team. Some good decisions were made, and I see the hand of our loving Lord in the future goals and plans.
3. I’m believing the Lord to really speak into my parents’ difficult situation and am believing Him for healing and change.

Washington, D.C.

*We are now back in Washington D.C., and the countdown begins for Hawaii. So much needs to be done and so many miracles needed. I feel very overwhelmed but “strangely” sustained in faith and grace.

*On Monday, Nathan begins school! It seems hard to believe. Another family milestone is reached, and Shirley and I have had some time meditating on all that this means. We are grateful for all your gifts, O God.

August 17, 1986

“I will wait for my renewal to come” (Job 14:14). This verse speaks so well of my life and ministry right now. Oh, how I need renewal! How I need a personal revival in my heart and life! I have risen early today to seek Your face, O God, and long for Your intimacy and hope.

In my quiet time this morning the Lord showed me that He is sending us to the LTS in Hawaii this fall for refreshing, refurbishing, re-envisioning and re-placing us in our role.

Glorieta, New Mexico

*The Lord has brought me to New Mexico for a North American Council meeting and Leadership Conference. I am looking forward to tremendous times in God and a time of renewal. There is a beautiful desert grandeur to this part of the country.

*In prayer the Lord has impressed me to invite David and Sharon Swarr to our Staff Conference in September. I also felt that Barry and Jenny Baker should be a part also, even if they are “on loan” to Rockcastle at that time. I believe that these relationships are very important, and the Lord wants them to broaden and deepen.

August 24, 1986

Had a wonderful prayer time in the “Prayer Garden” at the Glorieta Conference Center. While praying for my family, the Lord showed me the importance of 1) Praying with Shirley—every day and special times, and 2) Praying individually with our children to help them form their own prayer lives.

*The Leadership Conference in New Mexico has been a splendid time. I have felt very freed and liberated and sensed the closeness of God and his “gentle authority” in leadership. Some of the highlights:

- Good heart-ministering messages by Don Stephens, Floyd McClung, Leland [Paris] and Denny [Gunderson].
- A real brokenness and restoration in my relationship with Leland.
- Quality times with friends and disciples.
- A renewed vision for America and the nations.
- A growing hunger and excitement in my life about seeking God in the coming months, about my ministry focus, about my role in YWAM and clear vision for the next 10-20 years (years of middle-age strength).

*I came home feeling very relaxed and refreshed in God. How good you are, Father. I delight in the security of Your love.

August 31, 1986

*Shirley and I have begun to pray together every night before going to bed. It is a habit that I heard Billy Graham mention that He and Ruth have done consistently for many years.

So far, we have really enjoyed it and I hope that we continue to do it for many years to come—blessing each other every day and retaining and deepening our marriage bond through PRAYER.

*It was a very difficult week of much spiritual warfare as we prepared to go to Hawaii. About midway through the week Shirley and I had a late-night sharing time and prayer—and there seemed to be a real breakthrough in our marriage.

- She committed herself to be the submissive wife God wants her to be.
- I committed myself to be the husband that does not domineer but truly shares all decision-making with her.

*It was a gentle but wonderful breakthrough. Now to live it out for the glory of God.

September 7, 1986

These are numbered days. We leave for Hawaii and the LTS in a few weeks and there is so much to be done. I am trying to be a good steward of my time and to walk in simple and obedient faith. There has also been great warfare.

The attack has come primarily at Shirley. Oh, how the enemy tires to divide marriages and intimate relationships! A few times we have experienced a “Satanic frontal attack” in this area. But praise be to God that we have emerged as conquerors.

*Out of the attack has also come some good changes and growth in our relationship which is God’s desire—an intimacy that is tested becomes stronger and deeper. I believe we are experiencing this, and that God is pleased.

*Now the final countdown begins in a series of national meetings and many details that must be arranged before we take off for our time in Hawaii.

***It really is an exciting time of growth in leadership, staff, outreach, and vision. Through it all I want to be God's servant leader and grow into that truth for the rest of my life.

September 14, 1986

*Joy Dawson spoke at Christian Assembly today and God used her as usual to draw me closer into the fear of the Lord and intimacy with God. "It's How You Finish That Counts" was her word and it deeply stirred me.

Now to listen, pray more and obey.

*The National Prayer Summit took place this week and much blessing attended it. It was not a large gathering but was attended by great revelation and power. I was personally deeply stirred by it and spoken to very deeply by God.

1. Through Joy Dawson's message on the "Prayer Life of Jesus" I was wonderfully challenged to aim at His example in prayer. There is a hungering for God in my life that I am so thankful for.

2.***And on Wednesday evening I had a truly remarkable experience. After Dick Halverson spoke, I was deeply moved to renew my commitment to "cry out to God for Washington, D.C. and the nation—give me the capital and the nation or I die! I really felt a restoration of anointing upon my life fully given by God. Revelation just poured down upon me for some hours. I pondered the many words of promise that God had given me in the past. I thought of the testing the Lord took us through. And in it all, I heard God saying the following very loud and clear:

***September 17, 1986

"My son—It is now time for you to pick up fully the torch of anointing that I have given you and take authority over this city and nation. It is not primarily a political calling. I give you the capital and the nation to influence spiritually. You have been tested and tried. You were brought to the point of "death." But I found your heart faithful to me—and now I fully restore the anointing to your life. Rise to lead in servanthood with my full blessing and favor.

****I then drove down to the Capitol at 10:30 pm and stood overlooking the city and reaffirmed my commitment to God and His calling on my life. It was a wonderful moment...I will remember it as a re-baptism of my calling for many years to come.*

September 21, 1986

***These have been awesome days. As our new YWAM leaders—Landa Cope and Max Crittendon—have arrived in town as well as some of our advisors. It has been made clear to me

that God is taking me personally through yet another death of a vision at the very time that the ministry is moving into resurrection.

Today—Sunday, September 21—was one of the hardest days of my life. Today I stepped away from all that I'd lived to achieve. I resigned as director of YWAM Washington, D.C. and from both YWAM boards.

[I was not asked to resign my any of these positions. Just encouraged to consider it by some of our leaders to leave a clean slate for both Landa and for our future. The decision was up to me to make. But it was no contest. I had learned by now that God's way is submission and humility.]

*The Lord has really spoken deeply to me out of 2 Chronicles 20, especially verses 4,6,12-13,15,17,20, 27 and 30. Also quickened to me was Ezekiel 11:14-18.

I do not fully understand and there is much hurt and a continual flow of tears, but deep down I know that God is pleased with my step of humility. Despite the injustices of men, the Lord assured me that I am His son "in whom He is pleased."

*I am now at the greatest turning point in my life in twelve years. I feel in mourning and vulnerability, but with great hope. It is now "Jesus, Shirley and the kids and I." And He holds the future.

[Stapled into my journal are four small lined pages of the prayers that were prayed over Shirley and I as we were sent out. They are hand-written by some staff member who took notes and are entitled "Ron & Shirley – Prayers for Commissioning."

Landa – Release gifts in us to comfort Ron & Shirley.

Nick—I can see a picture of you cuddling and sitting in the lap of the Father. Receive his comfort and whisper into your heart some very special things.

Nancy—God is a God of hope. Grateful to you for your really caring for our country and cities—for carrying the torch and for being a seed planter.

Mike—Thanks for Ron and Shirley and their ministry into my own life. Release them and I ask for anointing to rest upon them.

Larry—Thanks for brining unity into groups in the city. Bless—heal—restore and renew vision and their gifts. Give them depth of anointing after the LTS. Bring clarity on how you are moving in them and give them your peace.

Jeane—Beyond grief and pain, fix their eyes on the Lord. Great joy will rise and new expectancy and great comfort.

Alison—Thanks for your **friendship**. Minister to them—be like lambs with your shepherd. Still their hearts. “Be still and know that I am God.” Jeremiah 29:11.

Dwayne—This is my beloved in whom I am well pleased. Seeds have been planted and are going to bring great fruit. Pray blessing on Ron—may his relationship with You be strengthened with mercy and tenderness. May Ron see light at the end of the tunnel. Thank you for Ron and Shirley’s **commitment to unity**—and trust in yesterday and tomorrows. Lift their concerns from their minds and go before them to Hawaii and make a place. Thank you for this man of God—special anointing.

Jane—Excitement—an end is always a beginning. Build on what you have already done. Isaiah 55:11-13. This is a new chapter—take hold of the new things—and give thanks for God’s promises.

Charlie—Anoint Shirley and bring comfort in Hawaii. Create excitement and give her the same vision as Ron. Encourage them in the move.

Barry--(song – Isaiah 41) – Do not fear I am with you, says the Lord. You are my son and my servant.

Landa—Psalm 8—read and meditate later.

Rae—There’s a time to do and a time to be. Now is a being time.

Earl—Not marbles but grapes. **You have prepared new wineskins. You have been set apart for special ministry—prepared by your experiences. We commission you for fresh ministry.**

Barry—I love you, my son. Just sit for a while.]

[Also stapled into my journal is a long and detailed personal note from Bev Riedesel marked September 22, 1986 that contains a devotional from “Come Away My Beloved” page 143. It shares three wonderful pages of comfort and encouragement.]

Kailua-kona, Hawaii

September 26, 1986

We’ve arrived in Hawaii, tired and jet-lagged but very thankful to be here. We spent the weekend setting up our new home—a two-bedroom apartment at Kama Aina Hale—and so far, it feels like it is going to be good for all. I am very excited to be here and believe that the Lord is going to do some wonderful things.

My heart is open wide to you, Father. After twelve years of labor, I am ready to listen, become a better servant leader, find my place in the Body of Christ, be renewed, and see my whole family blessed.

September 29, 1986

*It has been a great blessing to be here at the Leadership Training School at PACU in Kona. There are 97 students from all over the world—many friends and new ones in the making.

[This was the first full-blown Leadership Training School in YWAM and ALL of our major leaders around the world were encouraged to come—and most of them were there.]

How I desire to be a spiritual sponge again! I haven't done this since 1977—nine years ago—and since 1974—twelve years ago when I came into YWAM.

*I really believe that God is saying that this is a desperately needed time in my life. It is a new launching pad—a new and deeper personal crucifixion—a new and more releasing resurrection.

I am so spiritually hungry for God—and so keenly aware of what an important time this is in my life. My future stands before me, and there is so much the Lord wants to do in my character, life, family, leadership and ministry.

*We had some logistical difficulties upon arriving here at PACU, but the Lord has been faithful to provide a beautiful home for us in Keauhou near the beach. It is to be our haven of rest, especially for Shirley and the kids. Thank you, Gracious God.

[Inece Bryant came with us to the LTS as our nanny to help Shirley with the kids and continue teaching Nathan his Christian Assembly curriculum. She used the master bedroom at our place on the 11th fairway—walking distance from Keauhou Bay—the three kids shared a bedroom, and Megan slept in a playpen in the living room where we also slept on a hide-a-bed.]

October 5, 1986

*We had a good first two weeks. Loren led us off with a good week of teaching and ministry and Floyd McClung greatly aided and stimulated us this week. What a mighty time!

*Through a loving correction from a brother, God has really exposed the pride of my heart and leadership. This morning I went off to the beach to be alone with God and had a precious time in His Presence. I am being deeply dealt with, but I know that it is so right.

The prophet must become a “father” and a wise, broken-hearted shepherd. And by the grace of God, he will!

“Live up to your name. You are a Simon, but I will make you a Peter. You are Ron—mighty power in your personality—but I will make you Paul—little in your own eyes.”

*God is speaking to me about becoming a true biblical prophet—like Isaiah (Floyd McClung is a good, balanced model). In Isaiah 61 the prophet’s role is outlined. He is to preach good news, bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim freedom, release from darkness, proclaim the Lord favor and judgment, to comfort, provide for and bestow a crown.

What an amazing message and calling!

My project in the LTS: YWAM’s role in Spiritual Awakening of America and its Impact on the Mission Frontiers.

October 12, 1986

The LTS continues to be a phenomenal school. It has excellent practical content and a dynamic spiritual base. It is a great joy to be here.

Through some circumstances this week. It became clear to me that “the cloud” of confusion and hurt over the way in which I have stepped out of my Washington, D.C. responsibilities is still there. Healing and humility of heart have been coming, but I was still having some major mental blockages in my mind regarding the wisdom of the way in which things were done and the justice of men in it.

After a time period of discussion and prayer with Max and Landa on Thursday, I went away fully committed in my heart to break through the cloud and lay the right foundation for the future.

***Thursday evening and Friday morning the revelation began to come. Out of Daniel 4. The lord really spoke. I have been a Nebuchadnezzar, hanging on the earthly authority in pride and self-pity, and God in His love and grace has arranged these circumstances to change my heart and life. The future is bright and promising if I humble myself, truly lay down my authority, and become a broken, humble servant leader.

On the beach this morning I did just that. In heart, I truly laid it all down. Though others have made mistakes, this is not of concern to me. I have sinned. I must change. By God’s grace I will.

October 19, 1986

Jeremiah 10:23-24 – “I know, O Lord, that a man’s life is not his own. It is not for a man to direct his steps. Correct me, O Lord, but with justice.”

David Garratt teaching: Strategies in Spiritual Warfare

1. Daniel 4:34-37 – Declare truths about God.
2. Psalm 148:13 – His Name alone is exalted. *Need statements about God.
3. We need to persistently fight for the land.
4. We Are in enemy territory – Daniel 17:14 - *there will be a battle.
5. Psalm 149:8

*The Lord spoken to me out of **Isaiah 40:11 from Wick Nease – He will shepherd me.**

Scriptures on government: 1 Peter 2:13-17, and Romans 13:1-10. There is a difference between control and authority. All true authorities are established by God. 2 Kings 3:16-20.

*God will bring the waters of revival when we dig the “trenches” of the mind-molder areas—especially in government. Then the revival will sweep into the trenches and not be lost.

I am asking God to make me a humble servant. If I want to be remembered for anything in my life, it would be this: *He was a humble man who walked with God. Oh Lord, may this become a reality in my life!

Friday was a Prayer Day here at PACU and we had a wonderful day praying for government leaders all over the world and doing spiritual warfare over the establishing of a “Go Center” here on campus. It was a wonderful time of celebration, praise and prayer.

Glory to the one who is worthy of our focus and adoration.

October 26, 1986

During worship, the lord really spoke to me that we in YWAM are on the verge of major exponential multiplication. Because of this, I believe the Lord would want to break out among us at this LTS in a new depth of love for one another, transcending all past friendships and showing itself in a very sensitive and action-oriented love for other students in the school—especially those we don’t know.

“Teach me knowledge and good judgment.”

*****We’ve been having the “Divine Plumb-line” series in the LTS (Dr. Bruce Thompson) and this teaching has become a great source of liberation for me personally. In fact, Thursday night, was a night of FREEDOM for me. During a time of ministry, I confessed before God my pride and competitive spirit that the Lord had showed me came from a spirit of rejection and lack of mothering in my life.**

As I cried out to God, I wept and wept uncontrollably as the “little boy” within responded to the ministry of the Spirit. **Darlene Cunningham and Treena Kerr** were especially used to minister God’s mother heart to me. A spirit of character assassination over my family was also rebuked and I was set free!

[A separate hand-written sheet by some fellow LTS student contains some of the “words” given to me during this time.

- Ron – you are priceless!
- The Lord put this verse on my mind for you—Is. 49:14-10 – Kathleen.
- “But Zion said, ‘The Lord has forsaken me, and the Lord has forgotten me.’ And the Lord said, ‘Can a woman forget her nursing child and have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, But I will not forget you.’”
- “But I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands. Your walls are continually before me. Your builders will hurry, and your destroyers and devastators will depart from you.”
- Joel 2:25,26 was also given to me: “I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten—the great locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm... You will have plenty to eat until you are full and you will praise the Name of the Lord Your God who has worked wonders for you. Never again will my people be shamed.”]

What rest and relaxation came! What striving and performance-orientation were laid to rest. It was one of the greatest experiences of my spiritual life, and now as I gaze upon the work of God in my life, I see this as the foundational work God has been waiting to do within me that relates back to God’s re-anointing of my life on September 17.

God encouraged me Thursday night that He wanted me to have a great capacity to love, and I desire this deeply. I am now FREE! Praise the Lord for the wonder of His ways!

November 3, 1986

*On Sunday a prophetic word was given in church that “THE TIME OF GRIEVING IS OVER.” I believe this was a word for me personally and I stand gratefully in God and is truth.

*This week has been one of growth and good moving ahead in my life. I have felt the refreshing and stabilizing of the Lord during this time. We are now half-way through the LTS, and God has already done much in my life. I want much more though! Lord—help me to not “coast” at this point but to press more and more into You.

Jeremiah 50:21: “Do everything I have commanded you.”

*It was good to spend most of the weekend with Colonel and Miriam Doner. It was a good time of fellowship and encouraging them to deepen their lives in God.

November 9, 1986

*We had a tremendous week at the LTS with Steve Holbrook from Princeton Management Associates. It was a good time, but I didn’t write down much. Lord—you are walking me forward one step at a time. I feel like a baby that is learning all over again. It is slow going but it is steady.

I want to get everything out of the school that you have for me and not settle for less. **I am needy and small. Continue to revive me in Your love and acceptance.**

November 16, 1986

*I have been struggling the past few days with feelings of inferiority and now a lack of identity in YWAM. It is one of the hardest things I have ever gone through. In it, I see how much I have grasped for leadership and position.

The Lord showed me two things today:

1. He was the One who gave me the motivational thrust of “Pioneer-Impact-maker.” [This is taken from the “System for Identifying Motivated Abilities” test (SIMA) that we all took during the school. I still carry the print-out of it in the back of my Prayer Diary.] This is my natural drive. To do this, I must lead. This is not wrong--it simply must be sanctified humility and wisdom.
2. The question I should be asking is this: **HOW CAN I SERVE?** How should I lead my family, YWAM worldwide, YWAM North America, the Body of Christ, the capital city and the U. S. and the world?

*If I seek the answer in humility and wisdom, I will honor the Lord by my life.

“The Lord will fulfill His purposes for me” (Psalm 138:8).

*On Thursday **I met with Loren and Leland to discuss the future and Loren strongly encourage me to stay out of Washington, D.C. for a full year and work with him on “dominion” things while taking a sabbatical. This was a brand-new thought to me** and I went away really pondering what God was saying. After sharing with Shirley, we have committed it to the Lord. He will guide us.

November 23, 1986

*God quickened Psalm 144:9-14 (especially verses 12-14).

*This week the feelings of insecurity, confusion and lack of identity have continued. I’ve also taken time to ponder Loren’s advice to us—**to consider staying on in Hawaii for a time. It seems right but we need to know the details and fully understand that we are in God’s will.** At this point, the following things look like **priorities** for the next nine months:

1. Be refreshed as individuals and as a family.
2. Shirley and I rebirth our calling together as a team.
3. That I grow up as a leader by study and application of all I’ve learned in the LTS.

4. Personal goals are accomplished: Become computer literate, get back in shape, read many books, digest the LTS materials, do a Pacific and Asia trip.
5. For Shirley: Take a SIMA and SOI test, and have her varicose veins done.
6. Serve Loren in the “dominion” area and help with the first Humanities and International Studies course here.
7. Thoroughly bond with PACU and its people.
8. Return to Washington, D.C. in strength.

*Oh, how weak and dis-oriented I feel. It is so hard for me for my identity to come back simply to my relationship to Jesus. But that’s what it is—nothing more.

Help me, Jesus, to grow and see clearly again.

November 30, 1986

Joy Dawson has been speaking this week, and as she has been used of God in the past in my life, so God is using her again to re-ignite my spiritual passion for Him. *Nobody on earth motivates me to want to know God as Joy does. She is a wonderful example to follow.

Today she gave a very probing message on the character of Jacob—on the theme of honesty—and the Lord really spoke to me that I have been a powerful individual like Jacob, and I have also allowed deceit to come into my life and defile me.

On Tuesday night I shared what God had been saying to me with Shirley and had her pray for me. She broke the bondage of lust and deceit over my life and over both of our families—Boehme and Johanson sides. It is a generational bondage that needed to be stopped right here. IT WAS—Hallelujah.

*God continues to do His work in me, and I am so grateful.

*Psalm 78:72 is becoming my leading drive and ambition.

December 7, 1986

The Strategy Conference has begun, and it looks like it will be a great time of blessing. What a privilege it is to gather together with so many great men and women of God. It is one of the greatest privileges of my life.

*On Monday night about 400 of us came together at the King Kam Hotel to honor Loren and Darlene Cunningham for all they have meant to us through the years. It was a very special time to HONOR some very special people in God’s Kingdom.

Personally, I am so grateful for how God used them to change the course of my life and I'm greatly looking forward to working with them this coming year. How blessed it was to honor them! Gave me another glimpse of the great and wonderful heart of God.

*And now, personally, I am deeply struggling again. After meeting for a time with Landa, Max and Nick, I felt so low and discouraged about my relationship to them and my future—My identity and direction crisis is still an open wound.

But I trust in God and his grace. He has carried me through every other difficulty, and He will do so once again.

*In tremendous weakness I cling to the Scripture that Roland and Cathy Frederick have me many years ago: "He who began a good work in you will carry it to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:6).

***Friday evening at the Commissioning Service was one of the lowest moments of my life. As I sat in the shadows, Landa was prayed over in her role in Washington, D.C. and without any reference to Shirley and me. It was one of the most hurtful experiences I have ever been through.

Afterwards, I drove away to a secluded beach and wept and wept. I knew that it was centered in rejection and self-pity, but it hurt none the less.

[While on the beach I contemplated taking my life. That's how broken and useless I felt. This was the true bottom of my death of a vision. From here, God would greatly teach me and raise me up once again to serve Him.]

*How my spirit and heart are burdened and weighted down. I am in the dark night of the soul and in the depths of despair. But God has given me "coordinate lights:"

- Daniel 4 – Nebuchadnezzar – "until you acknowledge that Heaven rules."
- The testing of Job – "What I dreaded has come upon me."
- My encouragement has been Jeremiah 29:11-14 – "plans for peace not for calamity, to give you a future and a hope."
- The Lord quickened these verses to me:
 - "As a man he struggled with God. He struggled with the angel and overcame him. He wept and begged for his favor. He found him at Bethel and talked to him there. But you must return to the Lord your God, maintain love and justice and wait for your God always" (Hosea 12:3-6).
 - "I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten—never again will my people be shamed. The you will know that I am in Israel and I am the Lord your God and there is no other. Never again shall my people be ashamed."

- “Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you...”

The next evening Shirley and I went out to dinner and God really used her to minister to me. Through her, He said that regarding 133 C. Street, I had not failed. I had passed the test of perseverance. But now I was in a new test—the test of submission and death to self. By his grace, I would come through this also.

*On Sunday evening I met with Nick, Denny Gunderson and Wick Nease (representing Leland). It was a good time of sharing. I really opened my heart and they really spoke into my life. God really used it to crystallize some things in my mind. They also confessed their mistakes and errors in judgment toward me. This greatly helped me in humbling myself before them. These things emerged:

1. A need to develop in my life a spirit of submission toward those in authority over me (1 John 4:20).
2. I need to truly and totally lay down my ministry and place in Washington, D.C. It must be a true death from the heart. Two years ago, it was a ministry death. Now it is a personal death (with all the accompanying grief and humiliation).
3. I must give myself to Loren open-endedly and not strive to get back. God must be the source of any resurrection.
4. I must be careful not to get all my counsel from “prophets” only.
5. I must walk in integrity and not flip-flop on things.

*God showed me that almost all “correction” on earth is administered in partial justice because it is done through men. (This is the same as me spanking my children.)

*Scripture God gave me for Shirley and both of us for next year – Isaiah 61- the Year of the Lord’s favor.

*I met with Loren Cunningham on Friday, December 19 and God used our time together to greatly encourage my heart and give me hope for the future. Loren has a great gift in affirming and releasing others and I count it a privilege to be discipled by and work with him this coming year.

Port Orchard, Washington

December 23, 1986

*We flew home to the Pacific Northwest on December 20 and have enjoyed a meaningful Christmas with our parents. **As is our custom, Shirley and I gave each other a Scripture** as a present on Christmas Day. Here are mine:

“Yong men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you clothe yourselves with humility toward one another for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under God’s mighty hand that He may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety upon Him because He cares for you” (**1 Peter 5:5-7**).

“He who was seated on the throne said, ‘I am making everything new!’ Then he said, ‘Write this down for the words are trustworthy and true.’ And he said to me, ‘It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the end. To him who is thirsty I will give without cost to drink from the well of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this and I will be his God and he will be my son” (**Revelation 21:5-7**).

December 28, 1986

We had a good time over the Christmas week with our families and friends, but it has been greatly affected by a difficult situation between my mom and dad. After 23 years of marriage and many hurdles that they have conquered, mom is wanting to leave dad. It is a bad situation and has made for a very heavy and explosive time.

My heart is in agony over it as I believe the roots of rejection and inferiority are so plain, yet there seems to be an unwillingness to let God minister into this situation.

On New Year’s Day it all blew up and looks very negative at this time. **It was a difficult way to end a difficult year and to begin a new one. I know that God’s grace is sufficient in ALL things and I cling to that grace as “a year of God’s favor begins.”**