

# The Journal of Ron Boehme - 1988

## Port Orchard, Washington

*January 4, 1988 - 12,687 - 18,319*

A New Year has begun, and this year we begin it in the Pacific Northwest. We had a very good Christmas here with both of our families, and now we are preparing for a year of "transition" and "sacrifice" that we hope will lay a sure foundation for the future for our family and our ministry.

I am excited about 1988, even though a little apprehensive. It will be a year of quite a bit of traveling for me, and for the first six-to-eight months, the family will be in Port Orchard with the grandparents. Through this time, we really want to:

1. Get out of debt and save enough funds to possibly buy a house.
2. Have an enriching time with the grandparents.
3. Receive guidance from God for the future and move on into it with commitment and faith.

As I begin this New Year, I am asking God for some specific things. One is for a great renewal in my prayer life that God will be pleased with. Another is for growth in the area of leadership - especially in self-control over my tongue, and all aspects of communication. This is something that Loren has been speaking to me recently about, and I greatly desire to grow in this area. The tongue IS a fire! I want mine to be kept under control.

It will be wonderful to seek God over the next few weeks for His goals for our family and for my own work and ministry for the next season. So much has changed, and so much is new.

I want to be, too, to the glory of God.

## Los Angeles, California

*January 6, 1988 - 12,689 - 18,317*

After a good time over the holidays, I flew down to California for a quick stop where I had set up a special meeting with Floyd McClung to talk about the publication of my book. It was really a divine appointment as we spent about two-and-a-half hours together in fruitful and relation-building discussion.

I communicated to him that I really WANTED YWAM to publish the book - and that I realized that much more than a book was at stake in my willingness to go through a process of critiquing, not rushing, and following his lead. He greatly appreciated my willingness to go this route, and this seemed to knit our hearts together.

We decided that it would be good for about 12 other YWAM leaders to look at the book, as well as eight to ten men in the Body of Christ - especially including a number who would not agree with us as to the content of the book, but could endorse it from the standpoint of its intellectual honesty, consistency of argument, and overall spirit.

This point struck me as a great point of wisdom: In essence, I need to learn more from my critics than I have in the past. I need to seek them out to keep a healthy balance in my leadership. This is a mark of leadership.

My time with Floyd was very valuable just from that standpoint alone. He is a godly leader, and by being with him and learning from him, I was able to grow. "He who walk with wise men will be wise."

## **Kailua-kona, Hawaii**

*January 16, 1988 - 12,699 - 18,307*

It has really been a pleasant stay here in Hawaii on this trip. Our Washington For Jesus project is being greatly blessed by God and I feel that it is possible that we will meet our goal of having delegates come from over 154 nations. Right now, we have coordinators in about 70 nations, and potentials for about 40 other countries. We have sent out over 13,000 pieces of literature to probably 150 countries - and now DAILY we are getting responses.

This season in my life is one in which I am gaining a lot of international burden and exposure that I'm sure the Lord will be using for the future. We are also building friendships in the Kingdom of God all over the world that will reap benefits for many years.

The key right now - as always - is PRAYER. I am more and more burdened to be praying for the nations of the world and am having a wonderful resurrection in my prayer life and overall devotional life. Praise His glorious name.

I also feel that for the first time in a long time I am totally free and relaxed regarding the future. It has taken God a long time to produce this in my heart, but there is now a settled and open peace than emanates from within. I don't really care where we go, what we do, what position or non-position I have. None of these things really matter anymore.

I just want to be in love with Jesus, make His heart glad, be a godly husband and father, be a wise and humble leader, and be a servant of His kingdom. With these thoughts in mind, I wept some tears last night as I pondered the privilege of being born again. God is so wonderful to know and to serve.

## **Port Orchard, Washington**

*January 27, 1988 - 12,710 - 18,296*

It was a good ten days at home, and now I am on my way to Washington D.C. for ten days of meetings and special involvements. I feel rested in my spirit as I leave Seattle - and this is partly because we had a very good family time while I was at home.

What a blessing it is to have a family. Though we have had our strains, Shirley and I are growing closer all the time - and I sense that the best days of our marriage and service for Christ are really in front of us. So far it has worked out well to be staying at her parents. We are paying \$250 a month, and this allows us to try and save about \$1000 a month this year as we SACRIFICE FOR THE FUTURE.

Our goal remains to be debt-free by year's end, and the Lord-willing, to purchase for the first time a home. As I've analyzed and prayed over these temporal goals, I have come to believe more and more that they are simple steps of obedience that will lay a firm foundation for our future.

Laying this foundation is truly servicing my family as I ought. So far, on every hand, we are being encouraged in this. A week or so ago I met with our personal Advisory Board, and they were overwhelmingly supportive of this type of step. And so - we will obey.

After beginning to share the vision of a "Mission to Mexico" during a few meetings here and there, we have seen an amazing response. An obvious anointing appears to be upon this venture, and so for '88 we will begin to move ahead on it. . . immediately after Washington For Jesus. I believe that it is going to put many hearts on fire in the Pacific Northwest by involving them with the needy in a mission setting close to home. Lord - use it to the maximum!

## **Washington, D.C.**

*February 10, 1988 - 12,724 - 18,298*

I have just returned from a good and busy trip to Washington D.C. where I was involved in many activities and preparations. It was a good time. Here are some of the highlights:

1. We had our inaugural meeting of the **Christian Public Policy Council**, the follow-on of the **Anatole Fellowship**. The introductory meetings were very good, and I believe the Lord has His hand upon this group for the good of the nation. It is a long-range strategy for cultural victory.
2. **Both the NRB and the National Prayer Breakfast were good affairs with much fellowship and a wonderful spirit of Christ present. President Reagan spoke at both for the last time - that was kind of sad, but his words were powerful and the reception he received was very warm.**

His term of service is almost over: Will it be followed by a truly spiritual government or some years of judgment and building?

3. On February 1 we had our **second Steering Committee meeting for the Washington For Jesus International Delegations Steering Committee**. It went very well, and there are some many wonderful people that are involved. I praise God for so many friendships in the Body of Christ and for the networking that is taking place for the cause of world evangelism.
4. **It was a joy to stay in the area with Ken and Pat Smith, and to spend two nights with Mark and Nancy Siljander. Mark again tremendously encouraged me in the Revive America project - and after Washington For Jesus, I hope to go full-time in it. It is a way of serving the entire nation that certainly fascinates and motivates me. The greatest way I CAN SERVE IS THE CONSUMING FIRE OF MY PRESENT SPIRITUAL LIFE.**

May Jesus be pleased with the outcome, and the nation and the world benefitted for His glory.

## **Kailua-kona, Hawaii**

*February 24, 1988 - 12,738 - 18,284*

I'm in the air again on a return trip to Hawaii. Airplanes seem to be favorite places for me to reflect and to write. It has been this way for fifteen years or so.

Our WFJ International Delegations area is going very well - in fact, so well that we really need more help! I am also encouraged that we have **now raised up a good committee in Kitsap County that will be raising up a group. We officially formed it last week, and people are now working in different areas to get the word out. The goal is to see 50-100 people come to WFJ from our home area.** I believe that God will bless it, and that the churches will be strengthened as a result.

**This may be one of my "last" trips to Kona. On March 8 we will switch our office back to Washington D.C., and from then on, the capital city will be our coordinating point. The time in Hawaii has been SO rich and meaningful. It has been a spiritual "oasis" and time of re-ordering**

the whole future of our lives.

It's amazing how different things seem now. We are different people because God has walked with us through pain and change and is now bringing us out into the light of a new future thrust. I praise You Lord for Your wisdom, and the greatness of Your ways.

Another tragedy hit the Body of Christ this past week: the revelation that Jimmy Swaggart has been involved in pornography and "moral failure" and because of this will step down for some months and undergo a two-year rehabilitation. When a man of God falls there is a mixture of shock, then forgiveness, and then hope. I remember sitting next to Rev. Swaggart in the gallery of the Senate chamber when the voluntary school prayer amendment was defeated in 1983. He seemed so strong, pure, and committed to truth.

We must be reminded every day that we are but mere men. As George Whitefield once confessed while looking at a drunk in the gutter, "But for the grace of God, there go I!" How true.

May we all be warned by this tragedy, admit our need for Christ, and see even greater revival come to the church and the nation. Every judgment DOES have a silver lining: for out of it comes repentance and greater sparks of spiritual awakening.

## Port Orchard, Washington

*March 3, 1988 - 12,746 - 18,276*

It was a wonderful week in Kona. God has truly made it one of my "homes" now, and I thank him for the privilege of the many friendships and the spiritual dynamic that is there. Being at PACU and working for Loren for the past year and a half have really renewed my sense of "international perspective" in the call of God. For this, Lord I am grateful.

How God is blessing the Washington For Jesus International Delegations project! We are being flooded with responses from all over the world - and at this time, we know of delegates that are coming to the vent from over 100 nations. Praise God for this global outpouring of excitement.

In a few days, we switch our office back to Washington D.C. - to 133 C St. In some ways, that will be like a homecoming. In other ways, it will be a return to the capital city that now has a totally new meaning and perspective - and especially a new-found rest and not so mesmerizing an attachment. For the next two months, we are raising up a staff that will serve the international community and bless the nation. We ARE gathering together to call upon God that He might forgive the sins of our land and bring revival and renewal to many parts of the world. I have set my heart to believe Him for nothing less than that.

After WFJ, we begin a new chapter of our lives. This includes a season of time in which the serving of our family, including children and parents, becomes a forefront goal. A couple of days ago I met for a couple of hours with Loren, and he strongly encouraged me in the vision of using International Revival Teams in various parts of the world - Rev Teams - to encourage spiritual awakening. He is solidly behind the **Revive America vision** as the first project of this thrust, and we are solidly in agreement as to timetable.

What an amazing return this is to my first love and calling with the **Renewal Team** - and I also feel that the Washington D.C. experience, though difficult, gave us a tremendous perspective on what needs to be done. **Though mistakes were made, and immaturities were exposed, God used those years to give perspective on the REVIVAL MISSION that is the primary calling of my life.** And some lasting fruit has been planted in the capital city and its environs.

God can bring greatness out of the most trying of circumstances. He is the only One. That is one reason to love Him and serve and seek first His kingdom.

Lord - continue to test my heart and **produce your servant leadership within me.** Become the rock of my heart and the fountain of my strength.

On the plane home I read through a good book by Gordon McDonald called *The Effective Father*. How firmly committed I am to pursue this calling with my own precious children. Nathan, David, Bethany, and Megan are such a wonderful gift to both Shirley and me. I want to **speak of and demonstrate the life of Jesus to them** so that they will grow up to love him and follow in our footsteps. This is my highest calling. By God's grace, I will not fail.

## **Washington, D.C.**

*April 2, 1988 - 12,776 - 18,246*

The weeks at home were enjoyable - and we continue to work on our goals as a family of enjoying our time in Port Orchard and paying off our debts. A couple of weeks ago I sent an "Offer in Compromise" to the IRS asking them to accept the payments that we have made on our tax debt and forgive the penalties. In this area God has worked quite a miracle for us: **Since August, we have been able to raise over \$16,000. By June, we will have paid off the total of \$19,000 - and this only by the providential help of Mighty God. How grateful and appreciative we are to Him and to His people who have helped us.**

While home I decided to "surprise" Shirley once more with a night out away from the kids. We had a great time having dinner at the Edgewater Inn in Seattle, then after visiting friends, I took her back to the hotel for a romantic evening. Problem was she had already found

out about it! (Women sure have a knack of finding out about even the best-kept secrets.) It didn't matter. We had a wonderful time. These little "refreshers" for our marriage and relationship are not just important - they are mandatory. **I have no greater priority in relationships than to build a loving friendship and marriage with the one God has given me to share life with.**

Nathan, David, Bethany, and Megan continue to grow and change and reach out to learn about their world. On March 16 we celebrated Megan's 2nd birthday, and it was a wonderful occasion for all. Our baby is growing up and so are the rest. What an awesome responsibility it is to raise them for God. **We are committed to be the best Christian parents we can be.** At the same time, we fail and make mistakes. Only the power of the Holy Spirit can see every precious life through to its destiny in the Lord Jesus.

After ten days in Washington D.C. I am now on my way home again. We are now less than a month away from Washington For Jesus, and things are going well and are VERY busy. One incident that I had in D.C. during this trip is worthy of note. It is hard for my pride to accept, but so important for my spirit to learn and grow from.

While staying at Ken and Pat Smith's, I got involved in a situation where a curtain rod in my room broke (because I was hanging a blanket on it to darken the room at night), and when Pat discovered I did not share the whole story about why it happened. Later, Ken spoke to me about it, and really spoke to my heart that I needed to recognize that **this sin of lying was an area of my life that God really wanted to deal with. It was a matter of integrity. I must learn to speak the truth, and not use my communication gifts to misrepresent situations.**

After giving me his "faithful wounds," he asked me to really be accountable about this area of my life and allow the Lord to change it. I thanked him for his openness and love for me and began to pray about this area. The Holy Spirit really showed me:

(1) **That due to pride and insecurities, I was weak in this area and needed to be renewed in my mind to a level of perfect integrity and honesty first to myself and to others.** This involved the area of vision-sharing and plain everyday life. I asked God to forgive me and to totally remake me in His image.

(2) It is very important for me to share this area of my weakness with both Shirley and with Loren. This will help in my accountability, and foster humility and growth. (Ken made me promise that I would do this and let him know. I agreed.)

(3) As I sought God about this, **He also reminded me that another area of weakness in my life is the sexual drive toward lust that I experience - especially when I travel and am away from Shirley for long periods** - and in this area as well I especially need to be open with Shirley and ask her to be my greatest prayer warrior. The weakness here is not the drawing toward other women - but rather an overly strong indulgence in memories regarding our own very satisfying sexual marriage relationship. Part of this is normal, but it can become unhealthy.

(4) I need to have some men in my life that I share my weaknesses and needs with. Safety and growth will come through this process.

Though humbled by this experience, I am grateful to God for the reminder that I am a weak human vessel in need of His forgiveness, strength and grace. **I am not a superman. I am not even a good leader. I am a sinner that desperately needs the power of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

"Thanks be to God who gives us the victory in Him."

## Port Orchard, Washington

*April 15, 1988 - 12,789 - 18,233*

Some amazing developments have taken place as we have enjoyed our time in the Northwest area and prayed and contemplated our future move.

First, we began to look at some homes in the Port Orchard area. We had originally thought of the Seattle area, but after a lunch that I had with Denny Gunderson, it became apparent that YWAM was going to operate in a very de-centralized manner in the development of the new Seattle base. Really, the new work was going to be made up of staff in the "Puget Sound area." After this revelation, God seemed to **shift our focus to our home area.**

There were a variety of reasons for this. First, we feel that the possibility of re-locating on the west coast is primarily to **serve our parents for this latter time of their lives.** If we got a home in the Seattle metropolitan area, we would be at least an hour-and-a-half away, and realistically would not see our folks very much. This would defeat a major reason for the move.

Secondly, there is the issue of finances. As we've looked around, we've realized that homes are at least \$30-50,000 higher in Seattle as they are on the Olympic Peninsula. It doesn't make much stewardship sense to spend this extra money, especially if there is liberty to be around the Puget Sound region.

Another factor which seemed to lean us toward looking for a home in the Port Orchard area was our total lack of vision for Seattle as a city. No matter how many times I have been to Seattle, I have no sense of calling to it as a city. (I certainly did not feel that way about Washington D.C.) **This only reinforces to us that our calling is to the nation, and God is giving us the freedom to base that ministry almost any place we choose. The best sense seems to be in the Port Orchard area.**

One morning our house-hunting took yet another turn. On a prompting from the Lord I



decided to get together with Larry Dullum and at least discuss the possibility of building a house. Larry shared with me the pros and cons and the finances involved. When he laid it out, if we had him do the building (as he has done for some other pastors etc.), the approximate cost would come to \$65-75,000. This is \$5-20,000 less than the older homes we've been seeing.

Right now, a germ of excitement is really growing within us as we pray about the option of building a home in the Port Orchard area to base our YWAM ministry out of. Shirley seems exhilarated by the possibility, and the idea is also finding fertile soil in my own heart. What an amazing thing! Two years ago, this would have been the most foreign thought in my mind. How God directs, and how He moves providentially in our lives to accomplish His will through us.

As Shirley and I have talked about this major step in our lives, it appears that the Holy Spirit is greatly desirous in meeting the needs of all those in the family.

- By being in Port Orchard, Shirley would be near family and friends to be a source of inspiration and support.
- She has also expressed a desire to totally release me to go and to travel as God has called me to do. When her needs are met, she is more able to stand by my side in understanding and support. I have greatly learned from this.
- It allows us to be near our families to be available to them during this final chapter of their lives on earth. We have been away for 12 years. They gave us to God for this time. Now He is giving us back. . . with the joy of the grandchildren being one of the primary gifts to experience.

The coming months will be very interesting as we press into God to know His perfect will. Maybe He is leading us to establish a whole YWAM community in the area of our birth. We await His guidance. His provision and His approval.

## **Washington, D.C.**

*May 8, 1988 - 12,812 - 18,210*

I am in the air on my way home after a wonderful but exhausting three and a half weeks in Washington D.C. Washington For Jesus in '88 is now history. The International Delegations week has now come and gone as has the National Day of Prayer. This time away from Shirley and the kids has been the longest separation we have EVER experienced. There is so much to reflect on and so much God has done. It might be best to remember things one event at a time. Let's start with:

## Washington For Jesus

We had a wonderful staff of about twenty people who worked on the event with us - and the final weeks were fast and furious and very rewarding. We set up shop in the basement of 133 C Street - only a few feet from where our original office has been some seven years before. We shared the floor with other entities of the WFJ staff, and as the days came for the events to be fulfilled, the whole floor became a wonderful beehive of activity.

In our International Delegations area, God blessed us with almost 1000 delegates that came from 114 nations. Housing and transporting them around was the greatest challenge, but after Coach Joe Gibbs of the Washington Redskins did a public service announcement for us that was placed on 5 Christian radio stations, we had a final avalanche of homes that opened to provide for our foreign guests.

The most dynamic church to get involved in housing was the Tabernacle in Laurel, Maryland, co-pastored by Jack and Jean Coleman. All told they took in over 80 Africans and Indians - putting them up on cots in various rooms of the church, and providing a full schedule of meals, praise and worship times, shopping trips, and even movies! I don't know what we would have done without them. If one hundred churches in the D.C. area would have opened their hearts and facilities as the Tabernacle congregation did, I'm convinced that we would have been experiencing revival.

Bob and Marilyn White were our housing coordinators, and they did an agonizing and admirable job. Their home was a literal zoo of activity with people coming and going, sleeping in every possible space, and the phones ringing constantly. Through stress and strain, and the help of many believers, hundreds of homes WERE eventually opened, and this provided a dynamic for the events that made a real impact.

Both the Women's Meeting and the Pastor's meeting were good on April 28th. That evening the Youth Rally took place on the Mall, and certainly 20-30,000 were in attendance. It was unusually cold and occasionally rained, but as I walked through the crowd at about 10:30 p.m. there was great excitement and a tremendous program. The all-night really set the tone for the great day that followed.

April 29th was again a day to remember. Though the weather was poor and threatening, this only seemed to reinforce the fact judgment was on the nation and the Body of Christ needed to rise in courage and commitment and call upon God. We did just that. After an early morning radio interview, I spent most of the day around the stage area making sure that our international speakers were there for their parts in the program and serving Loren Cunningham where I could. It was again awesome to behold the crowds that stretched all the way to the Monument and much of the way to the Capitol Building. Every hour of the day we prayed for the sins of the nation and

humbled ourselves before God. I believe that God was pleased with what He saw and heard.

### Lord of the Nations International Conference

The next day we moved right into our three-day conference which had been set up for the international guests. Though we were very tired at that point from April 29th and all the preparations for it, 1000 turned out and were treated to wonderful teaching, fellowship, and worship. Loren Cunningham, Gunnar Olson, Tom Marshall, Bob Mumford, Dennis Peacocke, Alfonso Navarro, and Benson Idahosa all delivered powerful plenary messages. The workshops were *excellent*, with many saying that they were given practical ideas that could really help in bringing reformation to their nation.

On Sunday evening we had an international praise celebration with the flags of nations and many colorful banners. During the service we prayed for reconciliation among the peoples of the earth and many stood in their national dress to represent their countries and cry out to God for revival. The service was a taste of heaven and ended in triumphant praise.

The conference helped to promote both the Christian Manifesto developed by the Coalition On Revival and the Declaration of Universal Rights. These are powerful documents that will be going back to over 100 nations. May God use them as seeds to change whole societies and see righteousness spring forth in many lands.

Both Sunday and Monday evening Evangel Temple was packed out with about 2000 people. Phil Driscoll led the Monday night finale in which all the nations that attended were given greetings and recognition. Late in the evening after a great time of worship and praise, the conference came to an end. It was greatly blessed by God - an idea that He had given to about one year previous.

### 133 C Street Dedication and Commissioning

On Sunday afternoon over 200 people gathered for our official opening of the National Christian Center. It was a wonderful time that brought back many precious memories to me as I spoke to the group and endeavored to honor God for His faithfulness. Many people shared, and we even cut a ribbon to symbolize the true birth of the ministry. Was I a little saddened by my changed role and circumstances? Not one bit. God has really given me a peace in my heart that it was a privilege for me to give birth. Others are more qualified to now carry it on. It was my joy to plant, others will now reap, but it is God that "causes the growth."

# Virginia Beach, Virginia

## International Delegations Week

Following the conference, the delegates took part in Christian tours of the city that were arranged for them, as well as embassy visits and general sight-seeing. We began to wind down our operation, and I personally took a trip down to Virginia Beach.

This is story worth telling. A few months ago, God had laid it upon my heart to find a way to honor John and Anne Gimenez at the Lord of the Nations Conference. I had decided on having someone make a gift for them that could be presented on Saturday morning. My idea? To do a type of picture made of the stamps of many nations that would say thank you to them from the delegates for their vision and leadership.

About two weeks before the rally I took my idea to a local Washington D.C. artist and explained what I wanted. She said that she would do it and I returned to the office. Two days later I received a phone message that the artist had called and that she had changed her mind and would not be able to do it. I was greatly disappointed and prayed about what to do. The Lord prompted me to call Nancy Lovley in New York and see if she was available to maybe do a painting for the Gimenez's.

Nancy was honored to be asked and said that she had unexplainably turned down another job and so she was free to work. I gave her my ideas. She then worked up a sketch, expressed it to me, and then I mailed it back for her to paint. In ten days (she usually takes 3 months on a painting) she had come up with a beautiful full-color painting that showed people from around the world praying for Washington For Jesus. It was mounted in a beautiful gold frame, and on Saturday morning we gave it to John and Anne Gimenez with the Lovleys looking on.

Then the unbelievable part happened. When I walked into the Evangel Temple pastoral suite on Sunday, there on the table was the first artist thank-you picture that was supposed to have been canceled! I couldn't believe my eyes. I had been told she couldn't do it. What was it doing there? After checking around, I found out that *no one knew who had called me to cancel the project*. It had just happened. And because of that, the beautiful painting by Nancy Lovley had been done. On Tuesday evening down at Rock Church I presented BOTH of the gifts to John Gimenez and then had lunch with him the following day.

We still don't know what happened. Was it an angelic call? We DO know this: God wanted the painting done, and we are going to be marketing its prints all over the nation.

## **Washington, D.C.**

### **The National Day of Prayer**

The week ended with the activities of the National Day of Prayer on May 5th. I began the day's activities by speaking and leading in prayer at one of the five sunrise services in the area. During the afternoon, President Reagan signed into law a bill making the first Thursday in May a permanent National Day of Prayer. In the evening banquet we rejoiced over this historic occasion, and thanked God for all that He had done.

## **Port Orchard, Washington**

After a few final days of business details, and a final Staff Appreciation dinner, I am on my way home after an historic week. Now to move on into the exciting new steps that God has for us in His magnificent plan.

*June 3, 1988 - 12,838 - 18,184*

I am in the air again on my way to a very important week in Hawaii. There, by God's grace, I will:

- Meet with Loren (and Denny Gunderson) to solidify and receive confirmation of our plans for future ministry.
- Speak to the School of Evangelism and have the teaching series taped for mass distribution purposes.
- Meet with Jim and Jannie Rogers, delivering to them the third draft of my book on Servant Leadership which will hopefully move ahead to publication.

God has wonderfully arranged this time, and I am very excited about it. May His word be clear to all of us at this time.

## **Kailua-kona, Hawaii**

*June 9, 1988 - 12,844 - 18,178*

It is amazing how God orders our ways and directs all the details of our lives. I HAVE had a good week here in Kona, and there have been plenty of divine appointments that were gentle confirmations of His will:

- Teaching at the SOE was attended with His blessing. I ministered on revival, the conscience of a Christian, the church at the end of the 20th century, and on personal destiny. There were some gentle movements of God and some lives that were changed. It is a privilege to share the gospel to change lives. That has now been my privilege for almost 20 years.
- I had a good time with Loren. What a privilege it has been to work with him for the past year and a half. In some ways, I was saddened that it was coming to an end. I have learned so much by watching the self-controlled life of this man of God. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for allowing me to "walk with wise men. He gave his blessing for us to make the transition to the National Office in Seattle.
- It was also perfect timing to be in Kona with Denny. We had dinner one evening together, and then also went to the beach for a time to share. He is a good friend, a good leader, and one that would be a great balance to my life and ministry. After our detailed discussions, I feel very good about headquartering ourselves out of the Seattle-area and birthing the Revive America project out of the new National Office. It seems to be a perfect fit, and our being in Hawaii together at the same time only seemed to solidify this.
- The book manuscript is now in the hands of Frontlines Communications [YWAM Publishing] and I can leave it behind. May God's blessing be upon it. Right now, it looks like the fall is the time of its publication.

Soon I will seek the Lord about the next two books: One on Fulfilling Your Destiny - aimed at the new youth generation, and the theme book for Revive America, possibly called To Restore the Conscience of a Nation. There were also meaningful times spent with Ross Tooley, Bob Lichty, Mark Spengler, Faye Williams, Gene and Kit Hackett, and others.

God is good. It can hardly be stated better. I now return to the Northwest to begin preparations for a major move for my family, and the beginning of a whole new era of our lives.

One thing remains the same: His faithfulness. May we be ever mindful of this, and to do our utmost for His highest.

## Port Orchard, Washington

*June 19, 1988 - 12,854 - 18,168*

A memorable Father's Day. It began with my sharing in both services at First Christian Church of our settled plans to re-locate our family in the Pacific Northwest -- and in particular -- in the Port Orchard area. That announcement was greeted with great enthusiasm and applause. Making the announcement really helped me the most: It settled in my heart what has been

coming for a long time. It is great to finally move ahead with full approval. There is so much to be done.

We celebrated all weekend long as it was the kids' birthday celebration as well as Father's Day (the first time in five years that the days coincided as they did at birth in 1983). On Saturday we had the kids party over at the Bremerton Gymnastics Center. It was a great place for fun and fitness! Then on Sunday we got together with my folks, as well as with Greg and his new friend Joanne, for a good family time.

It was then that **we gave the kids their surprise first bikes**. You should have seen the looks on their faces as Grandpa pretended to open the garage door with clever magic (the garage-door-opener conveniently hidden in his pocket) -- and then there they were:

- three new-looking bikes, red for Nathan, green for David, and purple for Bethany.

They were thrilled. Soon we were pushing them around the driveway as their first lessons were underway. It was a great weekend. It is wonderful to be a father for God. That's the only kind that I want to be.

*June 20, 1988 - 12,855 - 18,167*

Our housing plans took an interesting turn this week. Through meeting with our potential builder, **Larry Dullum, I learned of a 9-acre tract that he owns, located in an area that Shirley has grown to like: Off Bethel near Highway 16 in a nicely wooded subdivision. Larry also made us a very generous offer: That his family would be willing to donate a lot to us in this parcel of land.** The remainder will be made into seven 1-acre lots with an area for the kids to play. There is a possibility that other Christians or YWAM couples could buy the other lots and homes that are to be built.

This is a fascinating possibility. Not only would it allow us to build an adequate home very cheaply (the gift of the lot amounts to a \$14,000 gift), but there is a potential for other staff members or YWAM families to buy and locate right beside us.

We will be greatly praying about this matter. What others would God want to bring? What are His true designs for planting a new dimension of YWAM on the Olympic Peninsula?

We don't know the answers to these questions. But we have great excitement in our hearts as we begin the process of praying and planning.

*June 21, 1988 - 12,856 - 18,166*

**I'm now on the way to Washington D.C. to close out a very important chapter of our lives. Within a week, with help from my dad, we will move our belongings back to the west coast. I'm sure that many thoughts and emotions will go through my being at this point.**

Lord - help me to see all your plans and purposes. Let me see the fruit of the past and build upon it for the future. Tie together the building blocks of the past with your future hopes and ministry opportunities. A chapter is closing. A new book is about to be opened.

## Washington, D.C.

*June 29, 1988 - 12,864 - 18,158*

What a week it has been. Hard work. Precious friends. Fellowship with my dad. Many memories. Right now, dad and I are in Omaha, Nebraska after driving 700 miles. It is our second day of travel after leaving D.C. Truly a new beginning is certainly in the making.

But first, an old one had to be finished. I arrived back in Arlington on the evening of the 21st, and the next day I immediately began to pack up our entire house by myself. Unfortunately, on that day, we hit a record temperature of 102 degrees -- in the attic I was unloading it seemed like 130 degrees -- but none-the-less, I began in earnest to move our things out of the home God had provided for us some five years before.

It wasn't easy to do by myself. Everything I touched contained a memory, and Shirley wasn't there to share it with me. Much of the time my mind was filled with myriads of thoughts and reflections - and oftentimes I would look around and seeing the kids playing with a certain toy, or romping around the yard, or Shirley and I enjoying a precious moment. Memories are wonderful gifts from God - but sometimes they can leave a taste of sadness in the heart.

For two days I waded through everything that we owned. God has so blessed us. Then my dad arrived, and friends came over to help, and we began the task of painting, cleaning, repairing, and restoring the home to its original state.

It was a massive task. But after three days of strenuous labor we had loaded the large 24-foot truck and put the house back into shape. Our landlords, the Taylors, were pleased.

On Sunday I preached on "Leadership For the 21st Century: What Is To Be Done?" at Christian Assembly. The message was well received, though I also had to announce our moving out to the west coast. God has really used this church in our lives. Father - thank you for this church home that has blessed us in so many ways.

In the evening on Monday night, I went out onto our much enjoyed screened in porch to pray and have some late-night moments with the Lord. It was still and dark as I once again reflected on the past years spent there in the house at 3212 Kensington Street. We had been so excited to move in. It had been God's perfect provision for us. Now we were excited to move out. Time moves on, and God is always giving you a new horizon. I ended my time in simple thanks to God. It was mainly in my spirit, not in words. Somehow my feelings were too deep to express.



Now dad and I are on our way across the country to a new "home." We are having great fellowship together as father and son. The Lord-willing, we will arrive on Saturday evening July 2nd. Then we will establish our new ministry base on the west coast.

A new chapter will begin to unfold.

## Port Orchard, Washington

*July 10, 1988 - 12, 875 - 18,147*

I preached this morning at First Christian Church. A few weeks before, when I had received the invitation, God had very quickly and clearly spoken to me that I was to make a specific proposal to the church. And so, I did. Basically, I challenged the congregation to begin two new ministries that would be crucial to the church's future. They are

- A ministry to the poor and needy
- A ministry to reach an unreached people group.

It was quite amazing to see the response. There were probably 100 people who raised their hands to express an interest in getting involved among the unfortunate, and probably 50-60 that indicated their desire to reach an unreached nation. This latter one was quite astounding to me! People are ready to be challenged and sent. The word just must be delivered, and the work prayed into existence.

Shirley and I are thrilled about this response. She would love to get involved in the area of the poor and needy, and I would be glad to help launch the people group thrust. God is doing something very interesting as we begin to make this church our new home. So many things are falling into place.

*July 12, 1988 - 12, 877 - 18,145*

As I read my Bible this morning, two different Scriptures were really quickened to me:

"Solomon successfully accomplished all that came into his heart to make in the house of the Lord and in his own house (2 Chronicles 7:11).

And,

"Now all the work of Solomon was well-ordered from the day of the foundation of the house of the Lord until it was finished (2 Chronicles 8:16).

These two passages speak to me of God granting Solomon ALL his spiritual desires, both in his ministry and in his family areas. He also accomplished these things through very careful organization and orderliness.

As we prepare to launch the Revive America thrust, and as we prepare to build a home, these verses really stand out to me as ones that apply to our lives. May it be so.

*July 21, 1988 - 12,886 -18,136*

Some exciting developments have begun to open this week. After some meetings in Seattle with some other Christian friends and businessmen, Jim Waller and I are moving ahead on the establish of a Christian resource ministry - marketing books and tapes - that we believe will be a real blessing to our families and to the Body of Christ. It looks possible at this point that we will join forces with Mark Warren and Dave Carlson in their InSpirit Corporation and make RTI Resources a division of this newly formed corporation. The advantages of this is that it saves us the time and money of beginning a new corporation and brings some business expertise into our operation.

Dave and Mark have started a division called Books By Ear which is committed to putting good Christian books on tapes and CD's. It is one of the new waves of the future. Both are solid brothers in the Lord (Mark was previously in YWAM for a few years). I believe this is a good joining of talent and division of labor. As God's blessing arises upon it, this venture could become a great source of financial blessing and ministry.

I'm encouraged. We're moving into the era when financial undergirding for our work and God's work in the world is utterly crucial and necessary. May this be only one of many Christian ventures that reaps much for the kingdom of God.

*July 24, 1988 - 12,889 - 18,133*

This week the Lord really spoke to me regarding the Revive America project out of the book of 2 Chronicles. In 2 Chr.17:6-12 we read these important excerpts in the life of King Jehoshaphat,

"And his heart took delight in the ways of the Lord. . . and in the third year he sent his leaders. . . to teach in the cities of Judah...So they taught in Judah. . . they went throughout all the cities of Judah and taught the people. . .And the fear of the Lord fell on all the kingdoms of the lands that were around Judah. . . and he built fortresses and storage cities in Judah."

There are so many parallels in this passage of what the Lord wants us to do in the Revive America thrust. I really want to ponder and pray over it in the coming days.

We also read in 2Chr.20:31 that Jehoshaphat began his reign when he was 35 years old, and it lasted for twenty-five years. I am now thirty-five. The next twenty-five will be the years of

my greatest strength. How I want to use them in the full power of the Holy Spirit and with every fiber of my being consecrated to the Lord Jesus.

## Manila, The Philippines

*August 6, 1988 - 12,902 - 18,120*

On July 29, I left for Manila for our YWAM International Staff and Leadership Conference. I had some good flights, taking about sixteen hours to arrive in the Philippines. There was only one small hitch-- my suitcase didn't arrive-- and it ended up being lost for six days. This is the longest that I have ever been separated from my luggage in eighteen years of travel. So, I wore the same clothes and prayed and prayed until finally it came the evening the conference ended! I was so grateful.

The Conference was really an historic time for our mission. About 1100 came from seventy nations, and we really heard the word of the Lord to reach out to the unreached frontiers of the world to fulfill the Great Commission. This would mean really making room in our mission for non-Westerners, changing our leadership structures, bringing up the new generation to pass the torch to, and many more things.

These conferences are so valuable to us. The word of the Lord becomes so clear - and literally transforms our focus and goals for years to come. Manila '88 was just this type of gathering. At the end -- at a commissioning service -- we all signed the "Manila Covenant" which is a more detailed breakdown of our statement of faith and direction as a mission.

The six-days were a powerful time in God. Here are some of the personal highlights:

- I want this to be the last time that I attend something like this without Shirley. She needs to be with me, so that we can cultivate common vision and mutual friendships.
- God really spoke that we need to focus the Revive America thrust on spiritual awakening in the U.S. for the mission frontiers - the END must be kept so clearly in view. I also feel that the Rev Teams need to include blacks, Hispanics, and even some internationals to really give them impact.
- Watching the King's Kids and hearing the vision of the Torch Run really stirred my heart to believe God for the conversion of my own children and their thrust into world evangelism. This is really upon my heart, and I want to go home to do those things in example and training that can help guide them into an intimate encounter with Jesus. They are reaching the age where this is very important.

- There were many meaningful times of fellowship, prayer, meetings, and strategizing. I count it a great privilege to be called to the world of missions, and certainly have re-committed myself to lay down my life for God's work.
- This only annunciates the importance of giving my entire being to the Revive America project, and in tandem with other dimensions of my life and ministry, fulfill the destiny that God has given to me.

Lord - I come away from Manila refreshed, challenged, inspired, and committed. How I desperately cry out for your anointing on YOUR work in the release of people, finances, faith, and substance to achieve your goals. Thank you for allowing my eyes to be open to the needs of the world and the glory of your salvation. You are my ALL.

## **Zamboanga, the Philippines**

I have now traveled down south to the island of **Mindanao to the city of Zamboanga** where I will join a YWAM team in ministry for a few days. This will be a greater look at the real Philippines--and allow me to get out in ministry among the people.

*August 10, 1988 - 12,906 - 18,116*

I arrived in Zamboanga late in the evening after a ninety-minute flight. On the way down I had a good time sharing about Jesus with a young man named Mani who worked for the airline. As are most of the Philippine people, he was open and receptive to the gospel.

The YWAM team picked me up at the airport and drove me to the residence where I was to stay. The drive was a cultural experience! Zamboanga is a steamy port city of nearly a half million people. There SEEM to be a million vehicles - bicycles, the famous Philippine tricycles (a motorcycle with a canopied sidecar attached), the ever-present and multi-colored jeepneys, and people, people everywhere. Only one thing was missing: traffic lights and stop signs! It was quite an adventure. The angels must work overtime in this place.

**It was a great privilege to stay for my entire visit at the main mission house of the Christian Missionary Alliance.** It is a large and well-kept blue compound - and it gave me the true feel of the former colonial area. There, I met a couple who had worked in the nation as missionaries for over thirty years. Jim and Elaine were my hosts for the duration of my stay.

I soon found out that the island of Mindanao is the "turf" of the CMA. After the United States took control of the Philippines around 1906, Protestant missions came into the country, and the various groups ended up "dividing" up the land for their mission endeavors. The Christian Missionary Alliance took the southern frontier - and now, after around 80 years of ministry, have planted some 1000 churches in the area. We have much to learn from their patient

and steady labors.

On Saturday I was able to meet with the team and begin to get a feel for this part of the Philippines. It is an area of great unrest. There is a growing Communist insurgency and an even greater Muslim rebel uprising. The tension is accentuated by many military check points and soldiers everywhere you turn. This is a part of the country that is involved in a real battle for spiritual leadership between the "Big Three:" Islam, Communism, and biblical Christianity. How we are praying for a breakthrough of the Holy Spirit.

Sunday morning, I preached at 6 a.m. (shades of John Wesley) and at 9:30 at the largest CMA church in downtown Zamboanga. The Lord impressed me to share the message "When Free Men Shall Stand" and apply it to the hearts and minds of the people for their own nation. There was a wonderful response. In many ways I felt like I was speaking to the entire nation.

On Monday morning Pastor Ralph (the son of the former president of the COMICOP denomination) asked me to share the same message on his morning radio broadcast that went out to the entire city and to neighboring islands. Ralph and his wife have a great burden for discipling youth and are very interested in going to a DTS themselves. Discipleship is a key to the future of this nation. Ralph is not only the "man of peace" in this regard, but also a key spiritual leader for the future.

Following the broadcast, we traveled across the city to the Ebenezer Bible College where I spoke for two days to the 250-member student body on "What It Means to Believe." The second day God really moved upon their hearts in conviction and power. Many stood to really commit themselves to follow the Lord Jesus wholeheartedly. I also spent some hours with the YWAM team who have had very good ministry in the churches, and in counseling sessions with students. Oftentimes when I spoke, the heat was so great that I felt I was standing under a shower as perspiration poured off. After I would finish, I would be soaking wet.

After a five-day visit -- and feeling the heat a bit -- I boarded my plane to begin the trip back home. After an overnight at the YWAM guest house in Manila, I sovereignly hooked up with Joe Portale and Harold and Jane Huang from PACU on a flight to Tokyo. It was a wonderful divine appointment for discussing the Revive America project, and especially the research division. Thank you, Lord, for this timely encounter.

## **Port Orchard, Washington**

And now I am going home. It is always such a joy. But I have left a part of my heart in a needy but wonderful part of the world. My missions heart reaches out to them in prayer. My revival heart says, "God use me to raise up others to go!"

## Santa Rosa, California

*August 30, 1988 - 12,926 - 18,096*

I've just returned from a very good four-day conference and seminar that took place in Santa Rosa, California in conjunction with the Christian Public Policy Council. I would have written in my journal earlier about this profitable weekend, but on the way to the airport I left my computer in Grandpa Cookson's car-- and then promptly flew off without it.

The CPPC group is inching forward in posture to impact the nation in the area of public policy. It was wonderful to be with so many like-minded friends and leaders that are serious about seeing nations changed for Christ. There was a tremendous spirit of revelation upon our time together and a humility to lay down positions and biases as we waited upon God to instruct us.

One area of great expansion of revelation was sphere jurisdiction or sphere sovereignty. This word really came down as a plumb line among us: that God wanted to bring justice and order to the world through the practicing of this principle among the five major realms of authority: the individual, voluntary associations, the family, the church, and the civil governments. I really came away with some increased perspective on this vital subject. The wisdom flowed freely and profusely.

On Saturday I spoke at the Christian Church in a seminar on "Evangelizing a Crumbling World." That same day and evening, God allowed me two divine appointments that greatly encouraged me.

The first one took place at lunch, at a VIP luncheon, where I was assigned to sit down at a table next to a couple that had four children in their teenage years and were using the Bill Gothard approach to home schooling (ATIA). Lydia and Dick Key were able to answer many of my questions about this curriculum that Shirley and I are praying about using. They were a gracious couple that brought a great confirmation to me that we were on the right path. Shirley was thrilled as well when I relayed this little "coincidence" over the phone.

Then in the evening I went to stay at the home of Ken and Connie Wiemeyer (Ken is an associate pastor at the Santa Rosa Christian Church). When I walked into their new home, I immediately realized that the floor plan of their house was almost identical to the one that we are praying about building! I had been wanting to "see" the layout before making some of our final decisions, and this providential encounter allowed me to do so--some 1000 from home. At eleven o'clock in the evening Ken and I were still measuring rooms, and they were giving me all kinds of advice on how to best use the layout. This was so timely and perfect.

Both these experiences, coming immediately after a rich few days of high-level deliberations, reinforced to me **the intimate degree of involvement that the loving God of the Universe has in each of our lives**. He is not only concerned with the grandiose schemes of reformation and world evangelization--He is concerned over all the little practical choices that also make up our daily lives upon the earth. Praise Him for His greatness AND His detail. Both flow from His gracious and caring sovereignty.

Two other items God put into my heart during the Sunday morning worship service (which was a powerful time of revelation for me--I could hardly stop from crying):

- I must obey the Lord in the detail in using songs as an afterglow to the messages that I preach. God wants this to be a part of my unique style and anointing.
- The Lord greatly desires that **we travel as a family in ministry, and that I often take the children one-by-one, taking turns, that they might be exposed to the world and its needs and the church and her solutions**. It is an important part of their discipling.

## **Boise, Idaho**

*September 15, 1988 - 12,942 - 18,080*

It was wonderful to go as a family to the **Northwest YWAM Staff Conference** at the base near Kalispell, Montana recently. **We traveled over 1600 miles in our little car and had good "close fellowship."** We first traveled to southern Idaho where we spent a night with Jim and Paula Lambert, and then went up to Montana where we spent four very fruitful days.

## **Lakeside, Montana**

The gathering was held at the YWAM property which was formerly a military base. It has good buildings and layout, and even has a YWAM suburb of about twenty homes that is attached to the property. It is located very near beautiful Flathead Lake which is the largest lake is U.S. outside of the Great Lakes.

We had wonderful weather for the conference, and really enjoyed getting outdoors (I even waterskied for the first time in probably fifteen years). The kids really enjoyed their Bible classes and the interaction with the other kids. We also really enjoyed the various sessions, and the opportunity to begin getting to know many of the staff in the Northwest area. There are many old friends, and many new ones to make.

**The days spent there were an interesting combination of me struggling with my new**

identity with YWAM in this area--and a good personal renewal that God was doing in my heart. One morning while meditating on the Song of Solomon, the Lord really spoke to me how I was "the rose of Sharon" to Him--so deep is His love and affection! We shared some precious moments in our special love relationship. . . and then I came back to the world of humanity.

## **Missoula, Montana**

Before returning home, we stayed overnight with Steve and Donna Watkins in Missoula and enjoyed wonderful fellowship and friendship with them. We returned home tired, yet grateful for the special week of travel and uplift.

## **Port Orchard, Washington**

*September 19, 1988 - 12,946 - 18,076*

We are on the final stretch of approving our house plans (for our new home on Belpark Place) and arranging the financing that is necessary to build the home. This morning as I visited at the bank before flying out to California, I learned that **the interest rate had gone down to 8.1**. This happened over 3-4 days when the bank vice president was out of town. Because of this delay, we will now be saving about \$60 a month. God is so faithful in all the details.

## **San Jose, California**

*September 21, 1988 - 12,948 - 18,074*

I am now returning home from a very productive 2 days in San Jose where we met with about ten other men that desire to work together to see a complete Reformation of American society. Working with Jim Halcomb, a business consultant who was one of the main planners of the Alaska pipeline, we put together a paper and a PERT chart (all done with some amazing computer software) on how we might work together and help serve a growing movement in the United States toward cultural reformation.

It was a thrilling time of prayer, vision-sharing, meticulous planning, and fellowship. I **stayed at the home of Jay and Donna Grimstead** and enjoyed their hospitality and company from early morning to late at night.



## Port Orchard, Washington

*October 8, 1988 - 12,965 - 18,057*

A busy couple of weeks have gone by at home, and I am back in California for ministry and some meetings.

## Pasadena, California

The first few days I spent in Pasadena with Calvin and Carol Conkey at the U.S. Center For World Missions. It was good to see Dr. Ralph Winter again. On Monday I will be speaking to the staff there.

Thursday evening, I attended an area-wide Concert of Prayer that was held on campus. There were probably over 500 in attendance from every denomination that you can imagine. It was a tremendous display of unity and the spirit that longs for revival. God really spoke to me through it. We need to help light this candle of prayer up in the Pacific Northwest and all over the nation. It is one of the greatest keys to America's future.

Friday morning, I went to Fuller Seminary to look at the possibility of finishing some degree programs with them. After spending time with Marilyn Clinton, I felt very inclined to pursue a graduate degree in Missiology. This would be a Masters, in preparation for a doctorate. At this point, I am prayerfully considering trying to do the Masters in about 5 years, and then the doctorate in another five years. More prayer is required. I only want to do it if it will benefit the Kingdom of God.

On Friday afternoon I had my first fast day in conjunction with the 40 days of fasting and prayer for America. Was wonderful to be in God's presence, in intercession, while strolling around the USCWM campus. The afternoon was spent with Wes Tullis, one of the leaders at the Center. God really used this time to sharpen my thinking regarding the missions focus of Revive America. Missions MUST be central to it. This is always the goal of revival. One of the things our teams must do is to help to arouse the sleeping American church to focus on the unreached peoples of the world.

After meeting with the U.S. YWAM leaders regarding the Revive America vision on the weekend (I also spoke at the Abundant Life Church on Sunday evening and to the staff at the U.S. Center on Monday morning), I will fly home on Shirley's and my 12th wedding anniversary. What a surprise I have planned! I've booked a suite at the hotel where we spent our honeymoon, made reservations for dinner and to go to a movie, and bought her a nice present. I hope that she is thrilled and greatly edified. Loving her in this way is a part of "presenting her perfect in Christ." It is my duty. It is also a great joy.

## Port Orchard, Washington

*October 13, 1988 - 12,970 - 18,052*

After meetings in Seattle yesterday with Denny, I came away with much to ponder regarding my relationship with YWAM and the Revive America project. After two years of intensive soul-searching regarding my growth as a leader and my future goals and work, I am still in a quandary as to which way to turn. There seem to be so many perspectives on my gifts and calling, as well as the shape and structure of the Revive America project. Frankly, the lack of understanding coupled with the continual bringing up of the past, have left me a bit discouraged.

Lord - I know that there is much to learn and much growth that you are bringing to my life. I also know that the way of the Cross is the way of death to self, ambitions, and personal plans.

I also know that somewhere, and at some point, you will reveal to me a "future and a hope." Right now, I am back to waiting on You, and doing those few things with which I believe You are pleased.

*November 1, 1988 - 12,989 - 18,033*

"Weeping may endure for the night, but a shout of joy comes in the morning." Whatever confusion I have recently felt has been replaced by joy within my heart over all that God is doing. God allows us to experience the pain of defeat or bewilderment. But He does not leave us there long. His Spirit soon picks us up and continues to teach us to "soar toward the heights." That is happening in my life right now-- and I am grateful for renewing grace.

Last weekend we began clearing the lot for our new home. Don and Ken Morrison worked the bulldozer and excavator, and Roy Sandstrom and I used chainsaws to saw up the timber. Others helped build the big bonfire of stumps and rubble that burned for 2-3 days. We are almost finished now with the preparation of the land, and soon the foundations will be poured, and the building begun.

We continue to seek the Lord regarding the crucial nature of the upcoming elections. Every Friday our family is involved in fasting and praying for the candidates, the issues, and especially for the people of our nation. Revival is so needed in our land once again. My heart continually burns for this outpouring of God's Spirit in the American nation - and almost daily I re-commit myself to the pursuit of His Kingdom being realized more fully on our national soil.

Much of what I'm doing right now is in preparation for my new book, *Leadership For the 21st Century: Changing Nations Through the Power of Serving*, which will be out in a few weeks. I hope it will make a big contribution toward the revival of the land.

*November 8, 1988 - 12,996 - 18,026*

George Herbert Walker Bush was elected the 41st President of the United States today, beating Michael Dukakis by a 54% to 46% in the popular vote and 426 to 112 in the Electoral College. Shirley and I voted together at City Hall in Port Orchard early in the day, and then watched the returns in the evening. We were grateful to God for the Bush victory. We believe that he is the more righteous man of the two and that his victory indicates that God has still allowed a window of mercy and opportunity to be open for the U.S.

Certainly, the Bush win was attributable to the many people that fasted and prayed for the past 40 days. Thank you, Lord, for Nate Krupp and the others who called us to prayer during this time. May it be an increasing pattern for the future.

The next day I left on a trip to Scandinavia. After arriving late in Boston for the trans-Atlantic flight, I had to stay overnight before going out the next day. Gave me just a little more time to rest, catch up on all the election results, and then go on to this next assignment.

## **Stockholm, Sweden**

*November 13, 1988 - 13,001 - 18,021*

I am sitting at a desk enjoying the beauty and serenity of a lush Swedish forest. It is wonderful to be in Sweden, the land of my maternal ancestors. The plane arrived in Stockholm on Friday afternoon and I then took a train for about 2 hours southwest to the town of Laxa where the YWAM work is. The beautiful scenery out of my window is the property of Tivedskolan where I will be working out of for a few days. It is such a privilege to be here.

In my quiet time this morning God led me to deeply contemplate my Swedish heritage. It was in this nation some 95 years ago that John and Anna Johanson were born. "Grandpa Jo" left this land around 1920 after God had spoken to him by an audible voice to leave Sweden and go to America. He had been raised in the Lutheran church and even ministered as a song leader as a layman. In America, in the Pacific Northwest, he came to settle, met Anna Gronberg, a pastor's daughter, and was married. They then bore John in 1926 and Dorothy, my mother in 1927.

John Johanson's calling to America is certainly a major part of my own calling to revival in the United States. Because he was obedient, I was born--and called to be a revival-missionary to the American nation. It all started here in Sweden. I am so thrilled to be "back" in the land of my ancestors. As they all look down from heaven on my first trip to this great nation, may they be pleased with the fruit for Christ that God will help me to produce.

## Orebro, Sweden

Yesterday I spent most of the day with a Swedish businessman named Gunnar Olson who lives in Orebro. We had a delightful 7 hours together enjoying the revelation of God. Gunnar is a strategic man in God's purposes in this nation. He is the president of the International Christian Chamber of Commerce. He has a deep desire to be the world changed for Christ in the next 30 years.

I really believe our time together was significant-- and that we will minister together in many years over the coming decades. Thank you, Lord, for the privilege of his wisdom and friendship.

On Sunday evening I preached in Sweden for the first time at the Methodist Church. I could almost sense the presence of my grandfather, grandmother, and mother Dorothy, looking down from heaven in excitement and approval. Whether this was true or not, I knew that the "heavenly host" was there looking on and desiring that the Spirit of God would move mightily in our midst.

*November 19, 1988 - 13,006 - 18,015*

Bo and I have just finished a very good and extensive trip around Scandinavia. The fellowship was good. The ministry was excellent. Going by train allowed me to see much of the countryside, and to gain a greater appreciation for the land of my ancestors.

Sweden is an interesting country. As you travel it, one gets the sense that it is a continual combination of beautiful pine and fir forests and lazy little villages. There is a sense of quaintness, family-ness, and history. Nobody seems to be in a hurry. But Sweden is also a very immoral and liberal thinking nation that is far from God, indifferent to the church, and extremely secular. It is an amazing combination. It is also ripe for revival.

## Oslo, Norway

The first stop on our trip was the capital of Norway in Oslo. It took us about four hours by train. Norway is extremely economically depressed right now. The people are strong and adventurous, but the over-dependence on a depressed oil industry has left them concerned for the future. The proud Vikings once rose up in this land ("Vik" means "fiord") and conquered and ruled much of Europe, going all the way down to Constantinople. Today Norway is the "small brother" of Sweden with 4-5 million people.

## Grimerud, Norway

Our first evening we had dinner with Eivind Freund in Hamar, and then went up to the YWAM base in Grimerud. They have a lovely property, and I greatly enjoyed fellowship with the staff and leaders. The next day we traveled down to Tronsberg where I preached in a Coffee Bar that we have opened. **God blessed the word, and afterwards I prayed and ministered to many people. One that I prayed for was slain in the spirit.** As far as I can remember, this is the first time that has happened to me in my years of ministry.

## Restanas & Ludvika, Sweden

Next stop was back into Sweden where we spent some good time at the Swedish YWAM headquarters in Restanas. It is one of YWAM's nicest properties, located near the west coast. We then went on north to Ludvika where I preached two different evenings at a Baptist Church, the "Cross Church." The word was well received, even though many appeared dumfounded about the calling of the church to disciple nations. I am praying that in time the fruit will grow and blossom.

## Stockholm, Sweden

Now we are in Stockholm the capital for my final days here before the trip to Finland. **Tonight, I am doing a newspaper and radio interview, and then speaking in the Bro Pentecostal Church. I'm also looking forward to spending time with Kjell Sjoberg, one of the leading prophets in Sweden, and the founder of the national Intercessors group for this nation. It will be a privilege to learn from this man, and his burden for pray and revival.**

Thank you, Lord, for allowing me to minister in these lands. They are upon your heart. Much history and potential are here. May it come forth from the dead and be a blessing to the world. May a new generation of "Christian Vikings" rise up from Scandinavia to conquer the nations of the world for Christ.

*November 21, 1988 - 13,007 - 18,014*

**This morning I spoke in the Bro Pentecostal Church on "When Free Men Shall Stand" as applied to the Swedish nation.** Tears flowed freely from my cheeks as God really anointed the issue of abortion. The whole congregation wept and cried out to God for mercy. At the close of the time, we laid hands on many leaders in the church who committed themselves to not rest until the bloodshed of abortion was stopped in this nation.

Later I learned that about 35,000 baby-murders are committed in Sweden each year. This has been going on since the sixties and amounts to over 600,000 people--or one tenth of the population.

Had a very significant and good time with Kjell in the afternoon. He shared quite a perspective on this nation. He believes that it is prepared to be a test nation for a cash-less one world system. Only prayer and spiritual warfare can rescue the nation. **In the late afternoon we drove into Stockholm to see the city and pray over it. Outside the gates of Parliament, we prayed for God's rule to be established in the nation. At the King's Palace we looked at the Crown Jewels and thanked God for the heritage of Christianity in the land.** Last, we looked over the city from a bluff nearby and bound the strongman and prayed for revival.

It was below zero and the wind was chilly. But our hearts were full of expectations from God. I love to pray over capital cities, and for revival in the nations. One day, I would love to meet with kings and presidents, and to pray that God would use them to bring awakening to their lands.

## **Helsinki, Finland**

*November 25, 1988 - 13,011 - 18,010*

**It's great to be back in Finland again.** This time YWAM is located on the west coast near the old capital of Turku (named Abo in Swedish - this part of the country was once a part of Sweden and is completely bi-lingual). The DTS is located near a lake in a stately old mansion built by a German businessman. My first assignment will be speaking here.

**The weather is cold--the coldest place on earth this week.** I've enjoyed the brisk runs in the morning on the snowpack and enjoyed praying for revival in this country. The students have responded well to the messages. This morning I ministered on the "Wages of Sin," and there was much brokenness and repentance. We especially were led to comfort the broken heart of God over mankind. Was a precious time.

## **Virkala, Finland**

*November 27, 1988 - 13,013 - 18,008*

The end of my time in Finland was spent **speaking at a seminar in a Lutheran Church in the town of Virkala and ministering in Helsinki.** On Thursday evening, and all-day on Saturday I shared on Christian Influence in a nation. I believe that the conservative Finns are in a good place to rise and give leadership to their nation. But they must see the urgency of the hour.

After sharing for six hours on Saturday, I was whisked to Helsinki to speak in a "Go Seminar" there. Afterwards, I had some refreshing fellowship with Yorma and Aria Virtanen, the leaders of YWAM in the nation. They are very special and anointed people. Yorma promised me that they would have my book translated into Finnish.

And now I'm on my way home. It has been a wonderful trip to Scandinavia. Thank you, Lord, for the people, the burden, the awakening that is rising in many places. Truly you are pouring out your Spirit all over the world. Thank you for allowing me to see a little bigger part of it.

## Port Orchard, Washington

*December 4, 1988 - 13,021 - 18,000*

Today I cross a milestone. I drop beneath the 18,000-day mark regarding my lifetime. Looking at this reminder daily in my notebook is both sobering and stimulating. Life is so short. How I want to live my days with eternity in my sights. For the next three years, I will be in the "17,000 range." Then the clock will tick on.

It has been good to be at home. I have had to move out of my office next door and have moved my things out to my folks. It is still very difficult living at Cooksons and out of a suitcase. But the Lord is giving us grace. We are now making some progress on our house, and so we are hopeful that it will be completed in three to four months. What a blessing that will be.

After some prayer and discussion, Shirley and I have decided that for 1989 the Lord would have me to cut back on my travel schedule to about 6-8 weeks altogether. I believe this is from the Lord, and we are going to pray about it together and ask God to make this area which has been a weakness for us to become a shining strength for our family.

We want to be a good testimony in everything. I want to be committed to the "GO" of the gospel as well as committed to being with my family during these important years. Only with God's help can the balance be struck. He wants us to seek His kingdom in the nations in the earth--and He wants us to raise up a godly family that will follow in our footsteps. By His help, we shall do both.

## Concord, New Hampshire

*December 12, 1988 - 13, 029 - 17,992*

I am currently in the state of **New Hampshire speaking for a week at the YWAM base**. The Lord appears to be saying to me that this will be the last DTS-SOE that I speak at in this form. I'm not sure what this means, but I am excited about praying about what the changes are.

It's very cold here as it was in Europe. I took a run on Sunday and practically turned into an icicle! It must have been below zero with the wind chill. I am here to speak for you, my God and King. Help me to be a fitting vessel.

December 16, 1988 - 13,033 - 17,988

It has been a good week of ministry. One thing that made it a little challenging (and humorous) was the fact that **for the first time in my life I accidentally left my main teaching messages at home!** I had removed them from my notebook to put them onto the computer, and then had forgotten them. It was a true test. Were the things I speak really in my heart and life, or just notes on paper?

Thanks to God's help, they came out okay. Many students were deeply changed through the teachings on revival. Maybe John Wesley's words are true: It takes 25 years to write a sermon because it takes 25 years to make a man.

## Plymouth, Massachusetts

On December 15, I also took a two-hour car ride down to **Plymouth, Massachusetts to meet a friend and to see Plymouth Rock for the first time. It was a life-changing visit. Paul Jehle, a pastor and Christian school principal, and who has become the foremost historian of Plymouth and the Pilgrims, gave me a rare and insightful tour of this birthplace of the American nation. It was far more moving than I could have imagined.**

**We met at Plymouth Rock on a cold windy day.** "The rock" itself was not as big as I had expected. It is a smooth stone about seven feet long and four feet thick that is purported to be the largest stone on the beach where the Pilgrims landed on December 21, 1620. The date is carved on the stone. It sits in loneliness under a stone canopy with pillars all around. Over the 350 years since the Pilgrims' landing, it has been moved around a few times, and even sports a large crack where it had to be glued back together after falling off a cart. It now rests on the scenic and rocky waterfront on the original spot where it once lay.

It was here -- under the same harsh weather conditions -- that the early Pilgrims came on shore and began the great American experiment of self-government under God so many years



ago. I was thrilled to see the sight. Paul Jehle, my expert tour guide, began to share many insights about this great and resourceful people. As we walked around and viewed various sights, the meaning of it all began to really sink in.

After talking for a while on the beach, Paul showed me a life-size commemorative statue of William Bradford, the great governor of the Plymouth Colony. I was amazed at his small size. Paul said that all **the Pilgrims were probably about 5 foot to 5 foot 2 inches-- a small people**. It was their faith and their hearts that were big. William Bradford was one of the biggest.

William was an orphan that had been raised by two uncles. At the age of twelve, while reading the Bible, he had given his life to Christ, and in the company of William Brewster, had joined the early pilgrim group in England. At the age of 18, he had become an elder in the group, and had participated in their move to Holland while being persecuted by both the Anglican church and the British Crown.

In August of 1620, the little band had set out in the Mayflower for the New World "for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith." Providentially they had been led to the shores of Cape Cod. Right where we were now standing, the Pilgrims had come up on shore where a brook entered the Bay and had built their little colony.

Bradford has become governor of the Colony when he was thirty years old. He lived to be 67 and was governor of the colony for all those years except for five when he deferred to others. We walked by the place where his home had stood. It was now a bustling corner of the new Plymouth where a CVS Drug store stood. **We also had entered the Plymouth Hall and seen his actual personal Bible. What a thrill it was to look at, complete with personal notes, and recently rebound.** It was Bradford who wrote the famous "History of Plymouth Plantation"-- essentially the journal of the community written over some 220 years.

The Pilgrim Hall is the oldest museum in America and contains many of the original artifacts of the Colony. There was even the crib of a baby boy who was born on the Mayflower. He lived to be 84 years old (a long life considering the average lifespan of 35-40 years).

Paul also gave me **the rare privilege of going into an inner room under lock and key that housed the Pilgrim archives (it was here that we viewed Governor Bradford's Bible)**. What a treasure house it was of the history of Early America and the state of Massachusetts. There were hundreds of volumes of original literature.

And as Paul pointed out, it all clearly portrayed the great Christian strength and worldview of the Pilgrim fathers. The evidence of history was clear: The Pilgrims had been a godly people who fulfilled God's plan for their lives to bring Christian civilization to the New World. They had been obedient in their generation, even under extremely difficult circumstances (over half of their community had died the first hard winter after they had landed at Plymouth). Sure, this brought a lot of questions. Would we be as obedient in our generation to fulfill the

purposes of God as the Pilgrims had been in theirs?

We continued the tour, driving through hustle and bustle of the new town, yet around every corner there seemed to be a mark of antiquity or sign of the past. At the Pilgrim graveyard on the hill (just above the spot where the church stands - it is now a Unitarian church - and far removed from the faith of the fathers) one could see the entire Bay spread out before us. There were the gravestones of the great men and women, and Paul abounded with stories about the faith and influence of many of them. One could also see a large monument to the **Indian Squanto** who had befriended them as an angel sent from God and helped them to establish a wholesome and just relationship with the local Indian tribe and their chief Massasoit. We finished our two-hour tour at a huge and impressive monument. It is called the "**Monument to the Forefathers.**" The story behind it and its message was a fitting closing to a very special day for me.

As we stood beneath this towering granite edifice, all alone atop a hill near the town, Paul shared with me the story that had given birth to this special shrine. It had been a hundred-year project built to memorialize the memory of the Pilgrim forefathers and the vision they had brought to the New World.

There were five large statues integrated into one towering spectacle. The pinnacle of the monument was a statue called "Faith" which symbolized their trust in God and dependence on the Bible. Underneath the statue of faith were four other statues. One symbolized "Morality" emanating out of their faith in God; a second symbolized "Law," both the power of God's conviction and the wonder of His mercy; the third stood for education including the strength of youth and the wisdom of the elderly; the fourth symbolized liberty which comes from the courage of faith.

**All in all, this grand and detailed monument gave elegant testimony in stone to what the Pilgrims brought to these shores: unshakable faith in God, righteousness in heart and life, a reverence for God's law and an appreciation of His grace, a civil polity based on His commands, education and intellectual prowess based in godly wisdom, and a zeal for His kingdom to go to the ends of the earth.**

I was deeply moved as Paul related this and many other stories. We were truly standing on holy ground. I must not forget. The vision was still to be carried on.

Paul and his church were doing that. Almost single-handedly they had revived interest in the Pilgrim heritage, and now the students from their Christian school were the official guides of the town. In 1989 they will be giving leadership to a one hundred-year anniversary of the "Monument to the Forefathers." In many other ways they were serving the local community. They were the modern-day pilgrims.

After thanking and saying goodbye to Paul at his small New Testament Church, I began the ride back to New Hampshire. What a blessing the day had been. I had preached about the

faith of the Pilgrims before. Now I had stood where their feet had trod.

They had helped to give birth to a nation. **With increased determination, I wanted to give my life to seeing that nation reborn once again.** **Faith--Morality--Law--Education--Liberty.** The equation was still the same. God's ways had not changed. We had just forgotten.

The vision had to be reborn and re-lived. I, for one, want to do just that.

## **Port Orchard, Washington**

*December 31, 1988 - 13,048 - 17,973*

A few days ago, the **Seattle Leadership Council** spent an overnight in Auburn seeking the Lord regarding the coming year. It was an excellent time. Wisdom flowed in the decision-making. We had some good prayer times in spiritual warfare over the ministry. Fellowship was important. I believe that this time helped us all to feel more like a team that is united and able to move forward confidently into the future.

One thing the Lord spoke to me about was the area of my personal prayer life. As 1988 was the year that I began to strengthen my discipline in the Word, so 1989 must be the area of the restoration of my prayer life. This was greatly emphasized to me at the retreat. A few months ago, I sensed God speaking to me about this.

Help me, Lord, to go deeply into the intimacy of prayer and communion with you. It is the cry of my heart, and my greatest need.

A couple of days ago Shirley and I were able to get away for an overnight together. It was greatly needed. Due to the delay of our housing project and the lack of privacy in our living circumstances, we have felt the strain of late in our relationship. Our time away was very refreshing and uplifting. God is the glue to our marriage. Without His renewing, it is doomed to decay and fraying apart.

**1988 has now come to an end. It has been a year of great change.** It has not been an easy year -- but then, the Lord showed us that it would be a year of transition and sacrifice. How true that was.

What will 1989 hold? Only the Father knows. I want to seek Him with all my heart. I want to rise to the challenge of His destiny on my own life. If my life can be divided into segments of seven years each, the breakdown might look like the following:

1953-60 - Early Childhood

1960-67 - Family Tragedy/Conversion to Christ

1967-74 - Discipleship/God's Call to Missions\Early Ministry

1974-81 - YWAM/God's Call to Revival & America/Renewal Team/Washington D.C.

1981-88 - Capital Ministry/Death of a Vision/Hawaii/Move to Pacific Northwest

1989-96 -?

I am convinced the best still lies ahead. I am 35 years old. Much of what has gone before has been preparation for the future.

The future is now. Oh, to be faithful, self-controlled, and seeking first God's kingdom and His righteousness. Lord--may the coming year be one of great release and advance. May you be pleased with what you see in my heart and be glorified through what is incarnated in my life.