

The Journal of Ron Boehme - 1989

Port Orchard, Washington

**January 15, 1989 – 13,062 – 17,959 – [started “numbering my days” at age 35]*

It has been great to begin a New Year pioneering many new things in the Pacific Northwest. Our year also began with a very special event: **On Sunday, January 15, Nathan our firstborn, was baptized into Christ! It was a very special time:**

- His taking his stand for Christ was totally his decision. Neither Shirley nor I pushed him on it. God was moving in his heart, and we believed that he was ready.
- The baptism took place at First Christian Church after the morning service. Teed Nail gave the charge to Nathan; I also shared how Nathan had been given to us as a "child of promise" and then baptized Nathan while Grandpa Boehme participated in the laying on of hands and commissioning him.
 - About fifty people were in attendance, and the Spirit of the Lord was very evident. We believe that Nathan has now taken a very significant step in God. . . and that "He who has begun a good work in Him will complete it unto the day of Jesus Christ (Philippians 1:8)."

Minneapolis, Minnesota

January 22, 1989 - 13,067 - 17,954

I always look forward to coming back to Washington D.C. during this time of the year. I flew out yesterday, in the company of Victor Porlier, and had a safe trip to the nation's capital. In route we stopped in Minneapolis where **Warren Walsh met us with the first copies of my new book Leadership For the 21st Century: Changing Nations Through The Power Of Serving. A baby is born!** It was such a thrill to receive it. It is well done, and I am very pleased. I hope that God is. I believe that He is.

Washington, D.C.

This morning I was able to share at Christian Assembly and present the first copy to Pastor Derrel Emmerson. After both services we sold about 75 copies. A whole new era has opened in our ministry. Praise the Lord for the opportunity to use this new medium. May the result be many more godly leaders raised up for the victories of the Kingdom of God.

February 1, 1989 - 13,077 - 17,944

We are on our way home. What a great ten days it has been. I can honestly say that it has been **the busiest trip that I've ever done in the capital**. But it also contained some of the richest moments.

It seems as if years of developing various friendships and relationships are now starting to bear fruit. This is God's way. Seeds planted earlier are now beginning to grow into beautiful and exciting things.

I wish that the human memory had the ability to retain all that God allows it to experience. Maybe the memory does. The problem is our difficulty in pulling it out. Here are a few of the highlights of the past ten days that were special:

- It was great to get out many of the Leadership books at various church services (including Maranatha on Capitol Hill and Evangel Temple), to numerous friends, and to our national leaders on Capitol Hill on January 31 (**My most special moment was talking and praying with Dick Halverson in his Senate Chaplain's office. He was so complimentary and appreciative of our work in D.C. between 1980-86. The warmth of his friendship was a balm to my soul**). All-in-all we distributed nearly **800 books**. Now I am praying that God would use all of them to challenge His people to rise to the calling of serving people and nations.
- The Christian Public Policy Meetings were very rich. I am grateful to be a part of this group and will be working on the Strategic Planning & Management Committee this year. It is a great fellowship of long-range thinkers. I so greatly enjoy their zeal for Christ and the many gifts that they bring to His Kingdom.
- I was able to spend an afternoon with Bill and Karen Blatz, our YWAM leaders. The work here is now small, but the fruit of our labors remain. In our conversation, God clearly showed me how He has used different ones to make varied contributions to the work: **I laid the foundation in revival and ministry in the governmental sphere**; Landa brought in the ministry in the media arena; Bill is now championing the cause of the city and urban poor. "Some plant, others water, but God causes the growth." This is a hard perspective to see when you are in the middle of the battle. Time has a way of bringing clarity. My eyes are now opened.
- **The transfer of the 133 C Street facility and ministry to the Fellowship Foundation now is completely understood in my heart and mind. God gave us a vision; He has given the Fellowship the means to fulfill it.** Bill even shared with me that the Corporation is still our original one, and that the name of the ministry will go back to "133 C Street Inc." I was thrilled to hear this. That's the name that God gave it eight years ago. What God began and He will complete. He may not do it our way, but it will be accomplished.

"The promises of God are yes and amen in Him."

- It was refreshing to meet with many friends and compatriots in ministry at the National Religious Broadcasters Convention. It was a very powerful time, beginning with an opening night presentation by Dr. James Dobson of Focus on the Family. Four thousand people jammed the ballroom to hear him tell of his providential moments with convicted serial killer, Ted Bundy, just before his death in the Florida electric chair. Dr. Dobson is now beginning a nation-wide organization aimed at strengthening the families of America and impacting Public Policy.

As I listened to him, God revealed to me a truth: **The Lord raises men for a certain hour. When they have completed their task, and have faded from the scene, he appoints another. And another. Men come and go. God's work carries on.**

My mind took me back about ten years. I was in the same ballroom, watching a very similar scene. The people strained their eyes to view the man for the hour. There was a sense of awe. At times we shed a few tears. Jerry Falwell was announcing the beginning of the Moral Majority and his burden to call America back to the principles of her past greatness.

Today, Jerry Falwell is back in Lynchburg. Pat Robertson stepped into the arena for a season and then returned to CBN and Virginia Beach. James Dobson has now stepped forth by God's call. In ten years, who will be next? Only God knows. **We are simply to listen and obey.** How amazing and continuous are the acts of God through His people in history!

One important thing that God has shown me on this trip is the rightness and timing of the Revive America project. His anointing is upon it, and it is time to bring it forth. Everywhere I shared this vision, God revealed His favor upon it. This has given me great excitement. Preparations will now begin. Lord Jesus - bring to reality this vision for national servanthood through teams of young people. It is your vision. I hold it lightly before you. Bring it forth to the praise of your glory.

A year of new beginnings and releases now moves into gear. I am excited about 1989. Construction has begun on our home. A new book business has sprouted. Revive America moves toward the launching pad. It appears that a year of release lies in front of us. God give us the wisdom to move ahead carefully...and prayerfully attuned to your leadings and promptings.

Dallas, Texas

February 12, 1989 - 13,088 - 17,933

I am just finishing a three-day trip to Dallas. It has been very refreshing and fruitful. 120 U.S. YWAM leaders gathered together for a Strategy Conference at the Harvey Hotel, and God revealed His heart and mind to us. I am very grateful to have gone and be a YWAMer.

On the first morning, following a teaching on the life of Jacob by Denny Gunderson, the Lord prompted me to go to the front. He had clearly stirred my heart that this was the time to confess my past leadership mistakes to my friends and peers, ask their forgiveness, and receive their love. Tears rolled down my cheeks as I humbled myself. It wasn't hard to do. The brokenness and contrition had been worked into my life many months before. It WAS very freeing. How amazing it is through death to pride God liberates the soul. Praise the Lord. A chapter of my life is truly closed now. Only the future, and the great promises of God lie ahead. One prophetic word that came in response to my confession reiterated the truth: "He who humbles himself will be exalted."

Now I simply want to serve YWAM better than I ever have in the past. Even though my role is changed, I feel relaxed and grateful. Lessons have been learned. Character has been deepened. It's not the leadership roles that are important to our Heavenly Father--it is growth in grace and knowledge.

On the first day, John Dawson also gave an excellent teaching on the spiritual warfare surrounding cities (one of our main foci for the coming years). He believes that cities possess specific destinies and "personalities" just as individuals do. These come from the angelic assignments that God has given on the earth. These destinies can be perverted--but they are also to be redeemed through the "revealing of the sons of God." Our job is to understand the destinies of our cities and towns and be a part of that redemptive process.

His message really opened our eyes to God heart and plan for the cities of America. This, and other messages, led to some great times of intercession for the nation and its cities. One focus was gathering very strongly behind Nick Savoca and his re-kindled vision for New York. We are to band together in unity to see this great city affected (Psalm 133). It is important for us to do this to unleash a new spirit of cooperation in YWAM in our nation.

Many people were excited about my new book. It was a joy to give a copy of it to many friends. There were also the many personal times with fellowship with brothers and sisters that I have worked with for many years. I appreciate the family called Youth With A Mission.

One morning, Josh McDowell (who just "happened" to be doing another convention in the same hotel at the same time) gave us a tremendous word on the broken state of the modern youth culture, without father & mother models, ruined by immorality, and craving true love and intimacy. He admonished us to love our wives, spend time with our kids, and give to the world a model to seek. It was a powerful word. It really spoke to my heart that the way Shirley and I have been led this past year is so right. We are to have a strong marriage and a great relationship to our offspring. What a privilege and high call. May we be faithful.

On the final morning I attended Shady Grove Church in Grand Prairie and scattered some more books. A few divine appointments there were very special to me. I was also encouraged through Olen Griffing's anointed sermon to seek to be madly in love with Jesus. This is the

greatest privilege in life, and the true power of holiness. Lord - your face will I seek, and in your love, I will take delight!

Port Orchard, Washington

February 15, 1989 - 13,093 - 17,928

Our world changed today. **At about 8 pm this evening my dad had a heart attack.** By 9 pm I was at the hospital and at his side, with Mom, Aunt Margie and Greg. It was a sobering moment, but precious none-the-less. As we gathered around the bedside of the man we love. I was so encouraged by dad's focus on eternity and trust in His Savior. Years ago, things were certainly different. True assurance of salvation was now a clear reality in his life.

For a few days we went back and forth to the hospital, monitoring his progress, and trying to be a help and strength to members of our family. This aspect of ministering to the family is especially needed right now. About six weeks ago Mom and Greg had a major falling out. This has created quite a strain at this time, but I am thankful to God that I can be a peacemaker and point of confidence and trust for both. I've never been in that role before. It is a privilege as well as a great responsibility.

Times with dad have been precious. At his bedside he has given me little sermonettes or revelations that God has shared with him. **Every time I see him, I pray for him. It is amazing how God uses trials and difficulties to re-focus our eyes on the true priorities of life and the importance of being ready for eternity. Dad is ready. This is my greatest joy.** In about a week, they have decided to do open heart surgery.

February 17, 1989 - 13,095 - 7,926

Tonight, we had our **fifth annual Renewal '89 meeting** at the Harper Church Ministry Center. It had originally been scheduled for February 3, but a freak snowstorm hit the area the night before and paralyzed most of the Northwest. We had to scramble to postpone it, and then re-scheduled it on the 17th. We lost some people due to the change but were still heartened by the enthusiastic turnout of over 145.

It turned out to be a wonderful night though my own mind and heart were elsewhere. They were with my dad. I had so wanted him to be at this meeting. For over a year-and-a-half I had kept it a secret that **my new book had been dedicated to mom and dad.** After the heart attack, I ended up telling dad about it in the hospital, not knowing if there would be another chance.

At the Friday night meeting I was still able to honor mom and have her stand as I shared about the book. She seemed to be deeply ministered to. It was a great joy to me to "honor my father and mother." I knew that dad was there with us in spirit.

Denny Gunderson, Bob Oke, and Ellen Craswell all shared very good words with the gathering. Then Mark Siljander gave a very inspirational keynote message on "The Pursuit of Power." Afterwards, I simply shared my heart with the group and went through the book. A free copy was given out to all of them, and afterwards I had fun signing them for all our friends.

One other important item: Tonight, we announced the beginning of the Read to Lead Program. I am excited about this project, begun by our new company Renewal Communications. It will encourage hopefully thousands of people (especially men) to re-arrange their priorities to spend more time in personal growth and reflection. An illiterate church cannot change a society. A well-read church which obeys the commands of the Master can rise to give leadership to a civilization.

This is the goal of the Read to Lead program. It is a modest beginning. However, I believe that over time, it could become one of the most important ministries that we have ever launched. One must read to lead. There's no other way.

February 22, 1989 - 13,100 - 17,921

Dad had a quadruple bypass surgery today at St. Joseph Hospital in Tacoma. The operation lasted for about six hours, and we spent the time in the waiting room talking and praying and getting hourly progress reports. Everything went very well. What remarkable advances medicine has made in a short amount of time. They are now able to stop a person's heart for three hours or more; sustain that person's life on a heart lung machine during the procedure; remove some veins from the leg and graft them into the heart to "bypass" the clogged arteries; close them back up--and give them a new lease on life.

We were so grateful when it was over. Dad then recovered for a few days but had a set-back on Friday. His heart began to beat irregularly, and he had to be given medication to control it. For a while it was critical, and I sensed for the first time that he maybe thought that he was going to die.

But the Lord had other plans and brought him safely through. On the last day of February, I brought him home from the hospital to begin his 6-8 weeks of recuperation. These two weeks have been hard, but adversity brings families together and renews their most important commitments to each other. This has happened to us. Now we can praise God for whatever days or years that we will have dad with us. Saturday is his 69th birthday. God has given him a long and full life. Now we understand that a little better than before. And we're more prepared to move into the future.

As I've thought about the past few weeks, it has become clear to me that I and our family have been under major Satanic attack. The freak snowstorm. Dad's heart attack and operation. The family feud between Greg and Mom. Someone told me a few days ago that they believe that this is related to the birth of my new book--that Satan even tried to bring about a death to thwart

this new release. I believe this is true. But the Lord and His grace have prevailed. Blessed be His Powerful Name.

It is also abundantly clear that God really wanted us to be in the Pacific Northwest at this time to minister to our families. This is what He showed us when we were praying about our move. What wonderful confirmation this is! God carefully and specifically guides His people. If we listen and obey, we will be in the right place at the right time to minister to the right people that God has called us to.

March 2, 1989 - 13,108 - 17,913

I should note that we are finally making great progress on our new home. The walls are now going up, and as often as I can I am working out on the property. How grateful we are for this provision! What a haven of blessing and ministry it is going to be.

At the same time, I feel very tired and stretched thin at this point in my life. New home, book, business, and increased opportunities. Lord - help me to simply listen and obey your voice. Align my priorities with yours for my life. In obedience and trust I know that I will find my rest in you.

March 10, 1989 - 13,116 - 17,905

The busyness continues. Tonight, the Lord gave us an extra special blessing. During a staff retreat in Seattle, **Nita Johnson, from Omaha, Nebraska, prophesied over Shirley and I** (as she also did for *all* of our YWAM staff). The word was powerful, and greatly ministered to our spirits. Here is what the Lord said through her:

"Father, I thank you for this couple. You are about to take a step in a new direction, out from the old and into a new. Even though it may not seem like the preparatory time would have been a reasonable time of preparation for where He's going to place you. You will see in the end that it was reasonable and most perfect. And you're not to be concerned over this one issue because God is going to do something very special."

"He's going to renew the old far beyond that which anything you've ever experienced before. So that **He's going to renew the old and add to it**. So, you're not to be concerned about that. You just go ahead and move into the open door and you'll see that God is going to do a great work. Even now He's expanding the heart. He's expanding the heart of both of you to encompass a great company of people because there's going to be a great company of people who are going to need the nurturing that He's placed within you."

"Even through all the trials--and the floods have come--they've come--but they haven't prevailed. And this is the day the Lord has made to push back the floods so that you can see that

though the floods had come upon the land and they're being pulled back, the seed will go deep into the soil and bring forth a rich harvest. First here, and then with all things that you touch.”

“You're going to see that God has been with you here speaking to you, helping you, ministering to you, **even healing things from your childhood** through this process, so that when the floods are pushed back, you're going to be able to stand tall, strong, and erect, and you're going to be as a brazen wall before many so that those who stand behind you will be protected by that which is within you. But you see that all which was weak and would have broken down, God has been taking care of during this process of time.”

“So, **you're going to see the restoration**, and you're going to see that He is going to add to it. It's going to be rich and bountiful and bring such joy and exhilaration to the heart. You'll see. You'll see. And as your eyes look out over those that the Lord is going to send you to, it's going to be with such love, such devotion, but it will be together in perfect harmony, and **God will give clear insight: one, the word of knowledge, the other the word of wisdom, prophetic utterances, to give understanding of things to come.**”

“He will give you clear and concise paths to follow and the people will follow you in the day of your power.”

Shirley and I were greatly ministered to by this word, given by a very precious and compassionate woman of God. As I prayed about it, the Lord reminded me that **it was exactly 15 years ago to the month that God gave His first prophetic word of knowledge to me through Jean Darnell in Germany. That word guided my single life for years.**

Now, fifteen years later, being married and with four children, God has given another word. Lord - I want to seek to understand what You have said and trust and obey. Thank you for your miraculous ways.

“Man does not live my bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.”

March 26, 1989 - 13,133 - 17,888

One of our staff recently gave me the following Scripture promise for our lives. It is Zephaniah 3:16-20, with an emphasis on verse 17.

April 16, 1989 - 13,153 - 17,868

I have been away from the journal for a long time. Most of this time period I have been working hard on our new home. This has been quite a change of pace for me. **I've been learning a lot about the carpentry trade.** While other things have suffered, I have truly sensed that this was the Lord's will for this time. His word to me was to “Prepare your work in the field, and afterwards build your house.” In this case, the work in the field is providing for my family. After

this, the ministry "house" will boom forward on a sure foundation.

The hours have been long and the weather uncooperative. During the month of March, it rained 27 out of 31 days. We couldn't have chosen a harder period to construct a home. But the Lord has been with us. Some months of hard work remain, but the reward will be great. Thank you again, Father, for this wonderful provision. May every inch of it be filled with your glory and honor!

June 13, 1989 - 13,211 - 17,810

It hardly seems possible that I have been away from my journal for 58 days! This reveals that I primarily write it in while traveling. For the past two months I have stuck close to home while working on the finish of our house. At this point we are only a month away.

These months have not been easy, but they have been fruitful. I have given much time to the home project and have learned a lot. It makes me appreciate God's provision so much more. When our home is finished, I will certainly be in a place to maintain it as we've built it from scratch and know where every board and wire is!

It has been a long haul-- "camping" on the floor at Mom and Dad Cookson's while building. We are very tired, but excited about the new step. How grateful we are to scores of friends who have helped us along the way. We could not have done it without them.

I have also been very encouraged by the growth of the Read-To-Lead program during these months. It is truly anointed of God. Show us, Lord, how to improve and expand it to be a blessing to many more people who will take the time to read and to grow.

July 18, 1989 - 13,246 - 17,775

Things are moving along on the home. Today I had the kids come out to the house and "make a memory." They were pouring the concrete in the carport and I had Nathan, David, Bethany, and Megan all kneel and put their handprint and sign their names in the wet mud. It is marked "July 18, 1989." Years from now it will mean something to them, just like my name in the cement at our home on Lidstrom Hill did for many years.

So many of our actions must be viewed from a long-range perspective. If we don't see ahead, we will miss many treasures and blessings. Lord, help us to see how our actions today will affect our tomorrows, for your sake.

July 22, 1989 - 13,250 - 17,771

With the help of many friends, we moved our things into the house this weekend. What a sense of accomplishment.

On Sunday, after putting up beds, taking boxes to various rooms, washing and organizing

the kitchen, and many such tasks, we sat down with our friends to enjoy a good spaghetti meal together. What a good way to begin using our new home. In total there were about 20-25 adults and children present.

This is the way that we want our new home to be used. To bless people. It was a great beginning after many months of waiting and hard labor.

July 28, 1989 - 13,256 - 17,765

For the past four days I have brought the kids out one by one to stay with me at our new home while we gradually moved our things from Cooksons. It has been great to be with each one of them alone. During our time of prayer in the evening, I had asked each of them what they liked best about our new place. They all gave the same unsolicited reply: the carpet. They must really enjoy the squishiness under their little feet!

Santa Rosa, California

August 1, 1989 - 13,259 - 17,762

I have been in Santa Rosa for a few days for our **Christian Public Policy Council** annual meeting. It has been stimulating as usual. I have especially appreciated the fellowship with Colonel and Miriam Doner, and Ray Allen. It is such a privilege to work with men and women with a heart for God, and who have a big vision of the world and the nation. They are committed to what God has planned to do and laid their lives on the altar to be a part of those plans.

Lord - that is my desire as well. Use me as a living sacrifice.

Port Orchard, Washington

August 2, 1989 - 13,260 - 17,761

Today we officially moved into our new home as a family and spent the first night together. I can't describe the sense of gratitude to God that wells up in my heart. TRULY HE HAS BEEN FAITHFUL AND GRACIOUS. We obeyed Him and He honored His word.

We are now planted in a new location to share His glory. 6830 Arlington Place SE has been established by Him and for Him. Lord - may all your plans for Shirley and me, for the children as they grow up, and for other aspects of our ministry now COME FORTH! You are a great and wonderful God who has truly done great things!

"This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it."

August 15, 1989 - 13,273 - 17,748

Moving in has been hectic as well as fun. Tomorrow they begin to pave the road as well as our driveway. In the next few days we will also close our mortgage. One blessing: We are taking out the mortgage at a time in which interest rates have fallen to their lowest point in 2 years.

The Lord knew all of this when He spoke to us about doing this in the fall of 1987. That's exactly two years ago now. What a joy it is to follow His voice and to heed His call. His path is the path of strength, blessing, and fulfillment.

Lakeside, Montana

August 31, 1989 - 13,289 - 17,732

We're at the Northwest Staff Conference in Lakeside, Montana. It's a gorgeous property, and we're having a very nice family time as well as an excellent time with our 200+ YWAM staff from around the area. God has greatly refreshed us with His Word. This year Shirley and I feel more and more a part of the YWAM family in this part of the world.

On Friday, Dan Sneed gave the following prophetic word over my life during a time of ministry:

"Ron--the Scripture deals with Esther, but "for such a time as this, you came into the Kingdom." You've gone through a lot of tremendous reversals in your life--a lot of real disappointments. **Vision is generally not a real problem for you. In fact, getting the right one has been more of the problem.** But all that have taken place--all the reversals--some your fault, some not--have come about. But He has led you through this time. And the things that you've learned and the breaking that has taken place, and all that God has done inside of you, has been **preparation for what He now wants to do through your life.**"

"I'm not sure that you are yet in a position where you can look back and thank God for some of the reversals. But, if you are, praise God that you are there. It will become even stronger. I think you're going to see that **never once were you out of the will of God.**"

"I don't know why God chose to take you this way. Sometimes it is beyond understanding why God does what He does. He knows what He's doing. And there's not one vision that you've had, not one tear that you've cried, not one moment of anger that you've experienced, that God was not very much aware of, and that He wants you to know that **He is rewarding you for your faithfulness, for you sticking to what He has called you to**--He's rewarding you. And that He is going to begin to give you vision that really is His vision and that He has for you, and that you are finding your place, and that will not be taken away. You are

finding your place.”

“Be very sensitive to move within that place, not to try to grab too many things outside of that place. **God has a great work for you.** Even with the book, God is going to use that book in a tremendous way. . . A lot of that book is a result of the brokenness that took place in you. And what's going to come out of that is going to touch the lives of so many more people than you've ever touched before. **But it had to come out of a broken heart.** It had to come out of seeing your own inadequacies so that you could turn to the Lord and see how adequate He was, and He is.”

“**The promises that God has made to you over the years-- there are several promises--they are all from the Lord. Don't give up on those promises.** They aren't gone. God just didn't take you there the way you thought He would. Those commitments are to you, and He will fulfill every promise that He has made to you. **You are just now coming into the best time of your life.** The best time of fulfillment is just ahead. It's not past, it's just ahead.”

After this tremendous time of prophetic utterance, which greatly ministered to my spirit, some people laid hands upon me and Dan prayed out this prayer:

"Lord, I can just feel--not now so much--but Ron has been through a great deal of pain. Some of that was probably his own doing as it is in all our lives. Some of it may have been misunderstandings; some of it may have been mistakes by others. But the issue is he's Yours. And he's never been out of the center of Your attention. Out of all the breaking, and questioning whether he was ever called to ministry, **you have brought forth a man who has grown in his understanding, of You and your servant heart, and out of this is coming a new anointing that Ron has never experienced before**--a whole new time of anointing that he will be able to directly link to what he's been through. And that's key.”

“He wouldn't choose to go through it again, but Lord, he can now look back and see that You have not only used these things to shape his life, but also now the lives of many other people. Ron does not yet have a full understanding of how many lives are going to be touched through that book yet. Lord - I believe for the lives of many leaders to be touched--not because of the teaching, but because of the heart that they feel. It's the living of it that gives him the authority to speak to it.”

“Lord, I believe you are going to reward Ron, his wife, and his family--far beyond what he has ever given up--because is Your character, God. You never allow us to give up more than You give back. Lord, I thank you for this man...and what you are doing in his life. In the Name of Jesus. Amen.”

Over the past few years, God has gone out of His way to encourage and uplift me through messages of this kind. It's almost scary. There is much to be accountable for.

I thank you, Lord, that you are the God who empowers and restores. You do not forget

your promises. I will continue to wait for the fulfillment of your word in my life and family.

Port Orchard, Washington

September 12, 1989 - 13,301 - 17,720

We are now homeowners. At Kitsap Mortgage, we finalized the loan on our home. It is for **\$81,000 at 9.25 interest** in an Adjustable Rate Mortgage. All-in-all we are very happy-- and praise the Father for this great provision.

We have also paid off all other debts in the past few weeks. For the first time in years, we are debt-free except for the home mortgage which is appreciable. Praise God for His patience and guidance.

Now the family financial goal is to pay off the house in 5-7 years to become totally debt free. Stewardship before God is an essential part of our Christian walk. God has helped us to make some very important steps. We want to keep walking forward into the light of His principles and blessings.

September 24, 1989 - 13,313 - 17,708

Today **we welcomed the 49 friends who had helped us build our home (and their spouses) to an open house** and time of thanking and honoring them. We had a good turnout. At the peak there were probably 50-60 in attendance on a beautiful, sun-shiny day. After cleaning, scrubbing, and decorating for a few days, the house looked great. Everyone seemed to appreciate and taking a "grand tour." It was great fun.

At four o'clock we had a small program to thank them all and to give out a few special *awards*:

- Larry and Kathy Dullum received the "You Want It When? Award" for being the patient builders of the home.
- Mom Cookson got the "I Am A Survivor Award" for putting up with us for so many months in her tiny apartment.
- Roy Sandstrom's award was called "You Light Up My Life" for his gracious and amazing electrician work.
- Ken Morrison and Morrison Gravel received the "Move That Mountain Award" for taking 2000 yards of dirt out of the backyard.
- And Dad Boehme received the "Blood, Sweat, Tears, and Prayer Award" for his unceasing contribution to the project.

We all had a good laugh together, Shirley and I thanked everyone from the bottom of our

hearts and then we finished with an eight-minute video that showed the building of the home from start to finish. We also gave a specially personalized Washington For Jesus Art print to everyone as a small way of saying thank-you.

It was a special day of friendship and honor. The two seem to go so much together. The Bible says to "**give honor to whom honor is due.**" We did. I believe that the Lord was pleased.

Lakeside, Montana

September 27, 1989 - 13,316 - 17,705

I'm in Montana to speak at the YWAM center and do the first official recruiting for the Revive America project. It is exciting to begin a new project. It is also a bit scary. So much needs to be done--to be provided--to be raised up from scratch. The older I get, the more I seem to count the cost and be aware of its magnitude. May this never be a deterrent to me from doing the will of God.

Lord Jesus - Revive America - was and is YOUR vision and plan. I simply want to be obedient and faithful. As other projects before, help me to move forward with purpose and zeal--to not get ahead of you nor fail to run with you.

Light the way. Guide and empower us by your Spirit. The enemy wants to destroy America. You want to Revive America. May your will be done through the obedience of your people.

Hammonton, New Jersey

October 25, 1989 - 13,344 - 17,677

The last few weeks have been filled with good ministry. I had to make an "emergency trip" to Hammonton, New Jersey, to help with a very difficult situation there. Over the past year our staff had gotten involved with a group from Valley Forge called the Revival Corps. They have a strong emphasis on personal renewal, conviction of sin, and the need for awakening in the church.

However, they have also gotten into many deceptive doctrines and cultic tendencies. Unfortunately, our YWAM staff got swept up in the deception and it almost destroyed the base.

Many YWAM leaders flew into New Jersey to talk to our staff and help in bringing the base back to normal. It was an awesome situation--a state of siege where part of the staff holed

up in one building and refused to meet with us. After many days of prayer and spiritual warfare we are still at somewhat of a stalemate and are having to pursue a legal strategy to regain control of the property.

This was a vivid eye-opener to me of how Satan comes to us as an "angel of light." His methods can be so cunning and deceitful. But for God's grace, we all are vulnerable. Praise God that through His power we all can be delivered.

Salem, Oregon

I traveled to Salem, Oregon to speak to the YWAM center there on the Revive America project. Received a wonderful response--twelve people committed to go out on the pilot teams.

Edmonton, Alberta

Today I am in Edmonton, Alberta, for a week of ministry on servant leadership. I was invited by the Pentecostal Assemblies of God of Canada to speak at their Bible college and in some of their churches. I am excited about the opportunity.

On the plane here I began to read our Read to Lead book of the month. It is Larry Lea's Could You Not Tarry One Hour? God really spoke to me as I read it about the need to return to my first love of seeking His face in prayer.

Last night when I arrived at my hotel room, I got down on my knees and asked the Lord's forgiveness for allowing my prayer life to become carnal and small over the past years. I then committed myself to get up every day at 6 am and make this time my hour of prayer.

This morning I greatly enjoyed my prayer hour. Using some of the principles in the book, I prayed the outline of the Lord's prayer and greatly delighted in God's presence and friendship. He showed me once again how crucial this time of fellowship with Him is to my life, family, and ministry. He also gave me revelation on how I can build the principles of Larry's book into the other revelations God has given me regarding prayer.

I have determined to make the 6-7 am hour my primary hour of morning prayer. I will also pray and be in the Word during the middle of the day (Psalms and Proverbs), and in the evening (my NT reading). I will use the Lord's prayer outline in conjunction with my normal Prayer Diary subjects for prayer. Every day I will intercede for my family.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for this precious renewal and direction. Help me to move from desire--to discipline--to delight in Your friendship. It truly is the greatest joy and privilege of my life.

October 29, 1989 - 13,348 - 17,673

The ministry in Edmonton has been good. I really enjoyed speaking at Northwest Bible College--especially doing the seminar on servant leadership. It was very well received. My only difficulty during this time was a scratchy throat and raspy voice. On Friday I could hardly speak! I cried out to God to help me. He said, "My grace is sufficient for you."

I shut up and went out to preach! He gave me just enough grace to deliver it.

Calgary, Alberta

On Sunday I had the privilege of speaking to about 2000 folk at First Assembly in Calgary. There was a very good response to the message on serving the nations. I ministered out of Isaiah 60:1-3 with this emphasis: "Church, get up and lead, for your time for leadership has come."

I have also greatly enjoyed being with Craig Eagle, who invited me to come to this part of the world. He is a good man that God is going to use mightily.

Turner Valley, British Columbia

The final leg on the trip is with YWAM in Turner Valley. Lord--may Your word continue to go forth and bear fruit!

November 3, 1989 - 13,353 - 17,668

I've really been enjoying my morning prayer hours. One thing God recently impressed me to do was to have Shirley join me for some of them. I believe that she needs the encouragement, and to help with the discipline of getting back into her own.

We are going to rise and pray together every Monday and Friday. On Mondays we will intercede for our families. On Fridays we'll pray for Revive America and the nation. So far it has been great! Lord - use thing change to help us both grow closer to You and to one another.

Albany, New York

November 9, 1989 - 13,359 - 17,662

This week I flew to New York to attend the **YWAM North American Strategy Conference in Niagara Falls**. I first flew to Albany to meet Adra Lovley -- a good friend who had hosted one of our Renewal Team crusades many years ago-- and stayed with he and his wife Nancy. We then drove across New York state to Buffalo and the Falls.

Niagara Falls, New York

The Conference has been extremely life changing. Joy Dawson has been the main speaker. God has used her as usual to break up the ground of our hearts to seek God for revival and His heart. Her first message was on "The Heart of a Leader." It was a powerful message on the need for a burden and tears in all aspects of our relationship to God and the lost. Her final message was on "The Heart of a Preacher." It was a powerful discourse on the life and ministry of Jeremiah.

Both messages led to great conviction of sin and precious times with the Lord. **As is my norm for every YWAM Conference, I kept a sheet of paper to help remember the aspects of "Obedience" that the Lord impressed me to follow through** with:

1. At home, we need to cleanse every room of our home, and I need to repent before my family for failing to do so.
2. Shirley and I and the kids need to **pray about going out on next summer's Kings Kids tour** and being a part of the Indianapolis gathering.
3. We need to find a Charismatic Catholic to serve on the Revive America Steering Committee.
4. Every day I must clothe myself with the fear of the Lord and the love of the Lord. This is so crucial to my daily walk.
5. I repented over sinning in the areas of mental lust and worldly stimuli (especially while traveling) and committed myself to learn to worship instead.
6. Seeking Jesus myself for revival must become my supreme focus and burden again. However, I must not idolize revival. It is JESUS that I am to seek earnestly.
7. Our family needs to pray about sending Bill & Karen Blatz a Christmas gift to help

replace their home that was vandalized.

8. My next book on destiny needs to speak hard and long to the need of black Americans.

The Conference as a wonderful time in God. It was so special to be with all my friends-- and how I thank God for them all. YWAM is a wonderful family-- not without faults--but rich in many gifts and graces. It is a privilege to serve You, Jesus, through this Christ-centered organization. Keep us on Your track--and living out Your strategies for reaching the world.

***November 11, 1989 - 13,361 - 17,660

THE BERLIN WALL WAS TORN DONE TODAY. What an awesome and historic day! After watching jubilant television reports, we all gathered to worship and thank God that East Germans were now free to leave their country. The gates were open. The oppressed were being set free. How we wept with joy and shouted in praise as we watched the multitudes streaming out of the West to freedom.

TV cameras showed weeping couples; disbelieving young people; men standing on the wall with picks and shovels; thousands of people greeting each other in the streets of Berlin for the first time since 1961. A spiritual principality had fallen. God was to be praised!

Having been in both nations various times, this scene deeply moved me. How prophetic. How in concert with the word of the Lord that He has given me recently for the nations of the world. So far, the perspective in our new book is being fulfilled in detail. Here's the quote from page 25:

"With new-found hope, and under the sanction of perestroika and glasnost, a number of Eastern European nations began to move away from the Soviet orbit. Poland was the first to be freed, but the remaining countries opened in rapid succession. There were minor skirmishes, the Soviet Union's Empire began to unravel as prayer pushed back spiritual principalities and powers that held nations in bondage for decades."

Amazingly accurate! Makes your hair stand on end. These words were originally penned over three years ago. In the last few months they have been vividly fulfilled.

I great day of harvest is upon us. We must move onto the offensive to bring freedom into the hearts of those who have been politically liberated. God has done great things. Now to continue the harvest!

Schenectady, New York

November 13, 1989 - 13,363 - 17,658

I'm on my way home after some good days in Albany. Sunday morning, I preached at Dave Brown's church near Schenectady. The word of the Lord deeply challenged the people. In the afternoon I ministered to Adra & Nancy's committed fellowship. Twenty minutes prior to the service the Holy Spirit gave me understanding on the message (later I learned that Adra had prayed for this specifically). I spoke on "Winning the War for the Lost." God moved in powerful prophetic statement. I have no doubt that this word changed this congregation.

There were also wonderful times shared with the Lovleys. Together, we are praying about working together in the gospel in the future. The Lord will be our guide.

At my request, we went into Albany on the way to the airport and prayed in the center of the Capitol Building. This is a practice that I began some years ago as God burdened me for the capital cities of the world. We bound the spirits over the capital and area and believed God to raise up His people and His righteousness to reign in that place. The center stairway of the building is a tribute to evolution (beginning with carvings of fish and reptiles and "graduating to portraits of men as you reach the top of the structure). It was done back in the early 1800's. We believe it will be replaced. God's glory will reign one day, even if "one stone will not rest upon another."

Port Orchard, Washington

December 19, 1989 - 13,399 - 17,622

Time has flown. It's been good to be at home for the past few weeks. We've especially enjoyed being in our new home. At Thanksgiving we had our first ever opportunity to host both of our families as well as Greg and Joanne for Thanksgiving dinner. It was a pleasant time.

Christmas is now upon us. Thanks to gifts from family and friends we have been able to decorate the home and set aside time to really meditate on the wonder of the Incarnation. It has been a busy time but an extremely good one. I've really noticed the "lights" that are on everyone's homes this year (we put up outside lights as well). Every one of them stands for the hope that Jesus has brought to a dying world. How Jesus has changed history! How much more do we desire that He be exalted among ALL peoples on earth and recognized as King of kings and Lord of lords.

The Revive America project has been developing steadily. Soon the first two pilot teams will go forth to test the vision and its methodologies. We have chosen to send one team to the

inner city of Portland. It will be hosted there by Berean Baptist in north Portland. The other team will function on the Kitsap Peninsula out of Port Orchard and hosted by our home church--First Christian.

We have about 12 people who will be involved. A music team named Urban Network will also be working with us in Portland.

At this point we are prayerfully considering emphasizing five different aspects of renewal during the team ministry between January 7 and February 18:

1. Ministering on revival in as many churches as possible.
2. Coordinating an area-wide Concert of Prayer.
3. Being a catalyst for a regional Torch Run.
4. Sponsoring a missions seminar on reaching the unreached peoples by the year 2000.
5. Building a master mailing list and profile of the churches of the area.

Beyond these practical involvements, we want to be involved in much prayer and spiritual warfare. There is much to be learned about the church, about America, and about how best we can serve. Lord - teach us your word and your ways for this hour!

This month I became the president of the YWAM corporation in this area. This carries some new responsibilities that I am wanting to be faithful in.

Below I will list a copy of our Christmas letter for this year. It gives a pretty good perspective on what God is doing in our lives right now.

Christmas 1989

Our Dear Friends,

Warm greetings during this special Christmas season. In all the hustle and bustle, it is still wonderful to know that everything good that is happening is because of Jesus. Every light on every tree; every gift that is given; every song that is sung--EVERYTHING that blesses and encourages us is evidence that He came and profoundly changed the world. We are a part of that change. Now that is reason to rejoice!

We wanted to catch you up on God's many blessings to us the past year. Thanks for taking the time to read--and to remember us in your prayers.

Our Family

Nathan - it's hard to believe that he is eight. On January 15 he made his first commitment to the Lord and was baptized (by me, Grandpa Boehme, and our pastor). He is now reading well; is proficient in art; and loves to work the computer.

David - at six, he is all boy--with a love for cowboys, soldiers, cars, and anything else that moves fast. David has a very compassionate heart, and currently a few missing teeth. He's doing well in gymnastics and everything else that is action-packed.

Bethany - the other twin, is also six and going on sixteen (hair, clothes, you know what we mean!). She is learning to read and does very well in her first- grade studies and gymnastics. She's a sweet girl who can be a very good servant and helper.

Megan - is almost four and is our blond baby that is growing up. She still sucks her finger and holds her blanket when tired. She's our joyful singer who is also mom's helper. She loves to "help" me in my office. One day she'll be a great secretary.

Shirley - is enjoying her new nest, complete with classroom for teaching the kids. She's a good and diligent teacher, and an even better mom! She especially enjoyed decorating our new home for Christmas, including our first-ever Christmas tree (we've never spent Christmas at home in 13 years of marriage).

Ron - keeps busy with his normal YWAM responsibilities, teaching and preaching ministry, and especially the release of his new book this year. He also learned to swing a hammer and hang sheetrock during the house building phase!

As a family, I'm sure that we face all the joys and the pressures that many of you do. Through it all we're learning to spend quality time together, intercede for others, have fun, reach out in ministry, and keep growing. We have a long way to go--but we're committed to finishing the race.

"Look! I am making everything NEW (Revelation 21:5)!"

NEW seems to be the word of the hour for us (I even took the above quote from a new, and very good Bible translation I have been reading all year long--The New Century Version). It has truly been a year of newness for us in so many areas:

New Home

How grateful we are for the 49 different people that helped us build our new home. We still have much to do on the yard and lot, but we are in and rejoicing in God's provision. I love my new home office and book ministry area; the kids love the rec-room and the mud outside; Shirley loves her country kitchen and classroom; and we all love sleeping in a real bed at night! The home is haven of peace and a beehive of activity.

New Book

Leadership For the 21st Century was released in January and has been well received both in this nation and around the world. I have received many invitations to speak on servant leadership as a result. One denomination in Canada flew me up to speak at their Bible college and in some of their churches. We hope that in the coming year the book will have even greater impact internationally, and possibly be translated into other languages.

New YWAM Offices

Our National YWAM headquarters in Seattle has grown by leaps and bounds. Recently we moved into new quarters in North Seattle where our 60+ staff coordinate a diverse conglomerate of ministries. A few weeks ago, we opened our first YWAM office on the Olympic Peninsula just one-half mile from our home. This week we saw the release of a large Air Force base in Neah Bay which will serve as a large training center for us and headquarters for our Native American Ministries (this latter property can house hundreds of people, has a gymnasium, bowling alley, and forty-five homes).

New National Thrust - Revive America

This fall we began a project that will eventually reach into every state in America. The Revive America project will mobilize 300 young people to serve the churches of the United States and help to pour fuel on the awakening of our country. It is our largest undertaking. Revival is our nation's greatest need.

And together we begin a new decade - the 1990's. It is destined to be one of great harvest. How we THANK YOU for sharing with us in ministry this past year. How we look forward together to furthering Christ's kingdom in A.D. 1990.

December 25, 1989 - 13,405 - 17,616

What a blessed Christmas season this has been. It has been so good to be in our own home. We've been able to gather family and friends around us and worship the Lord Jesus. The older we get, the more memorable His birth becomes.

On Christmas Eve we first went to a candlelight service at the church, and then we came home and began a new family tradition. All of us wrote out a letter to Jesus that included what we were thankful for, what we had learned from Him in the past year, and what we wanted to work on in the New Year. Mine is below.

All the letters were shared last night, and then we prayed for each one. The kids did a very good and serious job. A few of them also made special "pictures" for Jesus. After a good time of singing and worship we sang Happy Birthday to Jesus and blew out the candles of a cake made especially for Him. I'm sure that He was pleased.

We wanted to begin Christmas with the proper focus of His wonderful birth. Next morning the grandparents gathered, and we allowed Jesus to share His birthday with us through the opening of presents. There was an appropriate amount, and each seemed to be genuinely grateful for what they received. It was a wonderful day of playing, putting toys together, eating scrumptious delights, and eating some more! In the afternoon we went to my parents for an intimate Boehme family gathering.

A day later Shirley and I spent about 24 hours together as Grandma and Grandpa Boehme took the kids overnight. We went out to dinner, to a movie, shared precious moments of marital love, and even shopped a bit. It was very refreshing.

December 31, 1989 – 13,399 – 17,623

We finished the decade of the '80's with the Davisons--friends for many years. All our children were born in the eighties. The seven of them really whooped it up. As the decade wound down, we relaxed together and thought about the march of time. God was good to us in this last decade. We are now extremely excited about serving Him in the nineties. It surely will be a "decade of destiny."

Lord - Thank you for the past year of life. Each of them is a year of grace. You showered us with so many blessings in 1989. May we present to You many souls and disciples in 1990 that will make their mark in this important decade to begin. You are our God and King.