

The Journal of Ron Boehme - 1990

Lakeside, Montana

January 5, 1990 - 13,416 - 17,605

On January 2 the Revive America thrust began. Gathering our recruits, we headed for Montana for the first phase of training. On the way, we encountered a little snow and a missed rendezvous, and so we ended up spending an enjoyable night sacked out on the floor at Steve and Watkin's in Missoula. They were gracious and accommodating hosts.

For the past few days we have been in training and prayer together. It has gone well. We have nine original Rev Teams members-- me, Sharon Gakin, Eric Olson, Chan Skalinder, Eric Ellingson, Carly Crauswell, Nancy Carle, and Hal and Ruth Burlison. They are a good group. Joining us in Lakeside has been a music group - Urban Renewal - which will be ministering with us in Portland.

Our prayer times have been rich. God has dealt in our hearts. He has given us vision and burden for the Kitsap Peninsula and the city of Portland. Everything has blended together very well. Our experiment has begun. Where it will lead, only God knows.

Personally, I feel God has given me a revival message for the hour on repentance, or "Change." I believe that the 1990's will be a decade of great change in the world. The Eastern Bloc world has been changing at a dizzying rate. Now it is the West's turn. Will we respond to God's call? Or will we let the curtain of judgment fall to force us to change our ways? That is the question.

On Sunday, January 7, in Port Orchard, Washington, the first test of Revive America begins. There is much to learn, but we are committed to learning it. There is so much at stake.

Lord - ready us and send us forth. We are weak but You are strong. Revive America, Lord! May we be your servants.

Port Orchard, Washington

January 19, 1990 - 13,430 - 17,591

The first Rev Teams are now out, and things are going well. I have been very encouraged

over the developing unity among the pastors and churches in our area. Over the next few months I should be speaking in some churches of the area. Kind of a homecoming after many years. I am greatly looking forward to it.

Next week we have a YWAM Board where I will preside as president for the first time. This is a new responsibility that I want to do well for God's glory. It is an honor to have the opportunity. Specifically, I want to help the base build some stronger foundations in the areas of corporate finances, public relations, and staff development. Lord, help us to be faithful.

Washington, D.C.

January 30, 1990 - 13,441 - 17,580

I have been in Washington D.C. for the past week for ministry and meeting purposes. It has not been an easy time. I left Washington State with a cold, and it has gotten only worse during my stay. It has taken every bit of my energy to get up out of bed and drag myself around for the various meetings. They have all been good.

The first couple of days I attended the Kingdom of God Theological Summit sponsored by the Coalition on Revival. It was a very interesting time of debate regarding the implications of God's Kingdom in our present age. May it not be empty words--but a powerful addition to the move of God's Spirit to extend the Kingdom of God in all the earth.

One evening I did one of the hardest things I have ever done in my life. I submitted my resignation letter to COR due to the continuation of the Moral Government controversy that has been stirred up the past years by Cal Beisner. It had reached a crisis point in which YWAM's International Council asked me to step aside due to the controversy. Late one evening, I shared with the Executive Committee and did just that. It was tense and difficult. However, I knew I was doing the right thing. I am praying the God will really use this in the life of the Coalition to help correct a dangerous course. We must not be fighting each other. We must be fighting the devil--the enemy of our souls.

On Sunday I enjoyed sharing at Christian Assembly and then drove past our old home at 3212 N. Kensington. Thank you, Lord, for the years you gave us there. They were not the easiest ones--but your provision of the home there was a real oasis to us during that time of death of a vision.

In the evening, some of us gathered at the home of Rich and Bev Riedesel to watch the Super Bowl. Was kind of a reunion of many of our old team. Praise God for the continuing

relationships.

I also enjoyed time on the weekend with Bill and Karen Blatz. The YWAM ministry is very small now, but they are doing well and pushing ahead. Bill is spending much time helping Nick Savoca get the New York ministry launched. Lord - multiply them once again.

During the latter part of my stay, the Lord led me in some very meaningful encounters with people. On Monday, I had some fellowship with the Christian Assembly elders, and afterwards, God really gave me some precious time with Bill & Melanie Jeschke. It was a very anointed time. I also enjoyed some very special times with Ray MacAnanny, Tom Tarrants, Jim McIlvaine and others. But one visit really stands above the rest.

One Tuesday, I was able to go and visit 133 C St. What memories it brought back to be in that place. It is now nearly done and looks very nice. It is owned and operated by the Fellowship, and they are truly using it to fulfill the vision that God gave for it some ten years ago.

I was given a nice tour of the whole facility. The basement is beautifully done and is used for interns that work on Capitol Hill. The other rooms are pretty much like we planned them. In fact, almost all the ministries that God showed us would be there are either underway or are coming.

As I walked back to my car, a sense of gratefulness and awe of God rose up within me. God had allowed us to plant the vision. Now someone else was going to be doing the reaping. But the growth was all from God. It had not died. God had simply given it over to those who could fulfill it.

How awesome ARE your ways. They are truly past finding out. And your word remains true to the promises that You have given.

The last few days were spent at the NRB, and now I'm on my way home. It has been a good trip, blessed of the Lord. I still love the nation's capital very much...and look forward to coming back here someday in Your will.

Portland, Oregon

February 5, 1990 - 13,447 - 17,574

Today I spent the whole day in Portland with the Revival Team working there. They had encountered some problems (mostly relating to leadership) that needed some attention. It was

important to come done, and after a few hours with them, I think that things are back on the right track.

They are not ministering in an easy setting. They are in one of the worst ghettos of the city where drugs abound. Probably their best ministry has been in a shelter nearby where God has really given them some favor. They have reached out to only a few churches but have done well in distributing the Christian Manifestos.

There is still much to learn from this test run. Some things have worked well. Others have not. Lord - teach us your ways in this thrust that our work in the future may be excellent for You.

Richardson Springs, California

February 25, 1990 - 13,467 - 17,554

I'm in the air on my way to Hawaii. My heart is full of thankfulness to God for the first Revive America National Steering Committee Meeting that we just completed in Richardson Springs. It was a great success, and it is onward with the project.

For the past two days, eighteen of us representing fifteen different organizations spent time in prayer, fellowship and strategy regarding the national project. Though it was a very diverse group, God really gave us unity of heart and mind. He also gave us many insights into how He wanted the project to be run. Some of the highlights were:

- We will be concentrating on working together as organizations during the summer months only. This will allow us to do our different ministries during the other parts of the year, and merge together during the summers for greater impact.
- We should make most of the teams we send out church based. This will greatly help in the recruitment process and place a much greater strength behind each team. This was a tremendous revelation that greatly elevated my faith.
- We will attempt to send out 50 teams during the summer of 1991, and a full 435 (possibly 3500 young people) during the summer of 1992. After that, God will have to lead us. One possibility is sending teams around the world. What an exciting thought.

And so, Revive America moves a step closer to reality. Lord - continue to show us the big picture as well as the necessary details. It is Your vision. Let no man own it. Let none of us alter what You want to do in this nation.

Kailua-kona, Hawaii

March 8, 1990 - 13, 478 - 17,543

The last few days have been very busy. I had a good week in Hawaii ministering to the School of Evangelism there. It was great to be back. On the Friday night I was able to share with the entire base and distribute copies of my book. They were very well received.

Port Orchard, Washington

I then caught a red-eye special home to be there in time for a special 70th Birthday party for dad that the family held at the Parkwood Community Center. It was a neat time of honoring a very wonderful man. About 90 of dad's family and friends were there for the special evening. I think that dad was really touched by it all. He deserves the honor. He has been a wonderful father and friend to many people.

Buckley, Washington

On Sunday I continued my speaking in the area by sharing on revival at Harry Oldenburger's Church in Buckley. The Spirit of God really moved in conviction of sin--as powerful a move as I've seen in some time. Many people came forward to confess their sins publicly, and a great spirit of awe and anticipation in God's presence was upon us. Praise His Name.

Port Orchard, Washington

Now to attend a few local matters here at home before going on one more trip to speak in the Chicago area. This has been a busy corridor of time. But all of it has been directly in God's complete and exciting will.

Chicago, Illinois

March 11, 1990 - 13,481 - 17,540

It's been a good weekend here in Chicago, though I got off to a rough start. After a fog delay of 6 hours in Minneapolis, I finally made it to the hotel at about 1 a.m. on Thursday. Everything has been uphill since then.

The first day I met with the CPPC guys at Christian Liberty Academy. Paul Lindstrom's home base is an impressive blessing from God. It is a former public high school that they miraculously purchased 5 years ago. It contains over 210,000 square feet of buildings complete with two gymnasiums and everything else necessary to run a great school. And in accord with Paul's administrative gift, they run a great operation with over 300 children. They also house the CLASS home schooling network of 25,000 homes.

On Friday the Christian Worldview Conference began. I attended all the sessions at the Hyatt Regency, and greatly enjoyed my own workshop on "Equipping Youth to Serve a Needy World." Dennis Peacocke, George Grant, Shelby Sharpe, Colonel Doner, and Virgil Gulker all gave excellent messages. Virgil Gulker's was the most superb message I've ever heard on mobilizing the church to meet the needs of people. It was great to have lunch with him one day and begin to build a friendship. We want to help expand their Love Inc. program through the Revive America project.

To relate another little "divine coincidence." During the weekend I am made an appointment to meet with a certain corporation in the Chicago area. At first call, I didn't know where they were in the greater Chicago sprawl of millions of people. In my mind I envisioned renting a car and having to drive some considerable distance to link up with them on Friday afternoon. During our last phone conversation, I asked their location. After telling them where I would be staying at the Hyatt Regency in Schaumburg, the excited corporate employee blurted out, "Wow-you're right across the street from us!" Now that's finding a needle in a haystack. The rental car wasn't needed. God was sure directing my steps.

One thing God has really spoken to me about on this trip is the need to lead my family more directly in evangelism, prayer, mercy ministries, and in the teaching of history. All these areas are so crucial to their education. Without them, their view of life and the world is limited.

Lord - Help Shirley and I to incorporate these vital areas into the kids' overall education. They can't have a balanced view of life unless they're sharing their faith, interceding for the lost, caring for the needy, and have a sense of history. We must lead them forward in all these things. Empower us to do so.

Port Orchard, Washington

March 20, 1990 - 13,490 - 17,531

We've just finished a good full day's staff retreat with the five of us from First Christian. I really enjoyed being with Teed Nail, Kevin Hestead, Karen Pudwill, and Barbara Dooley in a setting where we could seek the Lord together and learn ways to better minister as a team together. We did a leadership test that really helped us understand how we are different--and form a good balance one to another. What a privilege it is to be tied into a small and growing church.

Over the past few months, an interesting thought has been coming across my mind on a few occasions. I share it here only because of its possible ramifications in the future. It is quite foreign to my way of thinking, yet there seems to be a "nudge" from the Holy Spirit in it that I can't seem to get away from.

When Teed one day moves on from First Christian, either into retirement or on to another church, I will be asked to consider becoming the new pastor. At this point, I am not sure what my response should be. I have never considered in my entire life being in the position of a pastor. If I ever did, I would certainly need the freedom to be who I am--a leader, teacher-preacher as opposed to a mercy-oriented shepherd. If I didn't have that freedom, I could certainly hurt many people. God would never want that.

The thought of being asked to do this is somewhat intriguing to me. I've always been a Missions leader--apostle, prophet, within the sphere of authority that God has given me in YWAM. But to pastor a local church? To be the "teaching elder" of a pastoral team at First Christian in Port Orchard? Would I have to leave YWAM? Could I do both?

I don't know the answer. But I believe that I need to know when the time comes that the question may be asked.

April 12, 1990 - 13,504 - 17,517

Plans are going very well as we prepare for the Torch Run in the Kitsap County area. This has been one of my main focuses over the past few weeks, and God appears to be putting His favor upon it.

We have a good nucleus of leaders in the Port Orchard area, and in the other towns. Port Orchard will be the largest event. This week, Greg Sandstrom and I went around to the various city departments to get the necessary approvals. It was amazing how God prepared the way for us. Quite a contrast to what we used to go through in Washington D.C. in the staging of a city-wide event. Oh, the ease and personal friendships of small towns.

Our little trip started out when someone informed us that a parade was scheduled in Pt. Orchard on the same day as our run. My faith began to waver as I heard the news and realized that our event might not be able to be scheduled due to the conflict. Within an hour, Greg and I were off downtown to look at the details.

At the Police Station we walked right in and spoke to **Police Chief Mathews**. He saw no problem. They would be blocking off the downtown streets at 10:30 (the exact time we wanted to begin the run through the downtown area), and the parade would be starting at 11:00. **He said that if the city council approved it, the whole downtown area could be ours for that half hour.** It couldn't have been more perfect. If we had tried to arrange this on a non-parade day, we would have never gotten permission to block off all the streets. God had given us the right date.

From there we went to the waterfront to check on the Marina Park permit. Their calendar was clear, and so we promptly secured the sight for April 28th. We then went on to the mayor's office and spoke to him. He knew our family and had grown up just a short distance from my grandparents. He was very positive about our project, and even offered to speak at it.

We also went up to see the pastor of the Bible Baptist Church in Port Orchard (our old First Christian, the first church planted in the town). He told us that **Ralph and Lou Sutura**, some of our old Renewal Team mentors, would be doing a crusade in his church during that same time period. They had consented to speak to our kids at the church on revival.

All these events were sovereignly led by the Lord. In the space of two hours, instead of having a major problem with the run, **we were given favor in every area beyond our expectations. God had truly gone before us. The event was of Him.**

April 16, 1990 - 13,508 - 17,513

What a wonderful Easter we celebrated yesterday. The older I get, the more the meaning of Christ's death and resurrection mean to me. He came to earth to die. Oh, the power and hope that His resurrection brings to a dark world.

Our hearts were full of praise as we worshipped in the morning, and as a family, enjoyed some precious time in the evening just praising Him and meditating upon these great and lovely events. **Each year, Nathan, David, Bethany, and Megan seem to understand a little more. The same is true for Shirley and me. Eternity seems to get closer. His love becomes fairer still.**

Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul. Thank you for triumphing over the grave to give hope and life to the universe. Hallelujah, what a Savior. Hallelujah, Amen.

April 24, 1990 - 13,516 - 17,505

I have really enjoyed speaking in some churches in the Washington area over the past few weeks. This has been a corridor of time in which God has allowed me to "get acquainted" with what He is doing locally. There has been less national and international travel, and more hometown involvements. It has been a good season of time.

We've also enjoyed putting some of the finishing touches on the landscaping of our lot. Last year we built the home. This year was the year of the yard. As usual, God has been a wonderful provider. At this point we have built a deck, put in the curtain drain, put in flower beds around the house, and planted the grass. It is starting to take shape. God has been good.

And the long-awaited Torch Run is coming up on Saturday. Last night I spoke to the City Council to get final approval on the project. It was passed with ease. There will be 130 or so kids that will be running here. Around the county will be scores more. Every person I have asked has agreed to participate. That has been a miracle.

This week we PRAY. Lord use this event to cleanse the spiritual air over our town. Launch many young people into evangelism and missions. Use this as a part of revival that is destined for the Pacific Northwest.

May 1, 1990 - 13, 523 - 17,498

What a phenomenal success was the Torch Run event. God really blessed our time together these past few days. After a week of rain, the miracles began with a beautifully crisp and cool Saturday that was just perfect for doing spiritual warfare over Port Orchard and the other towns of our county. About 240 kids participated in the different runs. We believe that God has used this time to make a change in our area.

It all started off with the Friday night Concert of Prayer held at Peninsula Bible Fellowship. There was not a huge crowd, but people came from many different churches. We prayed for an hour for revival in our churches, and then spent a second hour crying out to God for outreach into our county and world. At the end, we all held hands and prayed for God's blessing the following day.

In Port Orchard, we began at 9:30 a.m. with a time of worship at the Marina Park. Listed below is the schedule that we followed for the first portion of the run. It was simply tremendous to have the downtown area exclusively and listen to various speakers and do spiritual warfare over the different arenas of society.

Target 2000: Great Commission TORCH RUN

PROGRAM - April 28, 1990

Opening Ceremonies: Marina Park - 9:55-10:35 am

- Worship - Levi Velasco - Harper Evangelical Free Church
- Welcome - Ron Boehme - Youth With A Mission
- Town Welcome - Mayor Jay Weatherill
- Purpose - Greg Sandstrom - Family Worship Center.
- Commissioning Service
 - Youth Rep. - Jennifer Doolittle - 1st Christian- Prayer - Rev. Stan Morris - Family Worship Ctr., President SK Ministerial Fellowship,
 - Commissioning Song - "Carry the Light" - (Group runs from park down to Totem Pole area).
- 10:38 - 10:43 - Totem Pole Prayer Point - Spiritual Warfare
- Councilman Gary Ray - Makah Indian Nation
- Rev. Ron Laughlin - Christian Faith Fellowship - (Group runs from waterfront to downtown stoplight).
- 10:45 - 10:50 - Town Center Prayer Point - Business & Commerce
- Rick Best - Owner, Best Burgers
- Rev. Terry Kirschman - Christian Life Ctr. - (Group runs down Bay St. to Police Station).
 - 10:55 - 11:00 - Police Station Prayer Point - Crime/Drugs, Officer Jan Myers, P.O. Police Dept.
- Rev. Frank Schoonover – So. Park Assembly of God - (Group runs up Kline to County Courthouse).
- 11:10 - 11:15 - Courthouse Prayer Point - Civil Government - Judge James I. Maddock, Superior Court.
- Rev. Kevin O'Connor - P.O. Church of Nazarene - (Group runs over to Sidney, down to DeKalb & up to Bible Baptist).

- 11:25 - 11:50 - Bible Baptist Prayer Point - The Church
 - Rev's Ralph & Lou Sutera - Evangelists
 - Rev. Al Hughes - Bible Baptist Church
- 11:50 - 12:15 - Lunch - Dwight Park (sack lunch).
- 12:15 - 3:00 - Four Sector Runs throughout Port Orchard
- 3:00 - 3:30 - High School Prayer Point – Education - DeWayne Gower - Superintendent, SK Schools
 - Rev. Peter Bulthuis - Harper Evangelical Free Church
- 7:00 p.m. - Area-wide Youth Rally - Christian Life Center, 1780 Lincoln Ave.

Our goal was **CELEBRATING PORT ORCHARD'S CENTENNIAL BY CARRYING HIS LIGHT**. After lunch at Dwight Park, we split up the group in four different teams, and ran throughout all the main roads of our area. Every few blocks we would stop at churches and schools and pray for revival. After about two hours, we all converged on South Kitsap High School for a final time of worship and prayer together. All the kids that participated were really touched by God.

As we look back on the run now, a few things really stand out:

- **160+ kids ran the torch in Port Orchard alone, with over 2000 tracts distributed and hours of prayer for the churches, schools, and needs of the area.**
- The evening youth rally was a powerful time. Many kids committed themselves to fulfill the Great Commission in their generation.
- On Sunday, a couple of churches were greatly impacted by the results of the day before. The light is still burning brightly in many hearts.
- On the Monday following the event, many of the kids wore their T-shirts to school. **At South Kitsap High School, an on-going Monday morning prayer and Bible study is beginning as one of the answers to our prayers.**

Thank you, Lord, for allowing us to run for You. We have cleansed the spiritual air. We have evicted the enemy from our towns. Now we want many young people to go forth into the harvest fields of the world for your glory. And we deeply desire that "your glory may dwell in our land."

May 15, 1990 - 13,537 - 17,484

Spring is passing by quickly. A few days ago, I sat down and shared with our supporters what seemed to be the main things that God is doing in our lives at this time. The report is listed below

BOEHME MISSIONS REPORT - SPRING 1990

Torch Run Blazes in Kitsap County

One of the fruits of the Revive America team ministry in January and February was to lay the groundwork for a county-wide Torch Run among youth on Saturday April 28th. Nearly 250 young people carried the light of Christ's love throughout Kitsap County on that day in the towns of Kingston, Bremerton, Silverdale and Port Orchard. It was a thrilling event that left its mark in the towns, the lives of many youth, and in the spiritual realm.

Port Orchard, celebrating its Centennial, had the largest contingent with over 150 runners. With God miraculously giving us good weather (after a day of pouring rain), the group ran throughout the blocked-off streets of the downtown area, stopping at various prayer points to do spiritual warfare together as local pastors and civic leaders led in prayer and exhortation. Special speakers included Mayor Jay Weatherill, Superior Court Justice James Maddock, Councilman Gary Ray of the Makah Indian Tribe, DeWayne Gower, South Kitsap School Superintendent, Rick Best, local businessman, Officer Jan Myer of the Police Department, and Ralph and Lou Sutura, international evangelists with the Canadian Revival Fellowship.

In the afternoon the group split up and ran four torches around the entire town, praying over nearly every church, school, and area of need and distributing over 2000 specially designed tracts. The Port Orchard run finished at the High School where the four torches converged together for a final time of praise and prayer. In the evening, a large youth rally at Christian Life Center for all the groups in the county where many young people and youth leaders committed their lives to "Carry the Light" of Christ into all the world.

It was an historic day. The spiritual air over the county was bombarded by the prayers of the saints. Many young people were touched by God to take His calling seriously in their lives. Jesus was lifted up. On Sunday morning, the aftershocks of the event were felt in some of the area churches. At South Kitsap High School (the largest 3-yr. HS in the whole western region of the country excluding California), a Bible study/prayer group has been started on Monday mornings to seek the Lord for greater revival. A movement has begun. Let's continue to pray.

Revival in the Northwest

With the Sutera brothers ministering in the area, the Torch Run igniting youth, and other events on the horizon, there are many of us that feel that God is about to bring an unprecedented spiritual awakening to the Pacific Northwest. It is one of the few areas in our nation that has never experienced historic revival. We believe that is about to change.

***FOR SPECIAL PRAYER: During May 28-31 over fifty ministers from our area will be going away for four days to seek God's face for revival and to be renewed in love and commitment to one another and Christ's church. Please mark these days on your calendar and pray for God's visitation. This time could prove to be some of the most important days in the history of Kitsap County. If God can revive the ministers, the people will follow. And God's Spirit will then bless and cleanse the land. PLEASE PRAY.

On the YWAM North U.S. Headquarters Front

The YWAM work in the Seattle area continues to grow in many directions. Besides headquartering the coordinating office of YWAM's many ministries in an out of North America, the Seattle ministry has many streams of mission work that we invite you to pray for and share in. For example, did you know:

- We have a home for unwed mothers in Tacoma--New Beginnings-- that has helped to rescue many babies and young girls from the clutches of the local abortion mills?
- We serve church staffs and working professionals in the area of people placement and team coordination, based on discovering the unique God-given design of each member (Lifework Consulting)?
- We operate a large house on Capitol Hill in Seattle (Seattle Urban Network) that ministers to street kids and provides medical care to those in need?
- We do a daily food run (Gleanings for the Needy) in the city that provides large quantities of food to various rescue missions and groups that work in the metro area?
- We have opened a new ministry center to Native American Indians in Neah Bay on a large Air Force base that is being leased to us, and that the US government put up the money (\$400,000) to upgrade the electrical systems there?
- We will be sharing the gospel during the Good Will Games with a Summer of Service, a skateboard camp for kids, and hosting a Kings Kids outreach throughout the Puget Sound area?

We wanted you to know that these, and many other things are going on in our area. If any of them (or others) interest you, please give us a call at 876-3432. We'd be glad to help plug you in to areas of service where Christ can use you.

On the Family Front

One of our greatest joys on April 28th was watching all our own kids personally carry the torch for Jesus. They took it very seriously, and probably ran about 2-3 miles each. At one shopping center, I saw our eight-year-old Nathan heading off into the video store. I asked him, "Where are you going?" His reply: "They need Jesus in there." With that, he opened the door and gave a tract to the owner.

We would appreciate your prayers during the coming months:

1. For school books for home schooling that we need to purchase now for next year (about \$600).
2. For Shirley and me as we attend the Bill Gothard Advanced Seminar (June 18-22), and our family as we get involved in Kings Kids ministry during the Goodwill Games (July).

WE'RE PRAYING FOR YOU. KEEP CARRYING HIS LIGHT.

Warm Beach Camp, Washington

June 1, 1990 - 13,554 - 17,467

So much has happened the past few days. I've been to "heaven and back" and can't wait to record it all here.

For months, some pastors and Christian leaders in the area had been planning a "Pastors Prayer Retreat" together. On Memorial Day, we all loaded in our vans--about 60 men in total--from the towns of Kitsap County (as well as some men from the Bellingham area) to go up to Warm Beach for the much anticipated happening. On Monday afternoon, we began three days of prayer together. Not one message was given (that's a miracle itself among 60 preachers). From the very first, God began to move in incredible awakening and reviving power. It was to be one of the most precious seasons of awakening that I have ever experienced in my life.

The first day focused on loving and worshipping Jesus and renewing our relationship to Him. We sat in a large circle with about two rows of seats and simply go to prayer. Some would lead out in song. Some would share a Scripture. All would pray--listening to each other and

building on the previous petition. Most of us had never met before. It was amazing to see God begin to melt our hearts together as we made the simple commitment to love Him and share our hearts.

The first evening, the showers of awakening were already in evidence. Trust was being built among the men. We had begun to pray for one another. As the sun set, we gathered around three small tables to share in **communion together**. Soft candlelight brightened the warm conference room. As various men knelt to receive of the elements, the group led forth in the thundering praise of many of the great hymns of the church. We were falling in love with the Savior again. We are were growing to love one another.

On Tuesday morning we met again after breakfast to seek God's face. This day He began to lead us into **the heart of revival: humbling ourselves before one another in confession of sin**. Sometimes a chair would be placed in the center of our circle and men would voluntarily come to the front and "share with us the gift of their need." Tears began to flow freely as men shared their hearts. Some were bound in the chains of lust. Others were struggling in their marriages. Some had grown up in the homes of alcoholics and were reaching out for love. The variety seemed endless.

Yet the response always was the same. As a man would share his need, other brothers from the audience would make their way to the front to pray for and encourage the one who was baring his soul. Prayers flowed like healing waters. It was so tender and yet so intense that it was almost impossible to get your prayer in. You had to be fast. **Man-after-man came to the "hot seat" in front and went away built up and encouraged by the intercession of the saints**. Hugs and tears were becoming commonplace. God was making us "One."

During this time, an Assembly of God minister stood to confess his sin of judgment toward a conservative Baptist minister. With tears in his eyes he said,

"I was told in Bible school that you believed all the wrong things. I thought that you were elitist. Now I see that I was wrong. You love the same Jesus. You believe the same things. "Please forgive me."

The Baptist pastor then blurted out: "I thought the same things about you. But I was wrong. Would you forgive me?"

The two of them then crossed the room and hugged each other tightly as the tears flowed freely. They didn't just fall from their eyes. All of us in the room were being instructed and forever changed.

In the evening we had one of the most moving communion times I have ever participated in. As I watched the flow of prayer, praise, love, and unity simply envelope the inhabitants of the room now aglow only with candlelight, the thought struck me:

"This has got to be what the Upper Room experience must have been like in the Book of Acts following the death and resurrection of Jesus."

That seemed the most appropriate comparison. Out of brokenness and prayer and a zeal for God, a great depth of unity and vision was being born.

We were staying in a lodge that overlooked the beach. Late at night the men would still be fellowshiping, talking about the things God had done during the day. In the morning hours before breakfast men would be all over the 200-acre property. Some would walk on the beach and pray. Others would slip off into the myriads of woods for a quiet time with the Lord. I spent my morning quiet times singing and praying to God at a beautiful private amphitheater that overlooked the Warm Beach coast. **God's presence seemed very easy to enter.** All the prayer that had gone up before the event and now during the first few days was being answered through the ease with which we enjoyed His company.

On Wednesday morning we breakfasted together at 8, and as had become our custom, we sang a resounding hymn of the church to encourage a small Catholic youth group that was the only other group that was using the property. (We had found out from some of their counselors that many of them came from broken homes where the father was absent. We wanted to demonstrate to them that men and fathers could know the Lord and love them in return.) After we sang, they always gave us a rousing ovation. We then began the third day of the dealings and healings of God.

This day God led us to focus more on our **relationship to our wives and to our ministries.** The format was still the same. As the Spirit led, men would come to the "hot seat" to be prayed for. Precious times of intercession laced with encouragements from Scripture and the ever-present "pastor's choir" would lead to victory in the lives of the leaders and an ever-growing love and unity. Its depth appeared to be limitless. Many themes were prayed over:

- A black pastor shared his burden over racism. Many white brothers knelt with him and embraced him in the Lord.
- A leader of a para-church ministry shared his desire to not be divided in any way from the strengths of the local church. This led to a wonderful time of prayer for ALL of God's expressions to flow together, not in a spirit of competition, but in a complimentary spirit of cooperation.

- An Episcopal minister shared his burden for some Roman Catholic leaders who were unable to attend. We prayed that they would be with us the next time!

And there were even some moments of **holy hilarity**. During one time of prayer a pastor commented, "As the leaders of God church we've all been sick! It's time to get well, and to lead the flock on." We all laughed together at our new-found unity in weakness and sin. The walls the divided us were coming down. This was a wonderful reality, but also a scary responsibility. Where would it all lead?

Only God knew, and as Gene Edwards says, "He never tells."

The final night we broke off into our various town groupings to share of the communion table. Hours went by as we ministered the bread and the wine to each other. **Every man was prayed over individually, and together we committed ourselves to never be the same again. We were now going to be the best of friends. We were going to live out the unity that is found in Christ and demonstrate its power to our communities.**

The final morning, we gathered together to worship God and to sign a covenant together. In it, we committed ourselves to the Lord, to one another, and to revival in our towns and nation. We also made some specific commitments:

- To **meet weekly** in our various towns for prayer for revival and for one another. [These weekly prayer times in four or five places in the county went on for over twenty years.]
- **Get together monthly** from the whole county to fast and pray and seek God's face for the welfare of our area.
- To draw our wives into the same experience with the Lord in brokenness and fellowship.
- Hold another Pastor's Prayer Retreat for an expanded circle of men within a year's time.
- And **schedule an area-wide Sunday morning service (possibly at the Kitsap Pavilion) to make a statement to our people** and to the community that revival has come to our area and that we will never be the same again. One exciting prospect for the joint service: the pastors will be the choir.

As we pulled out in our vans from the Conference Center just after lunchtime, we all realized that we had just experienced one of the greatest moments of our lives. God had truly visited 60 men. We were tired, but oh so grateful that the Lord in His wisdom had allowed these days together. **They were certainly days of "heaven on earth." Now to go home and see the fire spread.**

As I've pondered the meaning of these precious days just past, a scene from the movie

"Jesus of Nazareth" keeps coming to mind. Near the end of the film, one of the leaders of the Sanhedrin who was responsible for crucifying Jesus, is sitting in his chamber. He has just learned that the body of Jesus is missing and that his followers are saying that He has risen from the dead. As he ponders the meaning of this turn of events, he thoughtfully mumbles to himself, as if perceiving the future consequences: "Now it really begins...Now it really begins."

These are my sentiments at this hour. **THE REVIVAL HAS BEGUN IN KITSAP COUNTY.** Many have been saying for years that it was coming. Many things have been the preludes to this opening act. But now it is here. **NOW IT REALLY BEGINS.** And there will be no stopping it.

It is God's. He will do it. Each of us will either be a part of it through our obedience or we will watch it go by. Lord - you know where my heart is. Bring on the rain!

Port Orchard, Washington

June 3, 1990 - 13,556 - 17,465

Saturday evening, we hosted a wonderful event at our church. **Celebration '90** was a special love feast sponsored by the YWAM Board of Directors, to honor all of our staff who have so faithfully served with us. About eighty of our people made the jaunt over from Seattle and they were treated to a special banquet meal, some words of encouragement, and the present of a book.

It was a great time. We have a wonderful staff who have given their lives for many years to further God's kingdom. We wanted them to know that we appreciate their labor of love. We hope now that they do.

And on Sunday I preached at Christian Faith Fellowship. Well, I didn't really preach--I shared about the revival among pastors that had taken place only three days before. God really moved. At the end we broke up into small groups and prayed for many of the churches in our area. I also heard that similar things had happened in other churches where the ministers had attended the prayer retreat.

God's visitation has begun. Come Lord Jesus in all your fullness.

Seattle, Washington

June 22, 1990 - 13,575 - 17,446

This past week Shirley and I have felt "bathed in revelation" as we attended the **Bill Gothard Advanced Seminar together in Seattle**. It was great just to be together. We left for Seattle about 5 pm, talking, fellowshiping and enjoying the ferry ride together. Then we enjoyed the rich insights of the seminar. Afterwards, we shared all that we had learned and wanted to apply on the way home. They were long days--after working all day--but more than worth it.

Bill Gothard has a unique anointing upon his life. The steadiness of his seminar series of nearly twenty years now is proof of God's blessing. There is one primary reason: His focus on **basing every area of your life on Scripture**. As we finished the final two days, the Lord seemed to be really speaking to us about various things:

1. We have decided to **move the television** out of the family room (and into my office where I can control it), and basically give it up as a family. We do not need its influences in our lives. It only takes us away from time spent with God and each other. In explaining this decision to the kids, we emphasized that **we were not just taking away something. We were making a commitment to replace it with more time spent in quality activity together**. So far, this decision has been a blessing to our family.

2. God has also convicted us that **we need to be totally open to him about having more children. Children ARE a blessing from God (Psalm 127)**. We should not try and dictate to God in any way which blessing He bestows on us.

We asked Him for His forgiveness in this area.

3. God really used the seminar to take us more deeply into God's Word and into reading together. Success is promised when we meditate upon the Scriptures day and night (Psalm 1). I need to do this so much more.

4. The other thing that God really impressed us with was the urge to get into the **ATIA home-schooling program** as soon as possible. This summer. We had put it off due to the finances involved and the plans of the summer months. But as I was praying about it I felt the Lord show me that there was no time to lose. We couldn't wait a year. For the sake of our children we had to move NOW.

Port Orchard, Washington

After the week finished, we came home and began to look at the possibility of going. My first estimate of cost was about \$1800. Then I began checking all the details, and it whittled down to about \$1450. Shirley and I began to pray, and to ask the Lord to confirm His will for us by His provision.

On Tuesday, after briefly sharing our need at our morning pastors' prayer meeting, one of the guys said that he wanted to come and see me. He arrived late morning at my office and said that he and his wife wanted to give us a gift toward the ATIA training. He then took out his check book and wrote a check for \$1000. I couldn't believe it (I didn't think he had any money). We prayed together as I wept and thanked the Lord for His wonderful encouragement. I then ordered out plane tickets (\$566). Now we are trusting God to bring in the rest. We are going to Knoxville.

June 26, 1990 - 13,579 -17,442

What a wonderful answer to pray--that waited ten years for its fulfillment--came today. In the mail I received a letter from a woman in Finland who had heard me preach there a few years ago. She remembered that I had said that while in the city of Leningrad in 1980, the Lord had shown us in a prayer meeting that the name of the city was going to be changed back to St. Petersburg someday as God brought major change to the Soviet Union. In 1980 that seemed very remote, being well before the days of glasnost and perestroika.

That morning she had opened her morning newspaper and there on the front page of it was a headline that read, "Leningrad Can Again Become St. Petersburg." Inside were lengthy articles that said that the city council now contained enough "radical reformers" to change the name of the city. It was not official yet, but the paper said: "It was only a matter of time."

She rejoiced as she remembered the prophetic word and sat down to write me a letter. In it, she included the newspaper articles.

It would be an understatement to say that I was elated and overjoyed to receive her letter. Praise be to the Great God of Heaven and earth who rules over the affairs of men and holds the nations in the palm of His Hand. His word is true. t will not return void. What He says He will do. Sometimes, we must wait. But His coming is as sure as the dawn.

Today, I looked up in my journal the details of that original prayer meeting. It took place on June 21, 1980. We had begun to fast and pray for Leningrad. God had indeed spoken these things to us. The newspaper article had come out on June 23, 1990. Ten years and 2 days had passed.

What great faith this prophetic fulfillment has given to me at this time. Lord - thank you for your great faithfulness, and for sharing your secrets with sinful men such as us. To YOU belongs all the praise and the glory. May we be encouraged to trust You for many more things that You long to reveal to us.

July 21, 1990 - 13,604 - 17,417

I've been away from my journal for a long time again. Primarily the result of a busy and full summer. We have sure enjoyed having the first full summer in our new home. It has been such a treat to play on the grass outside, eat our evening meals on the backyard deck, and drink in the warm sunshine that God has so graciously given to us.

We also enjoyed fellowshiping with our new neighbors to be who are working on their new homes: Jim and Diane Powell and Rich and Bev Riedesel. We prayed for God's choice of neighbors, and so far, He has given us some excellent ones. We're also trying to help on the building of their new homes as many others did for us last year.

Knoxville, Tennessee

July 10, 1990 – 13,624 – 17,397

The Lord finished His provision for our trip to Knoxville for the Advanced Training Institute of America training week, and we are here in Tennessee being greatly blessed. At the last minute we were placed in one of the air-conditioned apartment buildings on the University of Tennessee campus, and that has been a special blessing.

There are 9,000 parents and children here from all fifty states and about 10 nations. 1000 of the families are first time people who are joining the ATIA program this year as we are. We have not been disappointed. A mighty anointing rests on the commitment and biblically based focus of this program, and we are thrilled that the Lord has allowed us to enter it this year--and in such a miraculous way.

Three times a day we walked about a mile across the campus from our apartment to a large arena that housed 25,000 people. Morning, afternoon, and evening there we enjoyed good training sessions, many teachings by Bill Gothard, testimonies, and other special events. It was refreshing to be in a learning instead of leading mode. Though the program is new and not very clearly laid out, the dynamic of its potential is very plain to see. I'm very excited and feel confident about our family using it. I need to lead the way.

There have been some special highlights to the week:

1. We have been able to see many friends, some from New Zealand, the Ivys from Virginia Beach, and many from Washington State. The last night all of us Washingtonians got together to encourage one another. It was a special time.
2. On a couple of the evenings, all the teenage children that are here--a whopping 2000--have formed a choir that has ministered to the group. How wonderful to see these young people so purely and excitedly praising our God.
3. Bill Gothard is beginning to get a burden and drawing to the nations. These is so encouraging to see. After many faithful years of ministering in the United States, God is beginning to open many doors for discipling the nations. There is much to learn about sharing his message and emphasis cross-culturally, but God will make that plain to them.
4. The unit study approach, the role of the father in the educational process, the importance of the morning and evening Wisdom Searches, the apprenticeship program, and the great array of materials make the program the very best we have seen in the world. That is why we are here. We want the BEST for our kids. Right now, we know of no thrust that focuses on the purity and breadth of Christ-like character as this one does.

And Shirley and I have sure enjoyed the quality time together. On our last day here, after the training week was over, we took a long walk through Knoxville, having dinner at a nice restaurant on the river, and then browsing through the historic areas. The city was founded in 1792 and had a long history of battles with the Cherokee Indians. For some years it was the capital of the state.

Tomorrow we're going home to put into practice all that we have learned. Thank you, Lord, for your gracious and miraculous provision for us to come to Knoxville. Thank you for calling us into the ATIA program. May our children truly become "mighty in spirit" as the character of Christ is built line-upon-line into their lives through the curriculum and practice of a Christ centered education and home life. May Proverbs 24:3-4 be our guide: "It takes wisdom to have a good family. It takes understanding to make it strong. It takes knowledge to fill a home with rare and beautiful treasures."

Port Orchard, Washington

August 10, 1990 - 13,624 - 17,397

We sure received a shocker this week when our pastor, Teed Nail, unexpectedly turned in

his resignation. He had been the pastor of First Christian Church for over twelve years. For some months he had been quietly pondering a change, and when a church came open in his home state of California, he and Lynn decided to make the move.

It left the congregation in a mild form of shock. As I too thought on the situation, it struck me how normal a thing change is in this world. The only constant is God Himself and His unchanging love. Everything else is transitory. Everything else changes constantly.

This was a good reminder. Nothing is forever except eternity. First Christian Church will go on. The Nails will go on. Change and transition will continue to be.

But He remains the same from generation to generation. He is the still point of a turning world. Our true security must be found in Him alone.

Indianapolis, Indiana

August 20, 1990 -13,634 - 17,387

Have just completed a wonderful week in Indianapolis--the first time I have ever set foot in that city at the crossroads of America. It was a joy to spend the week with Jim and Patty Goodoien and their children in their apartment south of the city. Pat McCullough was also my traveling companion for the week. It was a very special and strategic time in God.

The first few days were spent at the Airport Hilton where about 700 YWAM staff gathered from over 60 nations for an international staff leadership conference. It was a thrill to gather under the banner of "revival" and to seek God's face for His showers of blessing on our families and mission. He did not disappoint us.

After a few days of good messages and tremendous times of praise (led by David and Dale Garratt), the Lord Himself descended upon our gathering in awakening and reviving power. During the Tuesday afternoon session, it was as if Jesus entered the room and moved among us for about seven hours of precious dealings and encouragement. I openly wept and experienced His presence during that time. It was one of the most precious times with the Savior that I have ever experienced in my life. It was so gentle. He revealed to us how much He loved us. Yet the revelation of His presence led to conviction of sin and a crying out for mercy.

The streams of revival were very similar to the ones that I experienced a few months ago at the Pastors Retreat. It all began with a pure and simple focus on Jesus alone. I am learning that this is the key to revival. We must not teach and preach about revival. We much preach JESUS

and the reviving and cleansing will come.

During the latter part of the week, all the YWAMers joined in with 25,000 other people who had come for the World Congress on the Holy Spirit and World Evangelization. It was a joy to see so many people filling up the Hoosier Dome with the praises of God. It was also very gratifying to hear the clear call to missions that was given. This is what the Pentecostal world needs right now.

On the final evening, Loren Cunningham commissioned the crowd to go into all the world and preach the gospel. The Kings Kids also performed--over 1000 strong--and world champion miler Jim Ryun ran the Target 2000 Great Commission torch out of the stadium. It was a stirring and thrilling sight.

The Lord spoke many things to me during these days together. I was especially encouraged to do the work of evangelism out of an intimate relationship with Jesus. I returned home with a fresh sense of God's calling and anointing...and the burden for revival in our nation and world.

During the final two days of the conference, we held our second Revive America National Steering Committee meeting. Eighteen were in attendance from about fifteen organizations. It was about the same number as last time, but with some new people. God really blessed our deliberations and prayer together, and we came out of the meetings with a clear plan of action for the coming year.

Port Orchard, Washington

August 24, 1990 - 13,638 - 17,383

The Lord blessed us with a new vehicle today. It is a 1983 Dodge Mini Ram that is in superb condition. After thirteen years, we are back to owning a van. We hope it will be as good as the last one we owned.

We found it by a providential encounter. We had been out looking as a family on Bremerton Auto row and wandered into one dealership. After looking around, a man walked out and introduced himself as the owner and general manager. He was an old friend, Larry Sharrett, with whom I had played basketball in high school. We had just "happened" to come to his lot.

After a good visit, he said that he would be glad to give us a great deal on the 1983 van. Price was \$3600 with \$1500 on a trade-in on the Audi. We were thrilled and praised the Lord for

His goodness to us.

A better second vehicle was one of the goals that I had for our family for this coming year. The Lord has now wonderfully provided. As is our house, this vehicle is His miracle and provision. Praise you, Lord, for caring for all our needs big and small. Help us to be more grateful, and dependent on you.

*An interesting note: Bremerton/Kitsap County has recently been chosen the number one city/county in all of America (Seattle was number two). How ironic it is to have moved home to what is now recognized as the best place to live in all the nation. My prayer is that we will become the most spiritually alive place in all of the nation. May it be!

Neah Bay, Washington

August 31, 1990 - 13,645 - 17,376

We are enjoying a wonderful family vacation up at Neah Bay. It's the site of our new YWAM "Air Force Base" where we've come to enjoy a new days of family fun before attending a Seattle staff conference. We've had great times together hiking out to Cape Flattery and discovering the unspoiled beauty of Shi-Shi beach (one of the few wilderness beaches in the continental US). We've had cookouts along the ocean front; and spending some time with our friends, the Rays. The kids really enjoyed playing with their kids and riding horses. They live on a real Indian farm.

The staff conference has also been greatly blessed by God. As has been the emphasis for the past six months, we have focused on Jesus alone and enjoyed great intimacy in His presence. I have taken a couple of walks at night and in the early morning, gazing up at the stars and enjoying His presence. He has seemed so close during these times. The stillness of the Makah Reservation, and the prayers of the saints that have gone up for years from this place, make it appear easy to touch and sense fellowship with the Living God. How I have delighted in His friendship.

One beautiful morning we took the entire staff out to the Cape and prayed God's blessing down upon the North American continent. We were at the northwest "extremity" [cardinal point] of the United States. We worshipped and sang, and many prayed that the power of God would once again fill our nation. It was a precious moment. The Lord WILL answer our prayers.

Port Orchard, Washington

September 20, 1990 - 13,665 - 17,356

We are now back into the busy fall schedule of home education and numerous ministry opportunities. One of my current priorities is work on the **September 30th County-wide worship service**. It is developing well, though some lines have been drawn and some sifting of the hearts of men is taking place. It is going to be an important time for Kitsap County.

Plans are also underway for the Revive America thrust in the Pacific Northwest. I am simply praying and obeying. If it does not come into being as I believe God has shown me, then I am well content to move in other directions and give myself to more writing and prayer. The direction is up to You, Lord. I will follow your lead alone.

October 1, 1990 - 13,676 - 17,345

What a glorious time we shared together on September 30th. Nearly 5,000 believers from all over the county came to rejoice in what God is doing among us, and to make a statement about unity. It was truly an historic day of the county.

A few minutes prior to the service I had my doubts. During the pre-service prayer meeting I peeked out the door and the building seemed quite empty. As had happened at many events in the past, I wondered if the crowds would come. When we finished praying (about 60 pastors strong), the building still appeared to have many empty seats. In a few minutes that changed dramatically as a mile back-up of cars finally brought last minute arrivals to the Pavilion. A wave of spiritual electricity went through the crowd as we announced that the service would be held up 15-20 minutes due to the traffic jam. A traffic jam to come to church!

About 10:30 a.m. we began with all the pastors coming on stage and singing together. Every seat was full and there was a standing room crowd at the back. What a sight. Soon, the "Kitsap Congregation" was joining in praise and thanksgiving to God. During the middle of the service, three or four pastors shared what God had done in their hearts during the prayer retreat. That was precious honesty. Joe Aldrich [president of Multnomah Bible College and leading visionary of the Prayer Summit movement] then delivered a stirring message which closed with the chorus "He Is Lord."

Then it was my turn. I broke the large gathering up into groups of 5-6 who then prayed fervently for friends and neighbors to come to Christ. The small clusters prayed for all the different churches in the county. I'm sure God was smiling on that scene and the forces of darkness were scattering throughout the area. Spiritual warfare was being done.

The service ended with the sixty-member "Pastor Choir" and an offering that was taken to help launch the new ministry of Love Inc. in the area. Thousands then fellowshiped and lingered on in enjoyment over this unique coming together of the Body of Christ. The Lord had spoken. We had obeyed. Heaven was pleased, and hell was mad. It was a great day.

In the evening, the service was shown twice on the local cable station. We have received many favorable responses. Where from here?" Only the Lord knows. And He never tells.

Portland, Oregon

October 15, 1990 - 13,679 - 17,342

These have been busy days. One weekend I spoke down at Multnomah School at their annual Missions Conference.

Seattle, Washington

Yesterday I spoke to all our YWAM leadership on "Integrity and Excellence in Finances" (from a guy who has made plenty of mistakes). In a few weeks we are having our annual Renewal '90 event with Bob Mumford. Should be a great time.

After these busy days, I am greatly looking forward to doing some more writing. It's time to sharpen some goals for the coming months and go to work.

One encouraging sign is our family support. I believe that the Lord has greatly blessed our commitment to His principles in the financial realm. So far this year we are \$3000 over our projected income for 1990. God is faithful. It seems to go out quickly--but never-the-less, we are encouraged. After the coming dessert we should have a good look at what 1991 will look like.

Lord - draw me close to your side and re-ignite my passion for You alone. I want to fellowship with You consciously every waking hour of the day. I want to be faithful to your call, producing your servant character.

November 8, 1990 - 13,703 - 17,318

There are a few things that I need to highlight. First is the tremendous weekend we had with Bob Mumford and our Renewal '90 event.

October 26-28 was a busy flurry of activity. On Friday evening through Saturday afternoon we had the privilege of hosting Bob Mumford in the area for a special seminar entitled "A Search for Serious Christianity with an Emphasis on Personal Spiritual Warfare." About 200 attended at City Foursquare in Seattle. It was a wonderful time. Bob gave great understanding on the need to return to the Cross and tear down the spiritual strongholds in our minds that become our greatest enemy.

This teaching is really needed in the Body of Christ right now. It is so easy for us to swing to extremes. We need to be aware of the spiritual forces around us--the demons and principalities that war against our souls. But we also need to understand the nature of the battle within us. Bob really gave us some insights in this side of our journey. It was well received.

Port Orchard, Washington

In the evening we held our 6th annual Renewal '90 event at the Harper Church. Over 180 were in attendance (our largest ever). Bob Mumford once again spoke, I shared a Missions Report, and then our family performed a Kings Kids routine to the songs "This Little Light of Mine" and "Shine Jesus Shine." Shirley and I were so proud of the kids. We had worked hard for over a week, with each of the children doing solo parts. For a while I was wondering if it would all come together.

At the event the Lord really anointed it and we gave the best presentation we have done. Megan stole the show with her lead-off vocal of "This Little Light." People openly wept with joy and excitement. The rest of the evening was great. How thankful we are to the Lord for the friends we have that help us do the ministry we're called to.

Then the following evening God really moved again. That night I was leading a fund-raising event for First Christian Church and our family once again ministered. God really touched hearts, and the offering that we took to help finish the new complex totaled over \$28,000. Everyone was so thrilled by this response of generosity that a spontaneous clap offering erupted among the people and some of them began singing "Shine Jesus Shine." I had preached a message on the church "Arising" to the calling of God in our area and world. It was probably one of the most "Spirit-led" meetings I have ever attended at First Christian. God is beginning to pour out His Spirit.

Atlanta, Georgia

The next morning, I caught an early plane to Atlanta to speak at the "World Congress on The Kingdom of God. About 3000 people were there in attendance--1400 of them from over 80 nations around the world. It was hosted by Chapel Hill Harvester Church. It is a wonderful multi-racial congregation led by Bishop Earl Paulk. What a breadth of outreach ministries they are involved in. It was a real privilege to mingle with many leaders there and share in the ministry.

It was also good to stay with Greg and Ramona Musch--our YWAM leaders-- and try to be an encouragement to their new Youth With A Mission work in the city. It is coming along well. They live in the most ethnically diverse section with many Asians, Hispanics and blacks.

On Saturday Greg gave me a "spiritual tour" of the city, and I especially enjoyed praying with him on the steps of the capitol building. We also viewed the Cyclorama which graphically portrayed the decisive battle of the Civil War which was the battle for Atlanta. The city was eventually burned to the ground and scores of thousands lost their lives. I was once again reminded that the price of freedom is extremely great, and many have already paid with their blood for the blessings we now enjoy.

Port Orchard, Washington

It nice to now be home once again. In the coming weeks I really need to set my sights on God's priorities for the coming months. I need to seek Him in prayer, then diligently do what He wants me to do. I am tired. My spirit needs renewal. I am looking to you, my precious Savior.

* One other note - On October 19 my dear friend Mark Rawlins went home to be with the Lord. Just six months ago his battle with cancer had entered the bone marrow. Now he is in a better place and we are left to mourn, seek understanding, and hang on to our blessed hope.

The Memorial Service for Mark was held at Shoreline Community Church. It was the most moving service of this kind that I have ever attended. Duane Rawlins presided, and all the family and various friends shared precious tributes to the one that we loved and now missed. Afterwards we all ate a dinner together and hugged and kissed and reminisced.

How sobering the experience of death.

"Mark - I enjoyed your friendship, your prophet heart, and your child-like exuberance. You were "radical" for Jesus and taught me much. I want to be faithful to your God and my God. I look forward to running with you someday through the highways of the heavenlies."

Seattle, Washington

December 3, 1990 - 13,728 - 17,293

The past couple of weeks have been very quietly disturbing for me. After speaking at the Seattle DTS on the subject of "Fulfilling Your Personal Destiny" in life, I seem to be struggling with that very area in my own life.

It's hard to put into words what is going on inside of me. For weeks now I have felt numb and directionless. As I've pondered my life, so much of it seems to be in vain, with so little fruit to show for eternity.

Some of the struggle has been with my own proud heart. It's been easy to compare myself with many other men my age who have going ministries, great notoriety, plenty of success. The whole American enterprise success system has been a dangerous lure for me that I want to break free of. I'm obviously not free yet.

Part of the struggle has been hitting a bit of a wall with the Revive America project. It is in a definite holding pattern where I don't know what to do, where to go, how to modify it to achieve what I felt were God's purposes.

It's so hard to believe that this vision that He has given is to die or be on hold. Yet, when I look back over my life, there are other examples of visions I felt that I received from God that were not realized in the way I envisioned them.

One of the liabilities of my prophetic nature is the problem of timing. Often God allows me to "see" what He wants to accomplish in the future--but I do not have the gift of implementing it in the present.

This is one of the reasons that we have built up the Revive America Steering Committee. Its purpose was to direct the project from a timing standpoint. Maybe all of us together are too visionary. We need the administrators to make it work.

At any rate, I have a great need to seek God over of the coming weeks and months. I am at a very vulnerable time in my life-- and one in which God wants me to draw close to Him both to grow in humility and servanthood, and to make some wise decisions regarding my ministry priorities for the future. Over the past 24 hours I have taken comfort in the following Scriptures:

"So, my dear brothers, stand strong. Do not let anything change you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord. You know that your work in the Lord is never wasted" (I Corinthians 15:58).

"My grace is enough for you. When you are weak then my power is made perfect in you.

So, I am very happy to brag about my weaknesses. The Christ's power can live in me. So, I am happy when I have weaknesses, insults, hard times, sufferings, and all kinds of trouble. All these things are for Christ. And I am happy, because when I am weak, then I am truly strong” (2 Corinthians 12:9,10).

Olympia, Washington

One thing I should mention is the **Northwest Leaders Retreat** that we had over the weekend in Olympia. It was a good time of prayer and relationship building--even though personally I was a bit troubled in my own life and role among this wonderful group.

Lord - I hunger and thirst for You and your wisdom. I am weak and without direction. Show me my destiny and fill me with Your power. **I'm going to start writing the book.** This is the best time to do it.

Port Orchard, Washington

December 20, 1990 - 13,745 - 17,276

It has been a joyous Christmas season. For some reason, the wonder of the Incarnation of the Savior has been unusually real to me this year. It is always precious to think about the birth of Christ. Yet, somehow this season the wonder of God becoming man has really come alive in my spirit.

Christmas is so unique because there is no one like Christ. He is the God-man--incomparable in history and time. As we've attended things like the Singing Christmas Tree, various Cantatas and programs, enjoyed the many homes lit up by Christmas lights, and done simple things like cutting and decorating a tree, the have all reminded me of the precious gift of God's Son.

Thank you, Jesus, for coming. I pray that every year the greatness of your advent would soar in my spirit and soul.

December 29, 1990 - 13,754 - 17,267

The past ten days have really been vivid demonstrations of the power of God. On December 18 and 27 we experienced two very severe Arctic storms which totally paralyzed Puget Sound (with large effects on the entire West Coast).

During the first blast, over 400,000 homes lost power and electricity as hundreds of trees and power poles fell under the blast of 60 mile an hour winds coupled with snow and ice. Our power was out for about 36 hours. It was quite an experience.

Just after the storm hit, Jim Powell and I had to go out and hunt down a part for the community well which had sprung a leak. As we made away against the fierce winds around lighthouse point on Beach drive, we came to a tree fallen across the road. After surveying the scene and finding it impassable, we turned around the tried to re-trace on steps. After going about one hundred yards, we came to another power pole and tree lying in the road. We were sandwiched. Abandoning the car, we walked out on foot (with the trees bending all around us under the gale force of the winds) and succeeded in getting to my parents where we huddled with them in the cold and had to spend the night.

The next morning, we were able to drive under a large tree to get out of our predicament and get back to our families. That evening we spent at the Morrisons as the area stayed in the deep freeze and power crews worked around the clock to restore power. The next day we were able to return home.

Many homes and roads in our area were devastated. We only had one great loss: Our beautiful 45 degree-angle Douglas Fir which the kids used as a rope swing in the back yard. In the middle of the night it had come crashing down, missing the house and lying in the garden. We learned a good lesson from it:

"The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away. Blessed be the Name of the Lord."

We thanked God for the time we had to enjoy the tree. Now we will go on without it.

McNeil Island, Washington

Then came Christmas. It was a glorious day, highlighted by our trip to the McNeill Island prison on Christmas Eve. Our family ministered to the inmates and I preached out of Genesis 50. The men were deeply touched that we had been willing to spend our Christmas Eve with them. A number teared up and shared with us that this was the best Christmas they had ever had. We told them that the privilege was ours. If Jesus had been on the earth, that's where He would have been--sharing His love with those in need.

A few days later the second storm hit. It was not quite as bad as the first, but it still left over 100,000 people without power and we had to leave our home again for 24 hours for lack of heat. This time we camped at Grandpa and Grandma Boehmes. (A few moments ago, our power went out for the third time when I was in the middle of typing this segment of the journal. I lost everything and am now re-doing it. How vulnerable we are, and how dependent on our modern conveniences.

I really believe that God is using many natural disasters this year to get the attention of people in the Pacific Northwest and the nation. We certainly deserve His judgments. If they will bring people to recognize His sovereignty, then I say, bring on the works. May God be glorified.

We close out another year in a few days. I end the year feeling a bit vulnerable and needing God to give me guidance for the future. What is my true destiny? In so many ways I feel like a failure whose time and influence slip away with every passing year.

Lord - help me to know my end. And help me most of all to be obedient to you. 1991 can be a great year--if I put my trust in You.