

The Journal of Ron Boehme - 1993

Port Orchard, Washington

January 1, 1993 - 14,451 - 15,740

It was refreshing to welcome in the new year last evening with our Kings Kids ministering at a county-wide meeting and then having some friends over to pray. I have so missed praying in the new year over the past several years. When I was a teenager, those times at Manchester Community Church were very meaningful to me. What better way is there to start the new year than to seek God's face for His perspective and plans.

Every year I live, those priorities loom greater. And this year is a very important one for me. In 1993 I begin my prime years.

In two short months I will be 40 years old. It doesn't seem possible. I've been saying for many years that a man's most effective years (the ones following "preparation" and preceding "glory") are between the ages of 40-70. Soon I reach that threshold. The Lord is really speaking to me about what that must demand of my life.

First, I believe that God is encouraging me to take a quantum leap in the measure of my Christ-like influence. From smaller things and project-impact I am to move to greater influence and persuasion. I don't know exactly what this means, but I am willing to pay the price for increased fruitfulness. It certainly means a higher level of faith, and a much greater measure of efficiency in time use and strategy. I'm excited about the steps of obedience.

Second, I am to take seriously and very personally God's calling on my life in the area of revival in our nation. The 1990's MUST be the decade of revival in America. I was born for "such a time as this." It is my DESTINY, and I must rise to this challenge. Everything else has been the necessary preparation for "doing God's will in my generation."

Finally, I believe that I must pursue a much higher degree of excellence in everything that I do. From time use, to newsletters, to books written, to projects coordinated, the Lord is requiring that I elevate my work to a much more excellent plane. This is a wonderful challenge that I look forward to seeking.

As I've said in a recent newsletter (that I'll print below), 1993 is a year of destiny. Lord, give me the strength and power to pursue excellence, revival, and a wider impact in my life and ministry in a way that is pleasing to you. Thank you for the years that you've given me. Thank

you for the privilege of being born for "such a time as this."

January 15, 1993

Dear Friends,

I have a confession to make. We had a second baby in 1992 that I didn't tell you about (remember that our fifth child, Ryan, was born in March. He's now an active, giggly, soon-to-be-into-everything toddler). Well, this other child was born just a couple of weeks ago--just before Christmas. We were pregnant all year-long with this other baby but had to wait until very recently for his much-awaited delivery.

It was perfect timing. For I believe that this child gives great meaning to God's plans for us in 1993. The new baby has a long name. It's this: *If God Has A Plan for My Life, Why Can't I Find It?* And as you might have guessed, it's not a person. It's my latest BOOK which was released just a few weeks ago.

It's on DESTINY. I believe

1993 is a year of DESTINY.

(If you say the above phrase correctly, the "ee" of '93 is echoed in "ee" of destiny. Try it again: Nineteen ninety-three is a year of destinee. That's it! You've got it.)

Honestly, I *did* feel pregnant with this latest book all year long. I began writing it in January. It wasn't until September that it was completed. Then began all the editing and polishing (sometimes you wonder during that process if the "baby" will resemble anything close to your original design. "Oops. Wrong child!"). A few weeks ago, came the birth.

We're thrilled with the final product and believe that it is going to impact the lives of thousands of people around the world. My working title for the book was "You Have A Destiny" (which is now the sub-title). The marketers, who are smarter than me and want the book to sell, turned the title into a rhetorical question that almost every Christian has struggled with:

If God Has A Plan for My Life, Why Can't I Find It?

Good question. This book gives some good answers.

Years ago, I personally began to seek the Lord about his plan for my life. He was very faithful over that time to reveal many aspects of it to me. For over fifteen years now, that personal sense of destiny has been a primary motivating force in my life. God intended it that way. He wants each one of us to discover who we were created and redeemed to be. And He's more than willing to show us the way.

Yet I constantly meet people who don't have the foggiest idea of what God wants for

their lives. They're unhappy in their jobs, confused and stressed out in their families, and most of them are simply going through the motions of putting food on the table and attending church.

It's even worse among youth. Kids are tentative, worried, not making long range plans, and messing up their lives in big-time fashion. They long for a sense of purpose to live and die for, but they end up settling for short-term pleasures and high-paying jobs.

But is that how we were meant to live? Are we just insignificant numbers in a universe that is drifting meaninglessly along? Is "having a good job" God's goal for our lives? As Christians, we say no (we believe in our heads what the Bible says). But our practical everyday lives reveal something else: **Very few of God's people today have a consuming vision of God's purpose for their life here on earth.** That's a tragedy.

I hope my new book will help. It certainly doesn't contain all the answers, but it does give some insights that can help to light the way. For example, it really digs into some of the following important questions:

1. WHY do I need to know God's plan for my life? There are THREE important reasons here, and your own personal sense of peace and happiness is not in the top two.
2. Why do so many people lack vision for their lives? This section exposes the most crippling lie of our time (can you guess what it is?). There are also seven chapters on what should be the supreme pursuit of a disciple. This section was taken from a teaching series I have given all over the world. (It's the MEAT of the book).
3. What can I do if I detour from God's plan for my life? Is there hope after mistakes and failure? This chapter features one of our favorite Bible characters who really messed up.
4. What is the very simple KEY to discovering God's plan for my life? It's incredibly basic--and so unused by most believers.
5. What is God's concept of beauty? (This chapter is one of my favorites. I tear up every time I meditate on it). The answer may surprise you--and knit your heart closer to your Creator.

Did I whet your appetite? I hope so. I believe that God wants to impact your life through this book.

YOU HAVE A DESTINY. And 1993 needs to be the year of destiny for us all. Our world has never needed such an infusion of the light of God through each Christian living out their God-appointed role on the planet. Each individual destiny is needed. Total unity and teamwork are required to push back the Satanic advance.

We are entering a very dark period in human history. In the United States, a new administration is about to unleash a moral and economic landslide not seen in our lifetime. All

around us are marriages that are breaking up, children in turmoil, churches that are splitting, and many other fruits of decades of disobedience to God.

But, do you know something? That's not news to God. He knew it all along. And He planned to bring you and I into existence with unique and wonderful destinies to fulfill during such a time as this.

YOU were born for this moment. YOU are an important piece of God's puzzle in bringing His salvation to the ends of the earth. That is not flattering rhetoric. It is honest reality. Each of us has a role to play. It's time to know God's plans for our lives, and to GO FOR IT with all our hearts.

Please take time to order a copy of *If God Has a Plan for My Life, Why Can't I Find It?* Get one for your kids. Order one for a friend who is searching for their niche. You might even want to order a quantity for your church or youth group.

It's our Read-To-Lead book of the month. I admit it--I'm biased. But I think you'll be blessed. And 1993 just may be your year of destinee!

Yours for God's plan,

Ron Boehme

P.S. Thanks for your faithful support of our YWAM Revive America work. We'd appreciate your prayers and financial help this month as we participate in a national youth leaders' summit and National Prayer Convocation in Colorado January 11-17. God wants to share His heart and His plans. Please join us in prayer.

Silverdale, Washington

January 16, 1993 - 14,466 - 15,725

Our new ministry associated with Kings Kids is going very well. There are about 75 kids involved this year. They're a very special and committed group of kids.

Today was our regular third Saturday of the month. I spoke to the kids on the subject of "Destiny" and all day long we reinforced the truth that God created each one of us for a special purpose. It was a tremendous day. The climax was a beautiful love feast that we shared together in the Silverdale United Methodist Fellowship Hall. Each child and staff had the meaning of their name in front of their place setting. Many of the staff shared special songs and words with the kids. Afterwards, we finished the day with a moving Day in Review.

Everyone is very excited about the summer outreaches. Each child and family have been

praying about which team to join--Albania, Philippines, or US-Canada. Within a few weeks we should know the breakdown and begin to plan, prepare, and see God bring in the finances.

We truly are raising **world-changers for Christ**. Thank you, Lord for your love and burden for the children. Help us to train them to be the BEST the world has ever seen.

I've also been encouraged recently about some reconciliation that is taking place between the Kings Kids leadership and our new team. After a year of major problems, I believe that a new and restored relationship is about to be cemented. That is certainly God's will.

Colorado Springs, Colorado

January 29, 1993 - 14,479 - 15,712

I have just returned from a very **HISTORIC week in Colorado Springs**. I was there to attend some meetings that focused on the desperate need for revival in America. I'll list below the various meetings and share what the Lord spoke to me about regarding each one.

National Youth Leaders Summit

The first few days were held at the Navigator headquarters of Glen Eyrie, just west of the Springs. About 20 youth leaders spent 48 hours together talking and praying about the youth of our nation, and how we can reach them and mobilize them for Jesus.

I was there to represent YWAM. It was a great time. More and more unity is rising in the Body of Christ. We are finally beginning to realize that it is only together that we can all fulfill our dreams in youth and world evangelism. We talked together, had some wonderful seasons of prayers, strategized for hours, and came away with a real sense of common purpose for youth ministry in the 1990's. This was expressed in five statements that we drafted that will be shared with the Body of Christ this coming year.

National Consultation on United Prayer

Next was the main meeting of the week--a specially called gathering of leaders from all fifty states and representing over 150 denominations and groups in the US. Back at last year's National Day of Prayer, the Lord had sounded a trumpet about gathering together to seek His face. This meeting was the result. It was incredibly powerful and life changing.

Most of it was filled with prayer for revival. God was deeply impressing upon us the desperate need of the United States to have a sovereign visitation from God. **Coincidentally, our meeting began on Inauguration of the new Clinton administration--a group of people dedicated more to the destruction of Christian values in America than any administration in history.** While

the nation partied in Washington D.C., we fell on our faces before a holy and just God. It was awesome.

I've never spent so many hours on my knees in tearful and burdened prayer. As different ones shared and prayed, the Lord really began to move in our hearts, convicting of sin, giving us his burden for our wretched and lost society, and implanting in our souls a desire to move to a level of united and sustained prayer for revival UNTIL God intervenes. It was a clarion call. A wake-up trumpet. **I had the privilege of leading the gathering in repenting over the sins of the nation.** Many others took part as we sought God's face and renewed our covenant to Him.

In the end, we drafted a very historic document that calls the Body of Christ in America to pray as never before. We all knew in the end that God had spoken. It was now up to us to obey.

I wrote down some action items that God spoke to me about during this incredible occasion. With God's help, I will endeavor to do them over the coming days and weeks:

1. I must help to bring a prayer revival to YWAM in our area and our region of the world. Our Miami Leaders Conference in Miami might be such an event that could propel us into a greater depth of prayer.
2. **I must blow a bigger national trumpet for revival in America. I must do this through increased involvement in the National Day of Prayer, our Revive America project, and our monthly newsletter.**
3. I must help to raise up a March for Jesus in our area (I've already begun to act on this).
4. I must do all I can to help the pastors and churches of our area to experience this call to pray for revival. This certainly means a reviving of our local pastors steering group and activity county-wide.
5. I must write the books on revival that God has spoken to me about. There can be no delay.
6. I must be vulnerable, weak, and prostrate before God.
7. I must revive and lengthen my morning prayer time. One hour is a minimum. More is better.
8. **I must try to bring the spirit and emphasis of N-CUP to the whole state of Washington, and possibly the Pacific Northwest. I will contact some others immediately and see what can be done.** [This commitment would give birth to W-CUP in the fall.]

N-CUP was a wonderful gathering. God's word was very clear that we live in desperate times that require nothing less than the revival we've been hoping for. It will come in answer to

prayer. So, it's time to pray as never before! Lord--I'm committed. Take me to greater depths in pouring out my heart before you.

National Day of Prayer

The remainder of my week was spent with Shirley Dobson and the rest of the national coordinators of the National Day of Prayer. Started off with the moving presentation of the **Life Action Singers "America, You're Too Young to Die."** That left us in tears on our faces. The next few days we prayed and strategized together on how to make the first Thursday in May 1993, the greatest day of prayer in history. This was also a wonderful time of friendship building and seeking God's face. **One of my assignments is to help to put together a major youth rally in Washington D.C. this coming year.**

The other significant time I had in the Springs was an appointment with a managing editor of Focus on The Family. What a great ministry. They are very interested in publishing my "Daddy" book. I'm very excited about this possibility. It is a step up in impact and excellence.

The time in Colorado Springs was a true watershed. With our nation now fully in a moral and economic free-fall, revival is the only answer. It's always been the only answer. We just haven't been willing to see it and pay the price of God's gracious outpouring.

Lord-- I know that you're speaking to me. I truly was born with a calling of revival for such a time as this. I was born for the 1990's. Help me to be obedient and faithful.

Atlanta, Georgia

February 18, 1993 - 14,499 - 15,692

Was a good and fruitful time at the Kings Kids National Conference in Atlanta. Tag and Deidra Larson, their sons Jonathan and Darren, and Josh Powell and I flew in together for a week to join with Kings Kids leaders from across the United States. Though somewhat confusing and meandering at times, the conference ended on a high note for us as God brought some great revelation as to our own Kings Kids ministry and tied us into some very significant "streams" in God that will be flowing in the coming years.

Some of the highlights:

- God really deepened my burden for Atlanta as a very strategic city for the 90's. On Saturday evening we did an outreach in town. Our group did a spiritual warfare walk that included praying at Turner Broadcasting headquarters and other significant downtown sites. God sure wants Atlanta to be a communications capital for His Name in the coming years.

- Was wonderful to meet with Mark Anderson who will be heading up a "Whistle Stop Train Tour" of the western United States in 1994 (along with Loren Cunningham). The focus of this thrust is revival in the rural areas of the west, and the Lord really nudged me to become a part of this. Lord--my 1994 is yours.
- I made a presentation on the final evening to the Kings Kids leaders about using the 1996 outreach as a springboard for a comprehensive national thrust across the nation. Will this be one of God's strategic moments to pour out his Spirit upon our land?
- It was wonderful to complete a total reconciliation with Dawn Dulaine (donuts and all!), and to realize that our children's ministry is to become a full-fledged Kings Kids team. After a roller-coaster ride of uncertainty, we finally "landed" at this conclusion. It means that Shirley and I will assume direct leadership over the ministry for the time being.
- Was great to stay with YWAM friends in the city, and to meet with Barry St. Clair, Greg and Ramona, and others while there.

I came home with much vision and encouragement for the future--especially the next 3-4 years. The Lord has shown me that I am entering the time of fruitfulness and excellence. May I be ready, prepared and available to Him.

Washington State

March 1, 1993 - 14,510 - 15,701

The past few weeks I've been meeting with leaders in the Body of Christ in our area to try to put together a Washington State version of N-CUP that was held in January in Colorado Springs. God has truly spoken that we are to pull together the church in this way across all 39 counties of the state. The question is just the timing.

The event will be called W-CUP and will focus on the need for desperate, united and prevailing prayer for revival in our state and nation. Daily the nation slides into the twilight of judgment due to the vast array of our sins against God. The Clinton administration is only speeding up the timetable of evil. Revival is our only answer.

Lord-- I am praying daily for your REVIVAL in our land. Help me to be faithful in prayer, in bringing together the Church, and in a personal walk of holiness before you.

Port Orchard. Washington

March 12, 1993 - 14,521 - 15,690

What a wonderful and surprising day. Shirley and I went out to dinner in the evening to celebrate my big day--**my 40th birthday**. After having a great meal at the new Red Lobster in Silverdale, we came home to find our house filled with friends for a big surprise birthday party! (I would have been totally surprised if it had not been for a "suspicious" entry in our checkbook for birthday cake--\$50 worth.) Upon returning home, we entered the house to **a "funeral march" announcing the fact that I was now clearly over the hill.**

It was a great evening. About fifty friends were there, and we opened gifts, laughed and reminisced, and ate until the wee hours of the morning. At the end, I had them lay their hands on me and pray for me. It was a moving time. God has been so good to me in these 40 years of life. My only regret is that I've only lived 25 of them for Him. The rest are Yours my Lord and God. Help me do your will and yours alone.

Seattle, Washington

April 15, 1993 - 14,554 - 15,657

These have been busy months. **Last week I spoke at Puget Sound Christian College in Edmonds on my new Destiny book. It was well received.** The last morning, the Lord really moved upon the hearts of the students in brokenness, confession, and many words of faith were prayed over them. I also greatly enjoyed my time with Dr. Glen Basey who gave me the full tour of their large facility. It is sparsely populated now but loaded with potential. Fill it up, Lord, for your glory.

Our Kings Kids preparations for the summer are setting up well. About 30 of us are preparing to go into Albania, eighteen to the Philippines and another 30 to US & Canada. I am so grateful for our marvelous staff that are doing an excellent job with the kids.

Next week I'll be sharing on the radio at KGNW on the up-coming National Day of Prayer scheduled for May 6. God is really blessing the NDP and I count it a privilege to be working with the various leaders on it. This year we are trying to get our governor to sign a state proclamation. I believe that the Lord will answer our prayers and move on his heart to do so.

Washington, D.C.

May 10, 1993 - 14,579 - 15,632

What a wonderful time it was to be back in the capital city. How I love to visit that "great city" where we once lived and ministered. I know that we'll go back there someday--in what capacity is the Lord's choice. But for now, it's my favorite "second home." Here are a few of the highlights of the past week:

- I enjoyed doing some radio interviews around town with Harry Jackson and Corinthia Boone. They are wonderful friends. God anointed us to minister as a three-member team.
- The Prayer Vigil on Capitol Hill was good. Shirley Dobson did an excellent job of leading (in conjunction with the entire National Prayer Committee), and special words were shared by James Dobson, Jack Hayford and others. As last year, the youth section stole the show. We also had some excellent National Youth Summit meetings praying and planning together for the coming years of awakening in America.
- The evening Prayer Rally on the west steps of the Capitol was the highlight. With a crowd of one thousand in attendance, we prayed for our youth, handed them the baton of prayer for revival, prayed through reconciliation issues, and lifted the high praises of God into the heavenlies. It was a beautifully warm day that God seemed to place his total seal of approval on. Every year the depth and breadth of prayer seems to grow. Eventually it will bring forth the changes in America that we so desperately need.
- I also enjoyed seeing many friends, visiting 133 C St. (It's finally finished) and preaching at Christian Assembly and Charles Schmitt's church in Maryland. Everywhere I went God blessed the word.

I returned to Washington State very satisfied with the time with God's people in Washington D.C. While I am grieved over our very evil government that now rules in the city, the desperate prayers of the saints are beginning to crescendo toward the throne of God. THEY WILL PREVAIL.

Miami, Florida

May 20, 1993 - 14,589 - 15,622

After being home for a week, I again flew off to Miami for a Youth With A Mission Leadership Conference for the Americas. About 500 came to this gathering from all over North, South and Central America. It was a good time of fellowship, vision, and strategizing together.

At times, though, I felt very left out of the busyness of leadership at the conference. Ever since I resigned from the North American Council (now some 6 years ago), it has been somewhat painful to be in situations like this. It does get better as time goes by. It would have

been much easier if I'd brought Shirley with me. That was a mistake that I don't want to make again.

During my time in Florida, the Lord did speak some things to my heart. He has been faithful to do that many times over the past 19 years in Youth With A Mission:

1. I must **NEVER GIVE UP**.
2. I must pray in the Spirit more.
3. It is crucial to resist the spiritual warfare that I have been under for the past few months.
4. I am going to write Leland Paris about the 1996 Atlanta outreach.
5. I need to pray more for Denny Gunderson and YWAM Seattle.
6. **God wants me to pray on Fridays for all 50 American states.** (This was an exciting revelation). **It's my way of "claiming" the territory that God has given to me.**
7. I need to help spiritually map the United States and take a special role in Washington State.

There were many other things, but these were the highlights. How I love to hear the voice of God! It has been my necessary food for almost 25 years now (John 4:34).

Washington State

May 30, 1993 - 14,559 - 15,612

Our Washington Consultation on United Prayer (W-CUP) is now moving into high gear. We've spent the past few weeks gathering the names of Christian leaders from around the state. That has been no small project. But in doing so, I've become acquainted the state as never before and increased my burden for revival everywhere.

The dates we will be bringing the leaders of the Body of Christ together are October 25 and 26 in Ellensburg. The goal is to have delegations from all 39 counties. At this point there is much excitement for the event and an anticipating that God is going to move in an incredible way. It was a privilege to blow the trumpet for it. May it be, Lord, Jesus, EVERYTHING that you want it to be.

Portland & Seattle

June 18, 1993 - 14,578 - 15,593

For the past few weeks I've been doing loads of radio and television interviews on my new book. Don Otis from Creative Ministry Resources has been hired as a publicist to promote the book nation-wide. It has really taken off as a timely book for youth and a graduation present.

A week or so ago I drove to Oregon to be on the Joy program (shown nationally) and do some radio interviews. This morning I was on the Seattle PTL show. Almost daily there have been radio interviews from all over the nation. It's really been a lot of fun and I believe it is shades of the future.

I've also been doing many church services speaking on discovering your destiny. God has really blessed the message everywhere I've gone. He's allowed me to move freely in the word of knowledge and bring a lot of encouragement to people.

Our trip plans for the summer are also setting up well. Out of a \$70,000 budget, only about \$15,000 is remaining. Faith is building and the kids are readying themselves. It is going to be a tremendous summer in ministry. Harvest time. And we're the reapers.

Port Orchard, Washington

July 1, 1993 - 14,591 - 15,580

The Lord has given me some interesting opportunities the past few weeks. A couple days ago I met with Gen Weising, the managing Editor of Focus on The Family publishing. They are still interested in my "Daddy" book. I just need to really know from the Lord the slant and unique angle of the manuscript and then send it in. Lord--I desperately need revelation from You on this and I ask You to speak to me.

On the weekend I spoke to a group of Chinese students at Pilgrim Firs and then began preparations for our summer outreach teams. The time is getting close, some last-minute miracles are needed, and then we will be OFF INTO GOD'S WILL for the summer of '93. I am so excited that this summer we will be going as a FAMILY. Praise the Lord.

July 12, 1993 - 14,602 - 15,569

One of the most draining days of my life. After a marvelous Kings Kids bootcamp (with great teaching, times of brokenness, worship, team preparation, holy hilarity, and much more) we arrived at launch day. For me, it began early with a call and visit to my parents. Dad was experiencing extreme complications from his surgery and had to be rushed to the hospital. While

that was taking place, I had to scramble to track down one of our final "miracles" (the missing Kings Kids bags), come back to the church with my heart aching over dad's relapse, and ready our team to fly to London. I wept and wept as I counted the cost of possibly not seeing my dad again. Yet deep inside the word of the Lord was clear: we needed to GO. Even dad would want it that way. Doing much spiritual warfare and heavy of heart, I took the team to the airport and hit the road.

Every stop we made I called home to find out the news. Over many days, dad went through some life-threatening problems and surgeries. Certainly, in answer to much prayer (by the Body of Christ and our kids all over the world), he finally emerged from the hospital just two days before we arrived home. Talk about a Satanic attack to scuttle our trips. But we didn't give an inch and the devil lost. Instead, we pressed in in prayer and God gave us the strength and victory.

I also left the country with a deep and painful chest cold which clung to my throat almost the entire time we were away. Amazingly, the day we set back on America soil, it completely vanished--once again confirming to me that the enemy had tried to thwart and discourage us--but he had not gained the victory.

Our trip to the nation of Albania was one of the greatest missions experiences of my life. I kept a daily journal during the trip, but perhaps the story is best told through the eyes of a newsletter that I wrote following. Here it is in its entirety:

Kings Kids, Washington--Summer 1993--Albania Report

During July 12-30, thirty-one Kings Kids and adult staff brought the Good News of Christ to the world's first atheist state. Thousands heard the message. Hundreds gave their lives to Jesus. Our lives will never be the same.

Blast-off

Monday, July 12. After months of prayer and preparation we were on our way to Albania, a small nation on the Adriatic Sea, isolated for years by ruthless Communist rule and backward for centuries due to 400 years of Muslim control. Albania was now OPEN. We were pumped--and ready to "go through the gates."

London, England

Our first stop was London. Though tired from flying through the night, we checked our luggage and took the TUBE (subway) to Picadilly Circus. YWAM staff met us there under drizzly skies and proceeded to give us a "spiritual tour." Cars passed on the left. Double decker buses whizzed by. We stopped to pray at Buckingham Palace (the Queen was there), Big Ben,

Trafalgar Square, and stood by the Thames. Before returning to the airport, we took in a last bit of Americana: A Wendy's hamburger and French fries.

Athens, Greece

In the evening we flew through the night to Athens and promptly "hit the wall." We'd been up for two days without sleep and our bodies wouldn't move anymore. The kids slept all morning at the "Lighthouse," a Christian Center in Piraeus Harbor, while staff changed money, bought food and helped us move in. In the afternoon we boarded a large coach and drove to Corinth, having "suflaki" on the way. What a privilege to sing and pray in the very place where Paul ministered and wrote to the Corinthians. Standing on the stone ruins of a pagan temple, God revived us as we sang "Shine Jesus Shine." That evening we trudged up Mars Hill in Athens and again walked in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul (Acts 17). We were weary but grateful.

Beneath the awesome ruin of the Acropolis, we prayed for the land of Greece.

Albania

On to Illyricum

The next day we returned by coach to the airport and flew two hours to our land of destiny: Albania. Paul had also been here. In Romans 15:19 he stated that "I preached the Good News all the way around to Illyricum." That's Albania. Paul's outer frontier was now to be our own mission field.

The Tirana airport was small, overgrown with weeds, and jammed with curious people. Pressing through the brown-skinned crowds, we boarded an old bus and traveled into the interior of the capital city to a run-down neighborhood that was to become our home. It was hot. There was garbage and filth everywhere. But our hosts were friendly and our spirits high. Unloading our mountains of baggage between three drab apartment buildings, we experienced for the first time what was to be a daily dread: Thievery. Two boys grabbed one of our bags and it was gone - never to be seen. After this initial incident, we worked out an elaborate security system. Never again did we take our eyes off either our people or things.

"Shoe Mirror - Fallamenderit!"

A great joy was the host families we lived with. In threes and fours, we moved into the decaying concrete jungle around us. The apartments were small but clean. Water only ran an hour or so a day (if you lived above the 2nd floor you had to carry it up). Mountains of food were placed before us. We soon learned to say VERY GOOD (sounds like Shoe Mirror) and THANK

YOU (Fallamenderit). We also learned "Plot" (FULL!) During our stay, many of our hosts came to the Lord.

Ministry in the City - Tirana

On Friday night we shared the gospel with THOUSANDS at a large open-air. It was in front of a museum built to glorify communism--which is now dead, but Jesus is alive. On Saturday we cleaned up the litter in our neighborhood and did a concert for hundreds in the evening. Many gave their lives to the Lord. The people pressed in around us, and it was difficult for the kids to find room for their routines, but the hunger for God's Word was great. On Sunday we ministered at one of the brand-new churches in the city--singing God's praises in a former communist youth theater. In the evening we prayed and cleansed out hearts.

On Monday we took 25 "disciples" to the beach (Durrës) where we baptized seven in the warm Adriatic. For the remainder of the week we ministered daily at a school playground (using sports, games, worship, and signing to share Jesus). Everyday people got saved. We also helped renovate the very first Christian school in the country and painted a portion of the pastor's home. I also spoke at the first Discipleship Training School held in the country. Students came from six cities around the nation to learn how to know God better and make Him known.

Ministry in the Country - Lexhe

On July 22nd we traveled two hours north to a small town called Lexhe. There we joined a Brazilian church planting team headed up by Jorge Damasceno (we called him "General Georgie"). After meeting our new host families, we headed off for a nearby hillside village named Baldreni. Hundreds gathered to hear God's Word. As Ron began to preach, the PA system died, and a mini riot began. Guarding our people and equipment we did our best to cope with the crowds. Some fights broke out. Scared and crying, we made it to the bus while kids pounded on the windows.

The next morning, we searched our souls, confessed our lack of physical and spiritual preparedness and committed to go on. Following the "Baldreni Brawl" the heavens seemed to open upon our ministry. In an unreached village called Sheemir, scores raised their hands to get to know Jesus. In the mountain village of Sheher, while sheep and cattle roamed outside the crowds, we shared about the Lamb of God and scores more came to Jesus. In every village, Bibles were literally ripped out of our hands.

After preaching in one village, we scaled a small mountain to explore a 1000-yr. old castle and enjoy a breath-taking view of northern Albania. From this high place we did spiritual warfare and claimed the nation for God. Before leaving Lezhe, we prayed with our friends at the tomb of Albania's greatest folk hero--Skanderberg--who fought for the freedom of the nation from the Turks. We prayed that our friends would become the spiritual liberators of their nation.

After a love feast in Tirana, we prayed, wept with our new friends, and boarded the plane for the long trip home. None of us wanted to leave. **Hundreds had indicated a desire to know the Lord Jesus. Thousands heard His message of love and forgiveness through the Cross.** We also had learned much from the hospitable and spiritually hungry Albanian people that would make a lasting effect in our own lives.

London, England

For us, London had been another "Terrible Tuesday." Arriving late at night, we'd hauled our luggage onto the subway to Earl's Court and walked the streets until arriving at St. James Anglican Church. There, into the wee hours of the morning, much brokenness and confession poured out as we admitted that we'd lowered our guard since leaving Albania and tolerated some bad attitudes and apathy that God was not pleased with. After sleeping for a couple hours, we finished our adventure together with a mini-love feast near the altar of the old church. Then we caught our last flight home.

Gig Harbor and Port Orchard

NOW is the Time

God is moving mightily among the peoples of Albania. At the same time, many other forces are vying for leadership in a nation just freed from the shackles of totalitarianism. The Albanians are now faced with some choices that will assuredly determine their future. They will either be slaves to men (communism or other form of tyranny), slaves to things (materialism--especially through the entrance of Western television), or slaves to God (the freedom that comes through the Gospel being lived out in a nation). **We are praying for their TRUE LIBERTY in Christ. With renewed zeal, we have also learned to pray for and cherish our own freedom as never before.**

July 30, 1993 - 14,620 - 15,551

What a glorious reunion we came back to the United States. Though very tired and weary after our flights into Greece, London, Vancouver and Seattle, re-uniting with the other teams was a sheer delight. God had done so much in all our lives. **And in total--from the three teams--over 1100 people had made commitments to Jesus.**

The summer adventure ended as we met our families and friends at First Christian once again for a final love feast and farewell. We were exhausted yet exhilarated at what God had done through the lives of these children. It would have an imprint for life. Its fruit touched

eternity.

And soon after we got home, Shirley and I confirmed that "Baby Boehme Number 6" is on the way. What a miracle (since we hardly saw one another the month of July.) According to our estimate, this child was the youngest missionary ever to go to Albania--5 days from conception. Our family is thrilled and we're grateful to God that He had entrusted us with another "reward." Praise His Name.

August 28, 1993 - 14,649 - 15,522

Most of this month has been "recoup." On August 14 I married Mark Wegner and Karen Inman and then the next day our family left on our annual camping trip--this time to eastern Washington.

Sun Lakes, Washington

The first night was a gas. Arriving in the Sun Lakes area late at night and not finding a suitable camping sight, we spend the night in "Deep Despair at Deep Lake" sleeping upright in the van. The next morning God provided a wonderful place at the resort and we stayed there for 4 days. Towards the end of the week we traveled back to Lake Chelan for a few more days of R&R. It was a real quality time together before beginning the fall season. My family is very special to me--and I thank YOU Lord for placing them in the center of my life and my heart.

Port Orchard, Washington

September 15, 1993 - 14,667 - 15,504

Our YWAM work in the Westsound area is in a "growth mode." A few years ago, it was just Shirley and me. Now we have about 6 full-time staff, dozens of volunteers and a budget that's approaching \$200,000. We're grateful to God for this multiplication and seeking the Lord as to how to faithful to manage and care for it.

At the same time, our family is going through a low time financially. Our support has dwindled, and I really need to make some decisions about solidifying our base. We also need to become less dependent on some of our donors (including our parents and local church). One of the priorities of the fall is to seek God about this--and venture out in faith.

Lord--guide us clearly as we grow this year. Help our YWAM work in the Westsound area to be everything you want it to be. Help me learn from past mistakes. Help me to be a good leader and servant of yours.

Oak Harbor, Washington

October 11, 1993 - 14,693 - 15,478

Shirley and I just completed the **most wonderful 17th wedding anniversary**. Thank you, Heavenly Father, for seventeen years of married loved and family blessings.

We found out about a "Sweetheart Special" at a Best Western Motel in Oak Harbor and traveled up there Friday night. Our weekend of delight began with a candlelight dinner in our room which was elegantly decorated with balloons, streamers, and sprinkles. The next day we leisurely looked around Whidbey Island, visiting the shops in two or three towns and having lunch and dinner out. On Sunday we traveled down to Fort Casey (my old Bob Houbregs sports camp) and took the Port Townsend ferry home. It was a fantastic weekend of love, remembering, beautiful weather, and tranquility.

I summarized it to Shirley this way: **Beautiful God, beautiful weather, beautiful wife, beautiful time. It was the first time in ten years that we had shared over 48 hours alone**. We need to do it more. How grateful I am for the "excellent wife" that God has given to me in Shirley.

Port Orchard, Washington

October 17, 1993 - 14,699 - 15,472

Last night we brought our Kings Kids summer teams together for a big celebration of missions. **Destiny '93 will probably become an annual event to share the fruits of our summer outreaches**. It was a glorious night as we remembered God's miracles and goodness to us during the summer of '93: Over 1100 decisions for Christ, thousands of people hearing God's word, 81 of our lives affected and changed.

There was even a little humor in it as the adult staff tried to show the kids how to do a little rap in "Lean on Me." (I even did some "sanctified break dancing.") It was a gas, a blast, and we were in tears at the end in gratefulness for our King of All Creation. In a few weeks our third Kings Kids year will begin, and we are excited about building on the foundation God has given to us.

On another level: I have been somewhat down recently over the changing relationship that Shirley and I are encountering with our home church--First Christian. Slowly, over months of time, it appears to me that we are being subtly shifted out of leadership and position as the church embraces more of an evangelical status quo stance.

This is deeply troubling and personally discouraging. For a few days it has really gotten me down. This morning in prayer God showed me once again that I need to love Him and praise

Him despite any circumstance around me. This is a lesson that cannot be learned enough. If we need to change churches, or move in new directions, then we must accept these things in faith. Circumstances cannot chisel our faith; it is faith that chisels out our circumstances.

I also feel the Lord is showing me to take full responsibility for my family's finances and not be wrongly dependent on our church or any others. Should these change, I must hold our financial destiny firmly in hand. Shirley and I are really praying about this and asking the Lord what to do.

It comes at a good time when we are re-financing our house and **desire to have it paid off in seven years--by November of 2000**. To do that we will need to make a monthly payment of \$1100. Lord--show us how to rise to this level while the outward circumstances are going the other way. Our eyes are on You and we are eager to work hard and obey.

Ellensburg, Washington

October 29, 1993 - 14,711 - 15,460

Just two days ago we completed our fall project--the **Washington Consultation on United Prayer (W-CUP)**. What a glorious time. About 140 delegates from 33 counties came to **Ellensburg to seek God face for revival in Washington State**. After months of planning, phoning, and praying, this step of obedience to God in my own life actually came to pass. There's a tremendous fulfillment in obedience. I believe that God was pleased.

After checking in the Courson Conference Center on the Central Washington campus, we began with dinner together then assembled in the Student Union Theater. The first night God brought us into a great measure of brokenness and personal renewal which carried on into the second day.

Tuesday morning, we went on our faces before God to repent for the sins of the state. For nearly two hours we cried, prayed, and pleaded with God to forgive us for turning away from Him and filling the land with idols. It was one of the deepest times of corporate repentance I have ever seen in my life.

In the afternoon, God led us in a powerful time of spiritual warfare. After exposing the powers of darkness over the state (centering on a strongman of Babylonian origin producing independence and perversion), we pulled down the Satanic "covering" over the four corners of the state and centered in Ellensburg. We then released the Spirit of God over all the regions to pour out His Spirit.

The next session saw a tremendous flow of intercession that was almost impossible to stop. We prayed for individuals and families; for government and leaders (2 legislators and one

senator were prayed over); for pastors and churches (80 pastors were laid hands upon and repented for division between east and west, charismatic and non-charismatic, and black and white); for business and media--and nearly all other areas of state life. It was difficult to get a prayer in edge wise. It really confirmed to me that when a PURE people BIND the enemy and then INTERCEDE, the Lord really pours out His Spirit of supplication.

In the final moments we committed ourselves to support the National Day of Prayer in each county, the March for Jesus, and the pastor prayer summits. Then we took communion together while signing the COVENANT to pray earnestly and desperately for state-wide revival until God grants it from Heaven.

Now delegates have gone back to their counties to raise up local -CUP meetings there and mobilize more people to sign the covenant. Most of the input after the meeting was very positive, and many want to come together next year. We shall pray--and see.

This morning in prayer the Lord really prompted me in these ways:

1. That we need to do a Kitsap CUP maybe next winter in February-March. It needs to be open to lay people and leaders, possibly not include an overnight, and finish with working groups in the area of the NDP, prayer summits, and March for Jesus. We need to send invitations to EVERY church in the county.
2. I need to call Lee Grady about doing an article for Charisma on the event. Its message needs to be multiplied to the other 50 states.

Frederic, Wisconsin

November 20, 1993 - 14,733 - 15,438

I've had a great week in Frederic, Wisconsin. My primary task was to speak to the Crusade Style Evangelism School that is meeting at the new YWAM property in the Northwoods. Great bunch of students from various parts of the world that are being trained to run YWAM crusades all over the globe.

On the plane trip out to the Mid-west I read a TIME magazine cover story on Billy Graham. It showed a blurred, emaciated photo of Dr. Graham with the caption, "A Christian in Winter."

The moment I read the words, the Lord prompted me that the story was not really about Billy Graham, but the state of Christianity in the Western world (of which he is the most visible public figure). It's the truth of the gospel that is in winter in the West right now. We're in Narnia in the cold and snow during the ruthless rule of the White Witch (secularism). The warmth of

spiritual awakening and the return of Aslan (Jesus) is only true hope.

Yet God reminded me not to despair. The Christian faith is an eternal "perennial" that will blossom in the spring and fully flower in the summer of revival. That's what I must continue to give my life for. It is my calling, destiny, my food--"to do the will of Him who sent me" (John 4:34).

Upon arrival in Minneapolis, I was transported across the border into rural Wisconsin where YWAM is starting a new work. Our leader is Mark Anderson, a former leader with Lowell Lundstrom Crusades, and is a gifted crusade organizer. He's a very energetic, visionary guy. For the next few years we will be working together on the Impact World thrust of which I'll be giving leadership to the Revive America Seminar portion. It's a realization of a 10-year dream whose pieces seem to be falling together in God's good and unfathomable timing.

Over a decade ago the Lord spoke to me while flying to California about using teams of young people across America to help bring spiritual awakening to the land. After some false starts, I placed the vision at His feet and waited for His timing and strategy. That is now coming into place in the Impact World Tours which begin in 1994 and will go for 6-7 years.

It was worth the wait, Father. Your ways are wonderful, and your timing is perfect. After speaking in Spooner, Wisconsin tomorrow, I'll be flying back home to be re-united with my family. That's always the best part of a God-ordained trip.

Thank you, Lord Jesus for this time in Wisconsin. I have prayed for a move of your Spirit here. I look forward to returning soon to be a small part of the answer to those prayers.

Spooner, Wisconsin

November 23, 1993 - 14,735- 15,435

Had a wonderful last day in Spooner, Wisconsin where I spoke at Cornerstone Church in Spooner, the very first stop of the Impact World Tour. Pastor Brad Minkel welcomed me into his pulpit, and I shared the "Destiny" message with all my heart. The church gave me the largest single offering I've ever received for one church service (\$400). What a generous and loving people.

If the afternoon I made my way home to Seattle where it's great to be back with the family. As 1993 begins to wind down, I want to WIND UP my work for Jesus and His kingdom. Lord, give me the courage and wisdom to forge ahead.

Port Orchard, Washington

December 26, 1993 - 14,768 - 15,402

Much has happened in the past month. Most of it I spent at home, working on my next book. My working Title is Staying Clean in A Dirty World: Overcoming the Darkness with A Clear and Sensitive **Conscience**. For two week I worked non-stop on the manuscript, getting up at 5 am and now quitting until 6 or 7 pm every day. The final week, I was able to do about two chapters a day. I really sensed the Lord's anointing.

One day he tested my character. Ryan came scampering into the room and before I could focus on his busy little hands, he's punched the reset button on my computer. POOF! All my work for the past hour or so was gone. What a sinking feeling. Gathering all the self-control I could muster, I picked him up, smiled, and walked out of the room. I never did end up retrieving it. But I learned some lessons in character!

We had a wonderful, but busy Christmas season. I especially enjoyed seeing all the lights that decorated the many homes in the area. They constantly reminded me that "Jesus is the Light of the World."

1993 is almost over--and I'm looking forward to the challenges and opportunities of 1994. My testimony is: God is good. May I please you, My Lord and God, with a life spent doing your will. That is my consuming and single desire.