

# The Journal of Ron Boehme - 2011

## Port Orchard, Washington

January 8, 2011 – 20,769 – 9,975

I flew into Washington, D.C. last night with a rendezvous with destiny. Before I share the details, I will let my January 7 blog tell the background story:

### Washington, D.C.

#### The God Who Never Forgets

Have you ever held unfulfilled dreams in your heart and wondered if God had forgotten about them--or you? Did it make you question your faith, or wonder if you had heard from God in the first place? I have had those disappointments, and probably you have too. It is part of being human in a fallen world where many things don't always go according to plan. Today, however, I am learning that **God never forgets.**

When you receive this blog, I will be flying along at about 30,000 feet on my way to Washington, D.C. No, I am not going to participate in the 112th Congress--though I'm very interested in it and will be staying on Capitol Hill. **I'm going because God is miraculously fulfilling a promise that I've been holding in my heart for twenty-five years.** Yeah--that's a long time. I've wondered about that promise for a quarter of a century--but now the wait is over. Here is the exciting story.

**In 1979 I led a Youth With A Mission team into Washington, D.C. to help serve the Washington for Jesus rally which took place six months later on April 29, 1980. That event drew 700,000 people to the Washington Mall for a day of repentance and prayer--and spiritually helped catalyze the Reagan Revolution which swept into the capital city in November of that year. God had answered prayer, and a new day of faith and hope was dawning in America. I was young man and brimming with faith for the future.**

Following those nation-changing events, our YWAM team decided to stay in the D.C. area and engage in on-going missionary work. Some of our twenty-odd staff felt a burden for the people in the slums of the inner city--and various ministries were launched. Others went to work in missions training programs that grew into YWAM

Richmond and YWAM Atlanta--two thriving training bases that are still operating and growing today.

A few of our staff carried a burden for national renewal focused on evangelism and discipleship among the leaders of our nation. That vision led us to purchase an 8,000 square foot building directly on the U.S. Capitol Grounds that we felt we were to renovate and use as a multi-purpose Christian center. We named the million-dollar property and project 133 C Street.

You may have seen it mentioned in the news the past few years. Various Congressmen and Senators live there today, including conservative Senate leader Jim DeMint. It is a valuable gathering place for prayer, Bible studies, and encouragement for our national leaders on Capitol Hill. But we went through quite a storm to get there.

YWAM purchased the 133 C Street property in January of 1981 when interest rates were twenty-one and a half percent. Yes, you read that right. Some of you remember those days. For a few years, we struggled making payments on the facility and worked slowly on its renovation. God was blessing the ministries we were engaged in, but the struggle with an under-capitalized building project began to take its toll.

In the summer of 1986, I went through a personal death of a vision. After years of struggle, I concluded that I had exercised poor leadership in the financial aspect of the *133 C Street Center*, and felt that I should resign from my leadership role in YWAM Washington, D.C. These were painful days of defeat, emotional confusion, and agonizing prayer. A new leader was brought in, I said goodbye to our staff, and Shirley and I (and our four young children) decided to attend a leadership school and do a sabbatical year in Kona, Hawaii.

It was there, pondering all that I had gone through, that I wrote *Leadership for the 21st Century: Changing nations Through the Power of Serving*. Many portions of that book contain the painful lessons of 133 C Street. I had much to learn about being a humble servant leader. Bob Mumford used to say this about the way God trains leaders to serve: "Never trust a man without a limp."

My Washington, D.C. experience left me with a limp. But it was a good "wrestling with God" season--just like Jacob wrestling the angel of the Lord and coming out of that match with a dislocated hip (Genesis 32). As with the patriarch Jacob, God used it to humble me, teach me dependence on him, how to be a better steward of his resources, and lean on his faithfulness--not my own human gifts. Those types of lessons are priceless. Though difficult, God uses them to make us the people he wants us to be. Here is where it gets interesting.

Before I left Washington, D.C. in the fall of 1986, I went to the usual spot where I normally enjoyed a morning quiet time with Jesus. It happened to be the west steps of the US Capitol Building, only a block and a half from 133 C Street. (The same steps where Barack Obama was inaugurated.) I was very sobered on that day, mad at myself for my failings, and in total wonderment about what the future held. As I prayed and sought God that morning on the steps of the U.S. Capitol, **I believe God whispered in my ear: "Don't worry--you'll be back." Back to Washington, D.C.? Yes.**

I didn't know what it meant at the time--but I took it as a promise--one I would hold onto for twenty-five years. In the meantime, YWAM continued to operate in D.C. for a few years, then ceased to function. For about ten years during the 1990s and early 2000s, there was no more YWAM presence in the nation's capital.

During that same time, Shirley and I re-located to Washington State and began many YWAM ministries including serving at Youth With A Mission's first national headquarters in Seattle, then pioneering YWAM Port Orchard, King's Kids Westsound, YWAM Discovery Bay and US Renewal. And throughout the time as we served in mission here, I wondered what it meant that God had promised "I would be back" one day in Washington, D.C.

Now I know. About six months ago, a young Youth With A Mission leader named **Jason Hershey**, gave me a call. He was bringing a team from Texas to Washington, D.C., wanted to revive the work there, and wanted me to be involved. He said he had tracked down the old corporate papers, wanted to restore the old organization, and he wanted me to come back to Washington, D.C. to help him do it. He was a young man and wanted a mentor.

I was twenty-six when I arrived in DC in 1979. I really could have used a wiser, more mature leader-mentor then. **Now God was giving me the chance to go back, reverse roles, and re-birth the dream. I cried when I got off the phone. We have a God who never forgets.**

So, as you read this, I am probably on my way to pick up a twenty-five-year-old dream. Jason wants me to take him to all the places where we started the work. He wants to meet many of the people who were a part of the early YWAM days. **He wants to convene a YWAM Washington, D.C. board meeting and he wants me to mentor him and serve on the board.**

And he wants me to come regularly to Washington, D.C.--to help his team become successful-- to carry on a mission that was God-given, not the plan of any man or

team. There are many powerful lessons here. **The biggest is that God is faithful. He never forgets his promises.**

So, how about you? Still holding out hope for a dream or vision from God? Still hanging on to a promise for a person, family member, or even your own life? Don't give up. Never give up. Even if you wait a lifetime, or it's necessary to get an explanation someday in heaven, one thing remains true: ***The future is as certain as the promises of God. He is the God who never forgets.***

Jason Hershey picked me up from the airport last night and brought me to Capitol Hill where I am staying with Dick Simmons, a committed DC prayer warrior and former employer of my dad (Job Therapy). Dick owns a couple of condos that David Wilkerson helped finance. He's been here for sixteen years being faithful to the burden for prayer and against abortion in this nation. I usually see him every year at the National Day of Prayer but have never stayed with him. He is also from a Washington State. His vision is to raise up 100,000 men who will rise and pray for two hours each morning.

After a decent night's sleep, Jason and I began our day of stories, friendship, and nostalgia by dropping by **Third St. Church of God and Evangel Temple**—key churches in our early days. We prayed at each site and I shared with Jason the history. He wants to know all that we did here so that he can wisely build on the foundations already laid.

Next stop was the **Bladensburg Marina**—where it all began in the spring of 1979 where we set up shop to serve the Washington For Jesus movement with all our trailers and Renewal Team members. We thanked God for this humble beginning, and I picked up a **“rock of remembrance” to put on my shelf.** Then we followed up with lunch at Union Station.

In the afternoon we went by where our guys and girls' townhouses were located on Capitol Hill. And went by 133 C Street (no one was home so we will have to come back). After some time back with Dick, we headed back to Northeast DC for a meeting with Corinthia Boone and an associate. The four of us had a powerful time sharing our burden for the capital and what God is saying. Corinthia believes we are in a “shift” of season where, due to the brazenness of homosexuality, we are entering a time of judgment.

Corinthia's young associate, Ben, really hit it off with Jason, and I believe these two are to join forces for great things in this city. We then had dinner with Kimberly and Jason's three young children. Their home reminded me of thirty years ago when we were here as a young family. There are some amazing similarities between our time and this new time. God—you are amazing.

That evening Jason told me much of his story. He's a passionate guy being led by God to plant himself in this city to make it a city of praise and a place where abortion is outlawed. That is his central burden and calling. He prays every day at the Supreme Court for an hour—and will do so for 1000 days. He believes via much detailed guidance that God has given him that abortion will be overturned in America by March 8, 2013. I cannot begin to describe the dreams, visions, numbers, and divine coincidences behind that belief. But after listening to him, I believe him. He is a passionate, God-called young man whom God is using to shape history. It will be my privilege to support him.

*January 9, 2011 – 20,770 - 9,974*

It was a wonderful day of blessing and revelation. It began at Christian Assembly where I happened to be in the service where CA merged (married) another church Called Fall Park. They are young and have a Korean pastor—and CA is older-so it is a marriage made in heaven. I believe we are doing the same thing with “marrying” YWAM of old to the new YWAM. Very prophetic and powerful this morning.

In the afternoon, Jason and I talked about the new YWAM board and other aspects of re-birthing YWAM Washington, D.C. It was a great couple of hours of fellowship and planning. Then after a good Mexican meal on Capitol Hill, we drove down to Fredericksburg and **spent some time with Ray and Ginny MacAnanny**. The highlight was Ray laying hands on Jason and praying for him. I believe a blessing and anointing was imparted through that time.

We returned late at night and I decided I had a “date with God” to go out to the west steps of the Capitol where God spoke to me some twenty-five years ago. The weather was cold and biting, but I was greatly motivated to go, pray, meditate, and let the Lord of my life speak to me.

On the way I prayed many prayers over DC, friends, leaders, and the future. When I arrived at the west steps, God led me to a **“rock of remembrance”** that I will take back to my shelf. This is a special spot for me, and I wanted a rock to commemorate it. Then I stood, prayed, and waited upon God.

He began to speak to me in “numbers”—a tremendous anointing that Jason possesses. He reminded me that “thirteen” is an important number on my life. It used to be my old number in sports. He shared with me that I should stand with Jason for the overturning of Roe V. Wade by March 8, 2013. My 60<sup>th</sup> birthday is only four days later. That would be forty years of the atrocity of killing the unborn. I believe 2013 is a pivotal

year for America—and for me. It is a number from my past. It will be a number in my future.

Then I prayed about 133 C St. It begins with “13.” I am beginning to believe that God is going to give it back to us—maybe by or during 2013. I must persevere in prayer for these things. God wants the latter glory to be greater than the former. I also turned and looked down the Mall to the Washington Monument and the White House. I believe the Lord will use me there also in the future.

Lord – I place all these things in your very capable hands. May your will come forth.

*January 10, 20011 – 20, 771 – 9,973*

My final day in D.C. with Jason was also a good one. He, Dick, and I shared some vision and fellowship in at Starbucks because a bomb scare had shut down much of Capitol Hill. After it was over, **we had an engaging tour and prayer time at 133 C Street**—my old home. Dan Buckley, one of the hosts went into great details with us as to what was happening there.

It even had political overtones which I have never heard from the mouth of a “Fellowship” leader. There are ten rooms in the facility devoted to Senators and Congressmen and include Sens. DeMint, Coburn and Ensign, and Congressman Sullivan. I few new “tea party” legislators may be moving in soon.

On the outside patio Dan showed us a place where YWAM’s name is printed in the concrete. It was dated November 1981. Wonder if this means anything for the future? Jason seemed to really enjoy seeing C Street and now we will pray. God is using the ministry—but we place its future in the hands of our sovereign God.

I then had a concluding lunch with Jason, Kimberly and their kids, and after praying for them, Jason dropped me off at Dulles Airport. I am now traveling at 30,000 feet on my way back to the Northwest. **This was an amazing trip of nostalgia, revelations, stories, friendship, and especially faith and hope for the future—not just for me personally, for the nation.**

**Lord, I commit myself to be a prophetic voice in America and do anything you desire on me is this final trimester of my life. Thank you for taking me back to Washington, D.C, to befriend a young leader, hear his vision, and support him in the future. Thanks for your faithfulness to me—a very fallen man—to re-ignite visions of the past and mix them with new dreams for the future. I love you very much and recommit to the vision for revival in America’s capital and from sea to shining sea. May it take place for the glory of Jesus and triumph of His kingdom.**

## **Los Angeles, California**

*January 29, 2011 – 20,790 – 9,954*

I returned last night from a good trip to Los Angeles. The week was a rich blend of fun, good times of **prayer and worship with the National Prayer Committee**, and family time with Nathan and David at their apartment in Winnetka.

The next two-and-a-half days were spent with eighty or so Christian leaders, members of the National Prayer Committee, who were meeting in Hollywood to pray and get God's heart for this "tribe" of people who influence the entire world. I will include a blog here to tell that story. (To be written next week.)

## **Port Orchard, Washington**

*February 12, 2011 – 20,804 - 9,940*

We are into the full swing of this year's banquet and it is always a grind to get going. But I am excited about the program, hopeful of the prospects, and am committed to seeing it through. Lord, help us bring the people who you want to partner with us.

Had a great Discovery Bay board meeting on Saturday. God is at work in this beautiful place up north.

## **Salt Lake City, Utah**

*March 12, 2011 – 20, 832 – 9,940*

I just got back from a quick two-day trip to Salt Lake City. They included very **eye-opening meetings with the Mormon Church during the NAE board meetings**. Here is what I wrote in my blog. It tells the story:

I remember meeting some Mormon missionaries about thirty-five years ago--you know, the ones with crew cuts, skinny ties, and black suits. They knocked on our door with their drab, dour faces and talked about religion as if they wanted to enroll me as a "funeral director apprentice." That's how exciting their presentation seemed to me. I was in the hey-day of my early born-again Christian experience, and began to pour out my heart about knowing and loving God personally—how they could be saved by grace—

filled with the Holy Spirit—have an experiential encounter with Jesus. They listened to me politely with stone faces. Eventually, they walked away without responding.

Fast forward to last week. I was talking to a young Chinese Mormon missionary in Salt Lake City on the grounds of the Mormon Temple. She was giving a group of leaders a tour of the heart of Mormonism. I told her I would be going to China in about two weeks. I asked her if she knew Jesus personally, and if she was born again. She smiled at me and said "Yes." Jesus was her Lord and Savior. She seemed sincere. She read her Bible and was serving God with her whole heart. Based on my past understanding of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS), how could this be? Are the Mormons becoming born again?

For those that need a little history, in the late 1820s, a young, charismatic preacher named Joseph Smith said that an angel directed him to a book of golden plates inscribed with a religious history of the American peoples. After publishing an English translation of the plates as the *Book of Mormon*, he organized a church named the Church of Christ--calling it a restoration of the church established by Jesus Christ.

In 1831, he moved to Ohio, where hundreds of converts (called Latter Day Saints) had gathered. He sent some of the Saints to establish a holy city of "Zion" in Jackson County, Missouri. In 1833, when Missouri settlers expelled the Saints from Zion, Smith led an unsuccessful paramilitary expedition to recover the land. Fleeing an arrest warrant in the aftermath of the crisis, Smith joined the remaining Saints in Far West, Missouri in 1838. However, tensions escalated into a war with hostile Missourians. Believing Smith and the Saints to be anti-government, the governor expelled them from Missouri, and imprisoned Smith on capital charges.

After escaping state custody in 1839, Smith led the Saints to build Nauvoo, Illinois, on Mississippi River swampland, where he became mayor and commanded the large militia. It was in Nauvoo that Smith expanded his LDS teachings. Based on his revelations, he even married thirty-two women, some of them already having husbands. In early 1844, he announced his candidacy for president of the United States.

That summer, after the Nauvoo Expositor criticized Smith's teachings, the city council, headed by Smith, ordered the paper's destruction. To check public outrage, Smith first declared martial law, then surrendered to the governor of Illinois. He was killed at the age of 39 by a mob while awaiting trial in Carthage, Illinois.

But the Christian cult continued to grow, and eventually a strong and capable organizer named Brigham Young transplanted the religious community to Utah near the Great Salt Lake. He said at the time that Mormonism would make "the desert blossom as a rose." He was right on



that account. Today, Salt Lake City is the thriving center of the LDS empire which claims 15 million followers worldwide in 150 nations, and annually sends thousands of young missionaries into 340 mission fields.

Due to a strong emphasis on family life and values, a rigorous work ethic, and a strong belief in the validity of their extra-biblical revelations, Mormons have become powerful members of American society and many nations of the world. Mitt Romney ran for president. Orrin Hatch is a well-known Senator. J.W. Marriott founded one of the world's biggest hotel chains--to name a few prominent LDS members.

But the Mormon Church has many questionable tenets. For years they appeared to de-emphasize the role and person of Christ. They also seemed to be works driven and have little concept of grace. There wasn't much focus on the central truth of Christianity—the Cross of Christ. In fact, you never see a cross on the outside of a Mormon house of worship, and rarely see one inside.

Even worse, they have some very strange ideas about “humans becoming gods,” marriage being eternal, hold secret ceremonies in white robes inside the Mormon Tabernacle, pray for the dead, and believe that when Jesus returns—he'll be coming back to Independence, Missouri.

It was with some mixed feelings that I attended a conference in Salt Lake City last week. **Seventy leaders came from forty different states and representing forty different denominational, parachurch, and Christian educational institutions.** We were there for God's Kingdom business—and the issues we discussed and decisions we made were important and relevant. But we were also there to learn what God was doing in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Days Saints. I believe many of our eyes were opened.

One day one we were treated to a panel discussion which included some household names in American Christianity. To our surprise, they recounted the history of a thirteen-year dialogue that has been taking place between Christian and Mormon leaders. They shared the meaningful friendships they had formed over that time and the discoveries they had made. They shocked us with some stories of what was “taking place behind the scenes” and encouraged us to re-think our approach to the Mormon Church.

That night we bussed down to the Governor's Mansion—an exquisite three-story home built in 1902—where we heard from the current governor of Utah. He is a Mormon, shared about his faith, and asked us to seek common ground in fighting the important issues of our day.

After his well-received presentation, we had an amazing ninety minutes with a top leader in the Mormon Church. For twenty of those minutes, he read a prepared statement on the current beliefs and practices of the LDS. As he talked about faith in Christ, repentance from sin, the importance of the cross, salvation by grace alone, the authority of the Bible, and many other vital subjects, I closed my eyes and realized that if I didn't know he was a Mormon, I might be convinced that I was listening to Billy Graham or Rick Warren. On topic after topic, what he said *he* believed, *I* believe. He also spoke with great humility and deference.

At one point in his message he turned to the seventy leaders and asked their forgiveness for the division that had been created between us. At two other points he teared up while sharing his burden for the youth generation and the problems of secularization in our world today.

Then for well over an hour, he answered individual questions from the leaders present. What about the questionable Mormon beginnings? What about Joseph Smith's 32 wives? Did Mormons believe we are saved alone by grace through faith? A black pastor asked him about the LDS decades of discrimination against African Americans. And so on. Each answer he gave—until the very last one about marriages being eternal—seemed to be sound and biblical. We prayed for him and the Mormon Church. Many eyes were opened that night.

On day two we were given an extensive tour of the Mormon Tabernacle. I had pictured it as a building, but it is really a multi-block campus that includes the original Mormon meeting hall, the Tabernacle, a couple of visitor centers, and a 21,000-seat auditorium. One visitor center contains a to-scale model of Jerusalem in Jesus' day which recounts all his miracles, his death and resurrection. Upstairs there is a marble statue of Jesus in front of huge mural of the world. We meditated there while a narrator shared the words of Christ in the background. Every one of them was from the New Testament.

We ended our visit with a tour of the “roof” of the Conference Center which looks like a park. On one side was a beautiful mural which contained the words of Matthew 24:14: “This Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in all the nations.” Diverse faces and ethnicities spring out of the mural. I felt like I was visiting a YWAM conference site. This is what we teach and believe.

The visit was not without some observations of concern, a sense of a spirit of legalism, and some glaring errors in the Mormon history and present theology. But what Christian denomination doesn't have some dark areas and funny ideas? We all do. The difference between orthodox Christian denominations and Christian cults is not perfection--it is creedal faith in biblical truth. In the past, the Mormons have been weak on the essentials of the faith.

But there is hope. One of the leaders at our conference is the head of Grace Communion International, formerly called the Worldwide Church of God started by Herbert W. Armstrong. WCG was considered by many to be a cult, but in the late 1980s they began a process of doctrinal reform on a large scale and essentially transformed into an evangelical denomination. They also joined the National Association of Evangelicals. In 2009 they changed their name to Grace Communion International to better reflect who they are and what they teach. They describe their journey this way:

"Jesus Christ changes lives. He can change an organization, too. This is the story of how the Lord changed our denomination from an unorthodox church on the fringes of Christianity, into an evangelical group that believes and teaches orthodox doctrines. The story involves both pain and joy. Thousands of members left the church. Income is less than one fourth of what it once was. But thousands of members are rejoicing with renewed zeal for their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

You can hear their amazing story by watching a video called *Born to Be Free*. I was greatly moved when I first saw it. And something else happened to me: *My faith expanded that if God could bring this change to the Worldwide Church of God, he could do the same thing for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints*. I began praying expectantly for the Mormon Church. After my visit to Salt Lake City last week, my prayers will be increasing. I then celebrated my 58<sup>th</sup> birthday at home. I am very grateful for 58 years of life and serving the Lord Jesus. Help me to be faithful for the remainder of my life.

## Port Orchard, Washington

*March 26, 2011 – 20,846 – 9,898*

Last night we had our annual YWAM banquet in Port Orchard. After months of work, phone calls, and much prayer, nearly three hundred friends descended upon Christian Life Center for the gathering. It was a tremendous time of dessert (a little chaotic), fellowship, three great stories, the presentation of my new book—*The Fourth Wave*--, a SKYPE hook-up with the Mongolian Church—and the surprise dedication of the book to five Mongolian friends. In the end, our wonderful friends contributed cash and pledges over \$33,000 to YWAM and our Mongolian work.

It was a very special night. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for your blessing. Despite the little hitches, you really touched the hearts of people to give to the vision of an evangelistic sports camp in Mongolia. Now I pray that you will help us see it to

completion. You have been so good to me over a lifetime. I am grateful to be your servant. Help me to always be worthy of your call.

## Hong Kong, China

*April 4, 2011 – 20, 855 – 9,889*

After finishing the Banquet, I caught a plane on Sunday for China to teach and share in the underground church there. My first destination was Hong Kong where Puerto Rican friends Vequi and Alejandra met me at the airport and put me up at Vequi's apartment on the "Gold Coast." Gorgeous 23<sup>rd</sup> story place that God has provided. After a short night, Alejandra and I took a walk on the beach, had a wonderful Lebanese lunch together, then boarded a train to cross over into mainland China.

## Guangzhou, China (Canton)

Our destination was Canton—the third largest city in China—and now named Guangzhou. It is supposed to have 12-14 million people, but only God knows. The Chinese cities are so vast and so busy with life. Alejandra escorted me to Miguel and Gisele's apartment where they are staying with their two young children Sofia and Esteben. They are Puerto Rican friends, disciples, and God-called people that are doing God's work here. It is a privilege to be with them.

The next day I began speaking to their combination DTS and seminary. They meet on a roof-top that is rented by the underground church. It is a fifteen-minute walk from the apartment and we often take different routes to not cause suspicion. I carry my books and Bible in a shopping bag. Then we un-lock an iron gate and emerge onto the rooftop where most of the students live and study. I guess an obscure roof-top qualifies as "underground" in this part of the world.

The students are from seven provinces in China—and it is a privilege to be training them. I have been sharing on personal destiny, God's destiny for the church, and for the nation of China. There have been morning and afternoon sessions each day—about six hours total. Then we walk back inconspicuously through the streets back to home base. I am always amazed at the sights, sounds, and smells of China. It is so vast—so big—changing so rapidly from a primitive society to a great modern nation. When you walk the streets, you can feel the pulse of the crowds around you—young, ambitious, and so needing the truth of God in their lives.

On Saturday, I had a day off, and after writing a blog on China in the morning, Miguel and I and Sofia traveled by bus and modern subway to Shamian Island which is a beautiful little enclave along the river that goes through the heart of old “Canton.” During the Opium Wars, all the foreigners in China were forced to live on this island. It has a colonial look to it and now contains some pretty sculptures, parks, and walking areas. I really enjoyed the peaceful atmosphere (not quite so busy) and time with Miguel and his daughter.

The first church in Canton is located on the island. It was nice to see it. On our walk around the island we met a young girl with a flute who played for us, spoke pretty good English, and joined us (and her friend) on our stroll. She called herself “Lilly” (English name) and I felt she was really a divine appointment. She goes to another church on the island but didn’t seem to know what it meant to really know and follow Jesus. Miguel had a good time sharing with her. I prayed. I believe she has an open heart and will become a true follower of Jesus. After a good time in Shamian, we returned to the hustle and bustle of the city.

Today I preached twice at the underground church that rents our facilities. I really like the pastor and we have related well. In the morning I shared on “Jesus is Building His Church” and in the evening session, I preached for the first time since the publication of my book on “The Fourth Wave.” Hopefully, I inspired them to join God’s growing tsunami. The congregation was eager to hear my words.

I finished up my teaching at the DTS/seminary on Monday and Tuesday. The final session was the most meaningful of all. As the students began to thank me for coming, but began, in an unusual way, to share their hearts with me. Some of them never had a close relationship with their dads, so they began to cry and thank me for being a father to them. I responded in kind to them, and God began to give me words of knowledge and I also began to give them “English names.”

An hour session went on for three hours of love, prayer, tears, and bonding together. It was a very special time. Then I headed back to Hong Kong by train with Miguel. There, I had a good meeting with Dale Kauffman, stayed overnight at their home on Discovery Bay and shared some personal time with Vequi. I have deep respect for them both.

Now I am on my way home from a wonderful time in China. Thank you, Lord for what you are doing in this great nation. Thank you for allowing me to be a small part of it. In many ways I felt like an “Apollos” who was simply sent to teach and strengthen the believers. May I always be faithful to heed and follow the call.

# Charlotte, North Carolina

*April 15, 2011 – 20,866 - 9878*

It has been a good week at the **YWAM North American Leader's Conference**. It's been wonderful to see old friends, make some new friends, and spend some time with God. After getting a very necessary good night's sleep, I feel better today and able to absorb. I really enjoyed having a quiet time at a small lake on the property and enjoyed my walk around it. God spoke some things to me during that time.

I have also received two prophecies during my stay here. This is the first one that came from Bronwen Niles via Facebook (Steve is here at the conference). She has been such a wonderful prophetess to me and YWAM over many years. Here are her encouraging words:

RON:

**"Son, God called you in your youth. You have traveled and traveled, and God is pleased.** Know the army of God will only increase and you will know the favor of God has come to mend the fold. You have brought forth a victory and God is pleased. You have brought forth a Nation of intercessors and God is pleased. You gave hope to the intercessors and you will know that the Favorable Year of the Lord has come, and the Word of the Lord in the Nation is increasing on every side. The barren days are over for you.

The Word of the Lord will come to pass and there is nothing God's grace cannot do. The Word of hope and vision will come to pass as God brings in the new for you. The Army of God will arise throughout the Land and the Nations will come and God will make whole. The wealth of the wicked is coming to you."

Blessings, Bronwen

Then after about an hour and a half walk around the property in which I prayed and pondered over many future things, Jason Hershey met me and shared a word of the Lord. This is the gist of it:

"I've just visited Mount Vernon and was impressed with how George Washington simply wanted to live a simple and quiet life at his home estate. But when he was called to the Revolution, and the presidency of the United States, he was willing to obey the call because he knew his obedience was crucial to living the quiet life that he desired in God."

"Ron, you need to be willing to help lead the coming Revolution in America. God has called you for this hour, and it may mean spending more time or even moving for a time to the

nation's capital. If you do not do it, you may not be able to lead that quiet and peaceable life that God desires for you.”

“Be willing to lead the Revolution! God will be with you.”

I will continue to pray about these wonderful words. Thank you, Jesus, for giving me words of life all throughout my life. They are my daily bread.

*April 17, 2011 – 20, 868 – 9,876*

I am back from the Conference now—but it was a great gathering. The worship was just outstanding and really led me into the presence and pleasure of God. Fred Markert shared tremendous insights of the world today and the coming fourth wave. My book is a great compliment to his that is coming out in the fall. Dan Allender was the other speaker, and he is a gifted communicator with a real burden for humility, repentance, and authenticity among leaders. Fred was the macro and Dan was the micro in our gathering. It was very rich.

The theme of the Conference was Year One. We are starting over in YWAM after fifty years and I was challenged to do the same thing in my own life and ministry. We cannot rest on the laurels of the past. We must turn to God as we did at the beginning and seek his face for the future.

I also enjoyed wonderful times with old friends and new ones. Getting home was not easy. After one mechanical delay, and then missing a plane due to wrong gate instructions, then having to re-route through Atlanta—I arrived at the Atlanta airport late at night, ran to our gate, and missed the plane by 60 seconds. Had to overnight at a Days Inn near the airport then almost didn't get on the plane the next day due to scheduling conflicts. In the end, I made it—tired but grateful for a wonderful week.

Lord, thank you for the privilege of serving in YWAM all these years. Thank you for the 130 bases that have been established and the work that you're doing in our hearts. May our greatest days for you lie ahead. Help me to be faithful and to lead the revival or revolution.

*May 10, 2011 - 20,891 – 9.853*

It has been a few very busy weeks of travel for me—from China—to North Carolina—to Washington, D.C. and New York—and now Los Angeles this morning.

But all of it has been in the will of God and I am grateful for each opportunity and every person's life I touched.

## Washington, D.C.

Last night I returned from a busy and productive trip to Washington, D.C. for the National Day of Prayer--and other meetings. Below I will give the highlights of the various days:

*Saturday, April 30* – I arrived at Reagan airport in the early evening and took the subway to Capitol Hill where God had arranged wonderful accommodations at the Faith & Action and NCSC offices. Had dinner at F&A with Rob Schenck (and received a supply of food that lasted nearly all week—God's amazing provision). Then went on a walk around the Capitol and reflecting pools.

*Sunday* – Jed and Bethany von Steinbergs (and baby) met me at the East Falls Church metro stop and accompanied us to **The King's Chapel where I was able to speak on the Fourth Wave**. While she was speaking, a woman near the back of the church had a seizure which interrupted the service and eventually impacted people coming to get books—then I finished up the time. Great to be with the church family.

Got to see Pat Cavanaugh and his wife. He called me a few days later and really wants to help me promote my book through his music seminars around the world. Thank you, Jesus. On the way back to the metro, we stopped by our old house on Kensington Street. I hardly recognized it because they have added a second story. In the evening we returned to the Capitol steps and helped launch this year's Bible Reading Marathon (with Rob Schenck).

I was invited to help "anoint" the area and pray for this proclamation of God's Word over our nation. Later that night, we watched the sobering news that Osama bin Laden had finally been found and killed by special US forces. In one small sense, justice has been served.

*Monday* – In the morning I felt led to do a blog on the bin Laden assassination. Felt God gave me some important points—and received many e-mails from around the world on it. In the evening, **I traveled out to Vienna to New Song Church for a great YWAM reunion hosted by Jason and Kimberlee Hershey. About fifty folks showed up.**

I shared near the end on **character qualities of God I have learned through the DC experience. It allowed me to share many stories—some from the heart.** To me, the meeting symbolized a wonderful rebirth of the ministry there and was accompanied by much humility,



unity, and vision. Was so good to see many old and new friends! I believe YWAM DC's future is very bright.

*Wednesday* - Our prayer meeting began this morning at 9 am with the **National Prayer Committee** at the Four Seasons Hotel. The NPC is a group of about eighty intercessors who carry the prayer burden for America. We met from 9 am to 3 pm today—and it was a good balance of “talking to each other” and praying together. I sense a good unity in this group, and I am grateful to be a part—representing YWAM the way Jim and Joy Dawson used to do.

After a quick dinner, I changed clothes and attended the elegant National Day of Prayer Committee reception at the Mayflower Hotel in Downtown DC. James and Shirley Dobson led this evening of honoring their team, donors, and speakers just before the NDP begins. Good spirit in this gathering.

*Thursday, May 5* – **We began this sixtieth National Day of Prayer with a special prayer time with Rob Schenck and some of his people on the steps of the US Supreme Court. Jason Hershey joined us.** Rob got special permission to pray in the plaza—it is usually not allowed. Then we went over to the Cannon Building for the main observance. I found it very moving this year, with Joni Eareckson Tada the main speaker--also featuring a blind woman who sang two beautiful and touching songs.

I will do a blog this week on my impressions of the NDP and where America is before God, so I will skip the details here. The theme for this year's NDP was “A Mighty Fortress is our God.” In the afternoon, I traveled by subway out to the Cedars to meet with Doug Burley. Good, personal time.

**Made me realize how old we are getting. I remember Doug with youthful face and dark hair. He is now a white haired, balding man in his sixties. Our lifetimes go so fast.** Doug is doing a good job working with the Fellowship all over the world. In the evening I met up at the Capital Region NDP rally which lasted from 4:30 – 8:30pm. As usual, it was a wonderful time of prayer, pageantry, proclamation, unity, and great praise and worship from God's “rainbow coalition.”

I am very proud of Corinthia Boone—its leader. And she looks younger every year (at 75 years old). I was very tired when the day came to an end.

*On Sunday* – **I spoke at New Song in the morning and felt a great liberty with them.** I believe God really wants to re-birth and expand this church—maybe make it a “Bethel of the East.” Pastor Vernon, who is dying of bone cancer, gave a good message

on the prophetic. And I enjoyed seeing many old friends. **Sold many books.** After the service, I followed the Cresswells to Manassas and had a great barbeque with them—then returned to Capitol Hill.

*Monday* – Had breakfast on the Hill, then caught the subway to the airport, got on the plane, and traveled back to Seattle.

This year's National Day of Prayer trip was very moving. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for the gifts of prayer and friendships. They were all on display in Washington, D.C. this year. I am grateful.

## Long Beach, California

*May 13, 2011 – 20,894 – 9,850*

My whirlwind travel is nearing an end. I am glad for that—it will be good to be home for a while. **But I thank God for all the times he has allowed me to serve Him on the road. It's been a great part of my life.** Tuesday, I flew into **Long Beach, CA for the YMEC conference.** I missed it last year for the first time in two decades, but this year both Paul Fleischmann and Daryl Nuss strongly encouraged me to come—so I prayed and felt that I should. One incentive was their commitment to give a copy of my book to all those in attendance. I felt that was a great opportunity.

**There were about forty-five ministry leaders in attendance.** Many were the old guard that I know very well, but quite a few were younger guys that are new to the group. Interestingly, both Young Life and Youth for Christ were not represented. Most of the two days were spent in interactive sessions called “World Café” and “Open Space.” It's the new style of conferencing where everyone is “equal” and engaged in dialogue. That idea has some merit as Christ is in each individual and there is much to learn from one another.

On the other hand, the “equal” approach diminishes master training or mentoring, strategic insight, and clarity of focus. This type of approach is not really my cup of tea, and that dates me somewhat. I skipped many of the interactive sessions because I felt I could use my time more productively. I did have some precious times with special friends over meals and so forth.

The final evening, **they asked me to lead a Concert of Prayer.** I shared some comments about my book and the state of the world that we live in, then had the group pray around the tables over seven different areas. **We also used different styles and postures in prayer. It was a powerful time—and many thanked me for it afterwards.** Now I get a day with Nathan and David

at their place in Winnetka where I spent the night. I'm looking forward to some time with my sons.

When I get home, I need to really pray through some personal items in my life and set the course for YWAM Port Orchard for the remainder of this year. Life is so complex and there are many concerns. Some of those are in my own heart. **But I am committed to making Jesus the Lord of it all. He is my peace, my hope, my future, my all. That will never change. Lord – you are worthy of all my time and attention. You ARE my life. May I live a life that is pleasing to you in all respects.**

## Salem, Oregon

*June 24, 2011 - 20, 937 – 9,807*

I have been away from my journal for a while. This week I headed down to Salem where I had been scheduled to speak at a YWAM Community meeting. It was a productive trip and I enjoyed Steve Kilpatrick, Gordy McDonald and Jesse Reese

## Hong Kong, China

*July 23, 2011 – 20,966 – 9,778*

I am now in the last few days of my trip to Hong Kong. It has been a wonderful time of God's Word, making new "sons and daughters," and being with old friends.

Dale Kauffman asked me about a month a half ago to come and **be a main speaker at the 2011 Gateway Conference.** I prayed and felt I should go—even though it was a step of faith personally and to also help Larry Centeno and Sodoo and Aldaraa to join me so that we could comprise the "Mongolia Team." The trip over was uneventful though I was hauling 360 books and arrived in Hong Kong late at night. I made it to Lingnan University where I shared an apartment for most of the week with my Mongol-hearted friends. That was a great blessing.

**This year's group was about fourteen hundred with six hundred being from mainland China.** The conference was very well run and extremely powerful. God really ministered to me during the worship times which went for hours—including lots of dancing. **I have never danced for Jesus so much in my life. This generation does know how to "party for Jesus."** I believe he was pleased with their love and affection.

I spoke in two main plenary sessions—first on The Fourth Wave and later Servant Leadership. Both were well received. I also did two sessions on World Missions and really felt God's anointing there. Here is the blog I wrote which gives some of the highlights of Gateway 2011:

If you are troubled or concerned about this generation, and the state of the world, then I have some great encouragement: *Don't worry*. The Fourth Wave of young missionaries is coming to a city near you. I am in Asia at a youth conference of fifteen hundred world changers. They hail from forty nations around the world. Nearly half are from mainland China. For five days we have been seeking God, celebrating his love and diversity, and making powerful commitments to take the love of Jesus to a waiting planet.

Yes, I know the globe is a mess. The Middle East is in constant turmoil. The Arab Spring could turn into a Sharia Winter. There are hostilities and wars among many nations. Poverty and disease stalk millions around the world. And global debt and economic gloom seems to be the order of the day. But not here. **The young missionaries of the Fourth Wave want to change all that.** Here are some encouraging stories.

#### *Worried About the Middle East?*

The greatest tinder box of our time has been the boiling tension between Israel and the Arab world. Many Arab nations want to see Israel wiped off the map. Years of terrorism and increasing isolation have made the Jewish population vulnerable and cynical. God's hand is certainly upon developments in the Middle East. But what does the future hold. Will the Arab Spring create enough unrest to spill over into a war in the Middle East?

On the third evening of the conference, both Arabs and Jews gathered on the stage and shared their love for each other that is found in Jesus their Messiah. They hugged each other. They affirmed their common ancestor in the patriarch, Abraham. One Jewish leader told me that a few decades ago there were only hundreds of believers in Palestine. Today there are ten thousand.

And Jesus said that in the last days "all Israel will be saved" (Romans 11:26). As the multitude of young people prayed, both the Israeli and Arab believers made a solemn commitment to break down the barriers that divide them and allow the love and grace of Jesus to unite them. This is real hope for the Middle East.

### *Worried About Africa?*

One of the highlights of the conference was the presence of African youth, especially from the nations of Rwanda and Ghana. If you remember, Rwanda was once a killing field of ethnic violence. But the youth of today are rising, putting their faith in Christ, and bringing their nation into the hope that Jesus brings to every life and nation. Some Chinese churches are partnering with the youth in Africa. They are sending teams this summer to work in these nations, doing economic development, sharing the Gospel, and bringing God's peace. The Chinese and African youth stood on the stage and said they would bring a different future to the nations of Africa.

Then they danced and prayed for hours--rejoicing in the power of God that is visiting Africa. In 1900 there were 10 million followers of Christ in Africa. Today there are 400 million. And young Africans who survive the killing fields want to add more.

### *Worried about ancient hostilities between nations?*

During World War II, Japan cruelly invaded China and raped and murdered thousands. Those atrocities have left a deep bitterness on the soul of older Chinese. But not the young generation. One of the greatest times of applause was when the Japanese delegation of young people performed onstage in full costume. A great cry of affirmation rose from the hearts of the Chinese young people as they fully embraced their Japanese counterparts. They prayed and wept over one another--and committed themselves to work together to bring the Good news of Jesus "back to Jerusalem" (encircling the globe).

Also--do you know what is the largest man-made structure in the history of the world? It is the Great Wall of China. It was erected to keep the Mongol hordes from the north from conquering the tribes in the south. It didn't work--and for thousands of years, the Mongols and Chinese were at enmity. But a touching moment of the conference was when a Mongolian pastor washed the feet of a pastor from mainland China following a message on servant leadership. They prayed and embraced one another--and committed to work together to bring blessing, not cursing to Asia. It is a new day of cooperation between the youth of China and Mongolia.

### *Worried about the generational divide?*

Many Western nations are experiencing a breakdown of the family and increasing tensions between generations. The old don't understand the young and the young want little to do with their older relatives. But one of the most powerful teachings of the conference showed the amazing way that God is bringing the different generations

together for his purposes. This coming together in common purpose was visualized on the stage by a large arrow. The younger generation is the tip of the arrow. They are radical, passionate, creative--the tip of the spear. But if they are separated from the shaft of the arrow, they are minimized into being a small knife--very ineffective.

The shaft is the parent generation. The shaft gives stability, direction, and provides resources for the tip of the arrow. It is essential for giving flight to the arrow point. The final portion of the arrow is the feathers--representing the grandparent generation. The feathers represent the wisdom of the older generation. Feathers on an arrow are vital for stability and length of flight. The advice and counsel of the older generation truly gives the younger generations the ability to fly.

Various sessions at the conference were devoted to healing the generations and launching a beautiful arrow of love and cooperation into the nations of the world. Many young people wrote letters to ask forgiveness of the parents. There were many sessions that included hugs, tears, and expressions of need for one another.

Many Chinese young people are the "one child" in their family due to Communist Party policies. Many have no relationship with their fathers. It was my privilege to hug, hold, and pray with many Chinese youth who desperately wanted the touch of a father figure. God released tremendous torrents of his love as we committed to reach this generation for Jesus--as God's complete arrow--together.

I had the privilege of calling the conference to their destiny in history--The Fourth Wave. I shared with them the three waves of modern missions that had preceded them. I described what God was doing in this new era of missions--mobilizing people of all ages, nationalities, going everywhere, using creative technologies, and friendship evangelism in all the spheres of life. I told them, in a word, that for the first time in history the entire church is becoming *missional*. I asked them to rise to their destiny as the Fourth Wave of Modern Missions. They responded in forty languages:

*We are the Fourth Wave! We are the Fourth Wave!*

Then they prayed, danced, celebrated in costume, and passionately committed themselves to live up to that calling. Wow. I believe they will do it. Be encouraged and watch out world. The Fourth Wave of Jesus is coming. You, too, can be a part of that surging tide.

After the conference, the four of us stayed for a few more days over in the dorms that our team used in 2009. Brought back some good memories. One day we looked around Hong Kong for Larry's sake and Sodoo bought a computer. We also had team times together talking about

God's plans for Mongolia. We believe we are to do a "Leadership Gateway" in Mongolia in 2012 and a full-blown one in 2013. God really wants to thrust this young generation out into Central Asia and all over the world. We hope to tie these conferences into the building of Camp Battulga. Lord—we need your provision and direction to accomplish these purposes of your heart.

Young Jews used to celebrate adulthood at age 12-13. We believe 2012-13 are important years for the Mongol youth to rise to their destiny. So be it.

After Larry returned to the Philippines, I treated Sodoo and Aldaraa to Hong Kong Disneyland. It's as beautiful as the original in Anaheim, but it doesn't have all of the major attractions. But we had a beautiful (and hot) day together enjoying the sights and sounds. **God always speaks to me at Disneyland about the power of imaginative faith.** Disneyland is built on that concept. I want to apply it to every area of my life and ministry.

Now I am spending a few final days at Dale Kauffman's condo in Discovery Bay. Today was my "Sabbath" and I spent five hours at a Club at which Dale and Carol are members. It had a large, gorgeous pool right near the Bay that reminded me of a Sandals Resort. I enjoyed reading, relaxing, and swimming to refresh my body and soul. **Tomorrow I preach at a Hong Kong Church, then on Monday will meet with a prospective publisher for my book in Mandarin.**

## **Seoul, South Korea**

Then the same in Seoul on Tuesday and then my flight home.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for my partnership with Dale and the Gateway vision. He is a great leader and visionary whom I am honored to serve. Continue your work here in Hong Kong and China. Explode it to the ends of the earth.

## **Port Orchard, Washington**

*August 2, 2011 – 20,976 – 9,768*

It's great to be home after the thirteen-day trip. I had some final good meetings with publishers both in Hong and Korea. After being up for about 55 hours, I'm now back home and catching up on my sleep. There is no place like home.

Shirley and I are experiencing such wonderful joy in our relationship. Our love is a very precious and lifetime gift. I am so grateful for Shirley Jean Cookson being brought into my life. I love her more each day and look forward to the latter third of our lives being spent in closer proximity to each other—in every way. Thank you, Wonderful Redeemer. You cause all things to work together for good.

*August 27, 2011 – 21 001 – 9,743*

What a great 40<sup>th</sup> High School reunion we just completed. It truly exceeded my expectations. God is working in the lives of my classmates—and that delights my heart and His. I was led to join the reunion committee many months ago to help with this milestone reunion. It was good to reacquaint with Adele, Jonell, Robbi, Cathy, Maryann, Sue, Donna, Mark and others. Over the months, God clearly led us to put together the reunion events—and they turned out better than we had planned. He is the God of all relationships.

Thursday night we met at First Christian Church for a Christian gathering of classmates called “Cruisin’ By Faith.” About 35 turned out. Ruth (Thomas) led us in worship songs, and in between, many classmates shared their stories and testimonies. It was fantastic. It was a very diverse group. In high school, we had been a part of many different social sets, but on Thursday, the life-changing of the Cross had truly brought us onto equal ground. It was a very special time of sharing, worship, and prayer—followed by great fellowship around the cookie tables. I am so glad that many of my classmates have come to know Christ. Nothing is more important than that.

Then on Friday night we celebrated the main event in Bremerton at the Fountain Room. The theme was “Cruisin’ Through Life.” I bribed Jason to bring some friends to help direct people to parking and to the facility. I also met them at the crosswalk near the entrance and got to hug every one of those with whom I had attended school forty years ago. I think it set a great tone for the evening—and 110 people showed up.

During the “mixer games” at the beginning, former ASB president Joe Washington pulled me aside and said he wanted to talk to me. We sat on a bench near Pacific Ave. and had a wonderful heart to heart talk for about fifteen minutes. He was the first of four people to ask me about how my dad’s imprisonment affected my high school years. I shared the negatives of that story, but also the positives of how God had used it to bring his salvation into our family. Joe thanked me for the example I had played in his life and I asked him about his relationship with God. He said he was a believer. Our conversation was the first of many—with depth—that was a highlight of the evening.



Joe later led off the program time with some very humble and heart-felt words. I believe God really used him to set a tone of gratefulness and seriousness that carried over into the evening. I then led the group in the “Luminary Ceremony” where we shared about our deceased classmates and showed their pictures on a large wall above us. You could hear a pin drop in the room and many classmates had tears in their eyes. After the eight-minute Powerpoint, I led the class in a prayer which mentioned Jesus by name and encouraged them to trust him for eternal life. After I said Amen, it sounded like the entire room echoed those words. Powerful moment. I then encouraged people to share stories of our fallen classmates, and this only prolonged the sobriety of the time.

After that, there were great conversations with people, fun dancing, even praying for some folks on the floor—and half the class hanging around until almost 11:30pm. What a special night. I have never been to a reunion like this—where people went deep with each other and God was clearly glorified.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for those I grew up with and went to school. I ask you to work in all their lives to bring them to salvation. Help me to continue to reach out to them in love. You are the God of the class of '71.

## Tyler, Texas

*September 22, 2011 – 21,033 – 9,717*

I just returned from a wonderful trip to Twin Oaks Ranch in Tyler Texas where I spoke at their annual staff kick-off conference. It was a great “homecoming” to a base and staff that I’ve had much relationship with since 1976—but have not visited for decades. I had sent a copy of my book to Leland Paris, and he had liked it so much that he invited me to come share its message with their 250 staff and satellite ministries. It was a joy to comply.

Mark Brock (“Harold”), my old friend from the Spirit in '76, picked me up at the airport and we had an enjoyable two-hour ride from Dallas out to east Texas. It was warm—but not in the 100s which was their summer norm—71 days of 100 plus temperatures. After settling in at the base “hotel” I spoke to the gathering in the evening on Conscience and followed up on that theme in two sessions on Sunday morning.

The conference theme was ‘the Fear of the Lord’ and Leland had asked me to share on having a clear conscience. In the second session, I invited people to come to the

front in repentance and desire to awaken their consciences, and nearly the entire room moved forward. It was a very special time of prayer, brokenness, and commitment to live holy lives. Was a privilege to lead them into a lifestyle of repentance.

God led me to share my own failings and sins. Humility begets humility. God really honored my willingness to be transparent.

On Sunday evening, Winkie Pratney, recently recovered from a serious stroke, came to the front, and made a special presentation to me of the 2000-page “Revival Bible.” He said I was an important revivalist in YWAM and they wanted to honor me in this way. I was deeply touched and humbled by the gift.

Then I preached my final message on *The Fourth Wave* and challenged my fellow YWAMers to ride the surf. They responded wholeheartedly—and afterwards, we went outside and prayed over a new building they are constructing to send our more missionaries. Wonderful conference—very dedicated people and base.

I really enjoyed various meetings with the Twin Oaks leaders before the sessions, praying together and talking about the state of the world and what God is saying to us. I really feel a part of this group and look forward to returning more frequently. I believe God used this weekend to renew a solid partnership between us.

Leland is a key YWAM leader in my life and I am grateful for his trust in my gifts and calling. I hope I gave something back this weekend. It was my privilege to minister among them. It was good to see Steve and Bronwyn Niles at the conference. Bronwyn has always been a special prophetess to me, and after I returned from my time in Texas, she sent me this prophetic word:

“Son the mantle of authority is upon you; arise and behold God is doing a new thing arise and behold. *Know the living God has called you for such a time as this.* As you speak with authority, God will mend the fold. The authority of God is upon you. Know that changes are coming on every side. The changes will come on every side. Know the authority of God is upon you and you will know the clear direction of God is coming to mend and make whole. With wisdom you will speak. With counsel you will speak.

“With the favor of God upon you, you will know that the direction of God has come to mend and make whole. The former years are gone, and God will arise, God will arise in the Nations. God will arise. The former years are gone from you. The days of hope and peace are coming to you. The former years are over, and God is setting you free with the mantle of God’s

authority all upon you as you speak. Think it not small what God will do for you. Think it is the dawning of a new day for you.”

I am greatly humbled by this word. Lord, may I be worthy of your calling.

## Dallas, Texas

Mark took me back into Dallas on Monday and I shared a good lunch with Wick Nease. What a tremendous vision he carries for the orphans of the world. Wick then took me to **Uncle Jack and Aunt Verla's** new home on the outskirts of Denton. In the evening, we got together with my cousin Barb and her husband Nick, and three beautiful children Alex, Andrew and Aanalise.

Was good to share and pray with them—and encourage them in their faith. This part of the Boehme family is financially successful and living the busy American life—but they are also growing in their faith. Barb and Nick attend Gateway Church which has four campuses and 25, 000 members. Some of the Dallas Cowboys including Coach Jason Garrett and tight end Jason Whitten are members. God is working in their lives.

Then I flew home after a hectic but fruitful visit to Texas. A day later, Shirley and I flew to Los Angeles for our annual visit with our boys.

## Los Angeles, California

*September 26, 2011- 21,037 – 9,713*

**I really enjoyed ministering at The Church on the Way this past Sunday.** It was memorable in many ways. **First, it was the first time I have ever done four consecutive services on a Sunday morning.** Made me realize the incredible pressure and fatigue that mega-church pastors face. There were a thousand or two in each service and they were a wonderful group. Though my vocal cords had been sore this week, God really helped give me a voice for the messages and they were well accepted. **Hundreds came to the altar every service to commit to becoming a part of the Fourth Wave.**

**In between services, they escorted me out to a courtyard area where I spent every minute between services signing books and chatting with people.** It was a great, but tiring experience. **All in all, we distributed nearly 200 books.** When I finished signing, I would

head back to the next service and preach my heart out. I was at the church from 7 am to 4:30pm—without a break.

Praise the Lord for Pastor Jim Tolle and the many wonderful folks at TCOTW. Now Shirley and I are enjoying a stay with our kids and a little holiday together. Thank you, Jesus, for both the privilege of ministry and family. I am indeed a blessed man.

Shirley and I celebrated our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary this past weekend, and it was a very sweet time indeed. We shared a very precious and tender weekend together including mind-blowing sexual intimacy (at our age), some very deep and meaningful expressions of love and fidelity to each other. We enjoyed some wonderful walks, arm in arm and side by side, and enjoyed some great prayer times together.

We both want the next 35 years of our marriage to be the best yet. I believe they will. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for the power of your love. We give you all the credit for what you are doing in our lives and marriage. Continue your work in grace and truth.

## Washington, D.C.

*October 12, 2011 – 21, 053 - 9,697*

I am enjoying being back in Washington, D.C. for board meetings with the National Association of Evangelicals and some YWAM meetings. I thank Rob Schenck and the Faith in Action Network for allowing me to stay at their condo behind the Supreme Court. It's a great location to take in all the meetings.

As I walked toward the east city of the Capitol Dome, I was reminded that this is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of when I left D.C. A quarter of a century has come and gone. God has been faithful. I am back in the capital city, much wiser, older, and desirous of being a voice and active participant in the renewal of our nation. It was a special moment of revelation.

Our NAE meetings began in a very special place this morning—on the floor of the US House of representatives. Congressman Randy Forbes of Virginia hosted us there and briefed us on his efforts to preserve religious liberty around the nation—especially through the activities of his Congressional Prayer Caucus which now has over one hundred members—making it one of the largest in DC. Over the Speaker's seat are emblazoned the words of our true national motto: "In God We Trust." Opposite those words is the only full face of the world's great lawgivers—Moses—looking at the motto. My heart was encouraged that our nation can be brought back to its rich faith in God.

During the day, we hosted some stirring speakers. They included Mark Regnerus who gave an enlightening talk on American sexuality. Chuck Stetson who is the CEO of *Let's Strengthen Marriage* coalition and budget guru Paul Ryan who spoke with real authority on poverty in America and what we can do about it. I was really impressed with Ryan. He understands what ails America and what we must do to save our nation.

While we were in our main meeting, twelve of our number met personally for 25 minutes with President Obama. They later reported that it was a good meeting. They talked about religious liberty, the Iranian pastor facing execution in Iran, immigration, and other issues. The only one on which they seemed to disagree was the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). Many of our members like the president though we disagree on some big issues.

These NAE meetings were sprinkled with some very good times of prayer—something that Galen Carey has encouraged. We dropped our heads around the tables and really interceded for the church and for our nation. **Seems to be a wind of renewal in our midst. Praise the Lord.** My Blackberry chose to die during these days in DC and I was forced to get a new phone—my first touch screen that is an Android HTC Amaze. There is much to learn about it, but I am enjoying the upgrade.

On Friday I enjoyed some good hours with Jason Hershey and his family. He's our great new, young, fired up YWAM leader in the city. We went out to his new home in Anacostia and had a great prayer time there after lunch. Then we met briefly with Terry Mullen of Kids Connection whom I met in '96 when we brought our King's Kids teams to the city. Jason is praying about partnering with Terry as her Gate Post Center in downtown Anacostia. I believe it is a good partnership.

In the evening I took a very good prayer walk around the US Capitol. After days of rain, it was a beautiful evening—and God really spoke to me about many things:

1. I look forward to bringing Jason back with next May for the NDP and spend time with Jon Cresswell. This will be our “senior trip” together.
2. I would like to launch a “Discipleship Group” with Jason and his friends after the New Year. It will be a way to impart my life to Jason and his friends and help them become passionate disciples.
3. I will not take a team to Mongolia next summer—either go alone or take Jason.
4. I should focus our 2012 Banquet on the 2012 Election and “Reviving America.” This is such an important year in American history. I could possibly have Rob Schenck, Jason Hershey and myself speak. Focus on the need for desperate prayer and repentance.
5. We should move toward the **24-7 Prayer room this year and have it up and running at least for 40 days prior to the election.** I am excited about this 2012 focus. I need to pray

more about how God would want to use me in 2012 to point our nation back to the ways of Jesus.

6. Maybe we should continue to do annual banquets to pay off the Dullum House. I must seek the Lord in prayer about this.

This has been a wonderful time in the nation's capital. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for your calling, the great opportunities that you constantly give, and the hope that is found in you alone. I love you very much and dedicate my life to your service. You alone are worthy of my heart and affection.

## **Port Orchard, Washington**

November 13, 2011 – 21, 085 – 9,665

I have continued to speak on *The Fourth Wave* every Sunday of the past month. That's included Faith Fellowship in Silverdale, St. Charles Anglican in Poulsbo, and North Bend Community Church last Sunday. It was great to have Shirley along with me on that trip. After a good service we went out to a very nice Thai restaurant in town. It was great to be with her in ministry again.

I am now in Puerto Rico once again to keep "making disciples." This that is the heart of the Good News, then I am right in the center of God's will. I spoke this morning at Iglesia Christiano Immanuel—my friend Pastor Nelson's Church—and had a great response to *The Fourth Wave*.

May God continue to call millions into his Kingdom enterprise.

## **Juncos, Puerto Rico**

November 21, 2011 – 21,093 – 9657

I believe I have been living the command to "make disciples of all nations." When I teach and preach around the world—such as in Puerto Rico—I am helping to make the next generation of disciples who in turn will disciple others. I want to be true to this biblical assignment for the rest of my life. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for the privilege.

As usual, my time in Puerto Rico has been rich and fulfilling. I really enjoyed my week with the 22 students in the DTS. I found them passionate and curious—and this makes for a great

combination for growth. They responded well all week to my “Character” teaching and in the evenings, when I spoke on revival, we had some very powerful prayer times.

This evening I spoke on El Secreto de Felicidad, many students indicated that God really touched their lives and set them free to die to self. This morning before I left, two of the students came to my room and sang a song they had written about the experience. I cried as I realized how God had touched their lives.

On Thursday night, Yarley and I spoke in a church where YWAM had never been. God helped both of us to challenge them to rise to the vision of the 4/14 Window and participate in the Fourth Wave. On Sunday I spoke at the church in Humacao where Larry Centeno is a member. The two services were blessed by many people coming forward to commit to joining the Fourth Wave. On Saturday night, I gave the message to the entire YWAM base and it was taped for distribution across Latin America. They are the Fourth Wave.

I also enjoyed staying again in the “hacienda” with Dean Harvey who is now 82 years old. On Sunday night the staff and students through a surprise party for Dean in honor of his recent honorary doctorate (bestowed in California). Honor is such a God thing. Now I am on my way back to Port Orchard for a week that includes Thanksgiving. Then off one more time this year to Colombia to “make some more disciples.”

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for the privilege of serving in your great and wonderful Kingdom. You are a magnificent Creator and Savior whom I love and adore. To be faithful to You! That is the desire of my heart. May you be pleased by my commitment and glorified through my life.

## **Bogota & Ibague, Colombia**

*December 3, 2011 – 21,105 – 9,645*

I am flying home from the nation of Colombia where I’ve had a wonderful time speaking at a YWAM national staff conference. This was my first time to Colombia, and I hope it’s not my last.

I arrived in Bogota a week ago and stayed in a hotel in the center of the city. Bogota is located a mile and a half above sea level in the center of the nation and is surrounded by mountains with a temperate climate. Seven million people live here

seeking to improve their lives. The city is very Latin, but I also noticed the signs of American civilization—a McDonalds across the street and Home Depot next to my hotel.

On Sunday I spoke in two services at a charismatic church in the city pastored by Hector Pardo, a man who helped found YWAM in the country. My message on The Fourth Wave was well received by the six hundred or so people. They even bought some books in English.

On Monday, Ricardo Rodriguez (one of our pioneer leaders) and I took a small bus and traveled 4-5 hours out of the mountains and onto the western plain where it is tropical and warm. For the remainder of the week I taught at the national staff conference in Ibagué—a very nice resort called Tierra Caliente (Warm land). We had nice accommodations, a large pool, complete with water slides, and many other recreational areas. Even had a pen with alligators. It is a beautiful area.

I struggled with my voice for much of the week, though as I was finishing, it got a little better. But then I tweaked my back. Getting older is more perseverance—so I prayed daily and asked God to help me with my infirmities. The staff were hungry for the word of God. I spoke much about discipleship in the spheres and life and God gave me many new insights on this vital topic for Latin America. Of course, I ended with the message on the Fourth Wave which was enthusiastically received. Latins know this is their moment.

The week was filled with good teaching, conversations, excellent Colombian food, and the blessing of God. After the conference ended, I took a small bus with Markus Buser (our Swiss national leader) back to Bogota. He showed me around the capital city and then took me to the airport.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for another wonderful assignment in your cause of the Great Commission. May you use the Colombians to reach whole nations with your Good News. Help them make many disciples and disciple the nations. You are worthy of their love and their lives.

## **Port Orchard, Washington**

December 23, 2011 – 21,125 – 9,625

So far this has not been the easiest Christmas season. When I returned home from Colombia, my throat and overall voice box was sore due to the past months and weeks of public speaking. I expected it to settle down in a week or so and return to normal. That hasn't happened—and I find myself back in the fear and wonderment of 1994-2001 when my throat



was a serious problem that affected my life and ministry. Right now, it appears that that problem has returned. I don't know what to do but to trust God as I did then.

It hasn't been easy. It's now been nearly a month since I got off the speaking circuit. It's true that I probably used my vocal cords in ways I shouldn't have. Especially in Colombia, the pain was developing, and a hoarseness was setting in, but I said to myself I could simply overcome with perseverance and Tylenol—and by God's grace—I did.

But now I'm suffering for it and the end is not in sight. Yesterday I began to search for medical help—but it will take a while and I don't know where it will lead. Lord Jesus –I desperately need your light and your courage. “What I feared has come upon me.” I am back to the agonizing pain of a decade ago, and this time there is no cyst in my jaw. Please show me what to do and how you want me to trust you.

And then this week my dad went down with a bad bout of asthma and bronchitis. It took him to the hospital where they administered massive doses of steroids and other medicines. As I watched his aged and labored breathing on Monday afternoon, I wondered if we were going to lose him. I sat for hours just looking at him, going through the precious memories of our 58 years together, praying for God to either “heal him or quietly take him home.” As of today, the healing prayer is being answered and he is much better. He may make it home by Christmas.

But my throat is still in pain and not normal. I don't know how to plan the coming weeks or months or how to even survive as a ministry if I can't use my voice without pain. I can't speak on the Fourth Wave. I can't make phone calls for a banquet. I can't teach in various venues in the Body of Christ. I can't inaugurate any of the plans that I felt God had given for 2012.

But I refuse to live by *can't*.

Jesus CAN.

I am waiting upon you my Lord and Master. I am willing to do anything—and preparing for all scenarios.

The main one is this: I want to glorify your Name in 2012. Please show me how to proceed.