

The Journal of Ron Boehme - 2015

Port Orchard, Washington

January 2, 2015 - 22,360 - 8.551

I am not only beginning a new year in 2015 but I also believe a new era or time in my life.

That is partly due to my age--reaching 62 this year and even becoming a part of Social Security (yikes!), but especially because of the big changes coming and my new involvement with Faith Seminary in Tacoma.

When God closes a door, he always opens a window.

The YWAM door is not completely losing, but it is changing as we desire to grow from 25,000 fulltime workers to 200,000 workers in the next few years as a reinigorated movement. I am grateful for the growth but realize it will mean a changing of role from YWAM Northwest District Leader to Northwest Elder.

Here is how I put it in my Northwest Leader Letter for January:

"In the coming years, *God wants to grow from 25,000 fulltime staff to over 200,000--a ten-fold increase.* To do that, we have enlarged our grid of the world from 27 areas to 74 and want to multiply into the regions of the earth where we have the least presence. Most of that will take place in the 10/40 Window among the vast Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, and Communist (China) populations where millions still need to hear the Good News. We are becoming more "family-like" with a dropping of international titles and positions to take off like a shooting star committed to completing the Great Commission. What's your part?"

I am committed to serve that multiplication here in the Northwest to the ends of the earth. That means 1) Going on circuit to the six states to teach and encourage as many of you as desire, 2) Serving on many boards, 3) Being a communication point for you as leaders through e-mail and otherwise, 4) Praying for you specifically and regularly, and 5) Helping to convene some meetings in our area that stimulate growth.

God reminded me at the end of last year through looking back at my 1974 journal that 2014 was going to another year of "preparation" for the future. Lord Jesus, I accept that assignment and greatly look forward to your leading every day of my life.

Chico, California

January 19, 2015 - 22,377 - 8,534

Just returned from the first West North American YWAM Leaders meeting in Chico, CA. I flew into Sacramento and met up with Kevin Cooley, the leader of the Meeteetse, Wyoming base, and we drove north to the Richardson Springs campus where I have not been for many years.

As always, it was good to be with YWAM friends and cohorts old and new. We stayed in the main building and had sessions each day in the auditorium talking over and praying over God's words to us to multiply. Worship was great--fellowship at the tables was good--I enjoyed my morning walks and prayer times in the northern CA terrain, and the physical and spiritual food was very satisfying.

It was a rustic living situation. I shared a room with two other friends who showed and stayed up late and we didn't even have a shower. Had to take sponge baths in a fifty-year-old tub on my hands and knees and most mornings the water was cold. It was a harder experience than being in Mongolia. But I survived and was blessed.

The only other inconvenience was the lack of Internet service, so some days I had to drive out the long driveway toward Chico just to get a signal. Was worse than being in Africa. Must be God's sense of humor.

I am excited about YWAM future but am a little concerned about how it is being presented and what it may entail. In fact, I really took issue with a statement by John Dawson that YWAM's becoming more administrative and adopting best business practices in the 1980s and 90s was not just a course correction but "deception" that we were involved in as a mission.

In one public meeting I challenged that notion and other words we were using that did not seem to carry the humility and wisdom that they ought. John stood up and publicly disagreed with me in the meeting, but I stood my ground and felt I was obedient to share the perspective that I did.

In the end, we all came together, accepted the changes of all our middle management leaders stepping down, and asked God to lead us into the future that only He knows.

March 15, 2015 - 22,431 - 8,480

This has been a longer stretch than normal for me at home. The highlights are many.

I have had many discipling appointments with friends, people, and students. It looks like in this last section of life for me, God wants me to increase giving the personal aspect of my life (pastoral?) away to others--not as publicly as in the past.

I have settled into my first non-YWAM office at Faith Seminary. I am starting to go over there about two days a week and beginning to feel at home and a part of a new dimension in my life. I'm deeply grateful for God opening this "window" as the door of YWAM has been closing a bit (change of my role from NW director to elder).

We are enjoying a very warm winter--one of the nicest in our history.

I taught at a weekend seminar with the leadership and church of Calvary Chapel in Bothell. God really blessed the time and they blessed me financially.

It was wonderful to have lunch with my old high school friend, David Saavedra. God has really blessed him in his state appraiser role--dealing with companies with 20-billion-dollar assets. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for bringing David into my life.

I finished the Greenhouse--continuing to prepare our "place of refuge."

Today the Lord spoke to me out of Deuteronomy 13: 4 about the essentials of walking with God: "Follow," Fear, " Obey," "Listen," Serve," and "Cling."

What a phenomenal recipe for the God-centered life. That's the only place I want to live.

Boise and Cascade, Idaho

April 16, 2015 - 22,463 – 8,448

Just returned from a week's trip to YWAM Cascade to speak at their ACTS program (Apostolic Catalyst Training School). Marty Meyer is one of my closest YWAM friends now in the Northwest area and I greatly appreciate his trust and confidence.

On the way in I stopped by to see Kevin and Marcia Hestead who have just moved to Boise. They are still in transition with Kevin without a paying job but enjoying working with Real Life Church in the area. I enjoyed a lunch at the church office then a nice afternoon with the Hesteads. Finished the time by praying for them--that God would open amazing doors for them in this season in their lives.

Then I drove my first "Cadillac" up to the YWAM base where I spoke at the Depot for four days and counseled many staff and students in Between. I enjoyed once again staying with Steve and Leslie Herzog at in their nice hospitality apartment. It is one of my favorite traveling digs. I focused the week on Destiny, Servant Leadership, the Pitfalls of Pioneering, and the Fourth Wave.

Great time. Great young disciples. It is a privilege to continue to train them.

Washington, D.C.

May 11, 2015 - 22,488 – 8,423

I just returned from the National Day of Prayer week in Washington, D.C.--always a highlight of the year to me. I began the week by speaking at The King's Chapel on "Living a Missional Life" (good response), then spent the afternoon with Inece Bryant's family and Cresswells in the evening. Good friendships pass the test of time.

On Monday I had the privilege of meeting with Doug Coe at the Cedars. I hadn't seen him in quite a long time and he's definitely aged at 86. He's a very unusual world leader. Many of his comments about the church, Christianity and an assortment of other pet peeves seemed almost off-the-wall--but I know where he's coming from. I spoke to him about possible working more closely with the Fellowship and got some contacts for Mongolia. According to some, he led the first Mongolian to Christ in 1986.

Regardless of the unique focus of the Fellowship, I highly respect Doug and how he has influenced the world for Christ. God uses all kinds--that is for sure.

Tuesday was spent with Jason Hershey which included a tour of Gallaudet University where we now have a YWAM house devoted to reaching the deaf. In the evening I spoke to their staff and had a good time with them all. Wednesday was devoted to National Prayer Committee meetings and then the NDP reception at the Shoreham.

Richmond, Virginia

On Friday I drove down to Richmond to speak to the base, stay overnight, and then drive back to Reagan airport to fly home on Saturday.

From my recent blog, I'll share the main aspect of the National Day of Prayer activities.

Last week across America 43,000 prayer gatherings of many shapes and sizes took place on the National Day of Prayer (NDP).

Washington, D.C.

I was in Washington, D.C. for the events--the 64th consecutive National Day of Prayer and 27th since the NDP was established by Congress and signed by President Reagan as the first Thursday in May. The United States is the only nation in the world that has an annual National Day of Prayer.

That's inspiring.

But America is in grave trouble--spiritually, morally, economically, and internationally. And this week Pew Research announced that for the first time in the history of the United States, people professing to be "Christian" is less than 75% (an 8 point drop in eight years) and those calling themselves "Unaffiliated" (atheists, agnostics, and nones) is above 20% (a seven point rise).

That's sobering.

So which way is it, America?

My housing in DC was directly across the street from the Supreme Court, who, in June, will rule on the constitutionality of homosexual marriage. A friend of mine who knows the justices intimately was walking with me one day behind the Supreme Court building. He pointed up to two windows above us where he said there was a conference room where the nine justices cast their votes on the various cases and assign the writing of the rulings.

"Ron," he lamented. "I believe that [the same-sex marriage] decision has already been made behind those windows above us. I believe that our prayers could still change hearts, but in all likelihood, the die has already been cast."

(The picture above I took with my phone on May 7. You can see four windows in the main building with the columns. The top two windows contain the conference room we're talking about.)

Later that day, we prayed with a small group of leaders on the steps of the Supreme Court. That requires a special permit because they don't want crowds getting close to our temple of justice. Kind of symbolic of the unusual power these justices now wield to dictate matters of life and death and even human sexuality upon the American people--without their consent.

From 9am to 1 pm the main gathering of the National Day of Prayer took place in the ornate Caucus Room of the Cannon Office Building. About three hundred were in attendance under the 2015 theme "Lord, Hear our Cry."

Here are some of the highlights:

Rabbi Daniel Lapin called the people of God in America to "build an Ark of deliverance" through our prayers and actions. The shofar was blown, and another Messianic rabbi declared that God had "heard the prayers of His people."

Judge Robert Rigsby shared his incredible story of conversion and service for God within the military courts of America. *We prayed with passion for the judiciary.*

Congressman Louie Gohmert spoke on behalf of the legislative branch of government. Over 100 congressmen and women are a part of a "Congressional Prayer Caucus" that regularly seeks for God's wisdom and leadership. But Congress is divided, and divine intervention is necessary. *We prayed with great burden for the legislative branch.*

For the seventh year in a row, the executive branch (the Obama White House) declined to participate in the national event. President Obama issued a proclamation, as did the governors of all fifty states, but he declined to have a prayer meeting at the White House or send a representative to the Cannon event. He is the first president in our history to not participate. *We got down on our knees on the floor and prayed for a move of God in the current Administration.*

Dr. Ben Carson, the former John Hopkins neurosurgeon who is now running for president, was one of the highlights of the day. He shared his gripping story about coming to faith through the perseverance of his inner-city Detroit single mom. He admonished the audience that "the baton of freedom is now in our hands." Will we use it to see a spiritual re-birth in the United States?

Dr. Jack Graham, pastor of a 40,000-member Southern Baptist church in Plano, Texas, was this year's honorary chairman of the NDP. He said that this was a time for "crying before God:" 1) A Humble Cry - as we repent of our personal and national pride, 2) A Fervent Cry - for revival in our nation, 3) A Holy Cry - as we repent of our own sins and get right with God, and 4) A Hopeful Cry - that God will hear us, forgive our sins and heal our land. He encouraged all in attendance to "be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

One of the highlights of this gathering each year is hearing from Dr. James Dobson, founder of *Focus on the Family* and now head of *Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk*. I've known Dr. Dobson for about 25 years. His wife, Shirley, has been the national chair of the NDP Task Force for the past twenty-four years--an incredible run of faithful service to the national prayer movement.

I have never heard Dr. Dobson so concerned and burdened for America. It is from his remarks that the word "sobering" was lodged in my being. These are serious times where the Church both needs to repent and prepare for what might lie ahead.

Pierre Bynum, a prayer leader at *Family Research Council (FRC)*, described Dr. Dobson's words this way:

"At NDP, Dr. James Dobson warned of the consequences of a bad Supreme Court ruling on marriage. FRC, too, has repeatedly warned that such would signal the end of religious liberty in America. Faithful Christians will be targeted for punishment by homosexual activists in and outside government, as they were in Indiana."

"Ministries that take a public stand for biblical and scientific truth about marriage and human sexuality will be priority targets. Christian photographers, bakers, florists, wedding planners, wedding chapels, Knights of Columbus Halls, private wedding vendors and churches that rent out their facilities for weddings will face demands to facilitate homosexual weddings."

"If they refuse, they will face not just pressure, but government investigations and discrimination lawsuits. States need quickly to pass bills like one now being considered in Louisiana, which specifically protects businesspeople from activists who seek to punish believers with discrimination charges. But the problems do not end there. That is only the beginning."

Sobering words. The group once again went to its knees to call out to God in prayer.

Later in the day, believers gathered on the west lawn of the Capitol for the capital region celebration of the National Day of Prayer. In light of the racial tensions in America, and especially the riots and looting that recently took place in Baltimore, a city just sixty miles to the north, this gathering was a breath of fresh air that God is looking to his people to bring back his blessing to the United States.

Inspiring!

Here again are highlights:

- Pastors and spiritual leaders of every color imaginable joined hearts and hands and cried out to God to heal the people of America across racial and economic lines.
- Worship ascended to heaven from a beautiful rainbow coalition of people that were a glimpse of that heavenly choir "from every kindred, tribe, people and tongue" (Revelation 5:9).
- Many people wept over the sins of the nation and asked God to give us a spirit of repentance and change--beginning with the people of God.
- Dr. Jack Graham led the gathering in praying to God to rend the heavens and rain down on our citizens a spirit of reconciliation, forgiveness, humility, and appreciation of our differences.
- Senate Chaplain Barry Black prayed that God would heal the wounds of the nation through our prayers, tears, love, and renewed covenant with each other. He said, "In these days we need to make prayer as normal as breathing."
- Scores of Christian leaders prayed over and commissioned the younger generation to pick up the torch of renewal and restoration in the inner cities of our country.
- African-American co-chairs of the event, Dr. Corinthia Boone and Dr. David Anderson, encouraged the crowd throughout the three hour prayer meeting to passionately walk with

God, to love one another, and demonstrate to the world that only God's power in His people can turn the tide of poverty, division, and despair.

At the conclusion, the hundreds of people in attendance, from all across the racial, political and economic spectrums of the nation, joined their voices as one to invite the Holy Spirit to "bind us together with cords that cannot be broken."

Here's the dichotomy:

Inspiring - God's people coming together across ethnic, political and denominational lines to repent, pray, worship, love one another, and evangelize the lost.

Sobering - our rebellion against God, national moral decline international weakness, and need for repentance in the American Church.

So which way is it, America?

Only time will tell.

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

June 15, 2015 - 22,523 – 8,388

I have a few days left on my Mongolia 2015 trip but want to take a few minutes to share the blessings of the past week. **I have been coming to Mongolia for eighteen years now, and God continues to do a good work here, both in elevating and changing the nation and growing his Kingdom through His Church.**

Had a decent flight on Hainan Air through Beijing. They are not as first class as Korean Air, but a little cheaper. I flew into one Beijing airport and had to take a ten-minute bus ride to the other airport where I caught a Miat flight to Ulaanbaatar. (I think I will go back to Korean Air.) Sodoo met me at the airport and took me back to the apartment that we have helped him rent for his family. It is an old Russian building right on Peace Avenue in a good part of town. They are on the 6th floor which is a flight of about 120 steps. Kind of takes the wind out of the old man!

Enushka gave me her room to stay in—and on the door was a wonderful colored picture welcoming me to UB. The next day I returned the favor of the room and went out with them and bought her a new mattress for her bed—it was like sleeping on cement. So that has been a blessing to me and will be to her. **Also gave the Go Pro camera to the camp team and they were elated! May God use it in their Kingdom work.**

On Thursday, I met with Larry Centeno who also came in from the Philippines for the week. He is doing a great job of church planting there. He is in Mongolia to recruit churches for his denomination—the Pentecostal Church of God. We had a great time together. I also met his assistant, a young man named Jay R who works with him in Naga City. Great young saint.

Another arrival for this week was the Young for Christ leader from Kyrgyzstan named Manas. He stayed with us for about five days and I got to know him well. He's a gentle giant that is doing a good work among the youth of his nation. He and Sodoo are very good friends.

We all arrived at the Korean Camp together on Friday morning and dove right into the 2015 Mongolia Gateway. There were about 200 young people here from five different aimags around Mongolia. The first morning I spoke on God's father heart for them in the opening plenary session, and then in the afternoon I did three successive workshops on "Preparing for Ministry." That format worked out very well—and I really enjoyed the workshop time. More personal and the kids could ask questions.

On Saturday morning I spoke to the entire group again on "God's Kingdom is a Family" from Ephesians 3:14-21 and Hebrews 12:28, 29. It was also well received. Then three more workshops in the afternoons and rest in our "ger" between times. The Mongol youth are very passionate about their faith and I really enjoy the worship times, personal chats through translators and just being among them.

Then Saturday night late, the unexpected happened. I got sick in the middle of the night (the runs) and didn't know what to do. I haven't gotten sick in Mongolia for probably ten years, so it was unexpected. Guess the Pepto Bismal couldn't knock out this one.

I was in my bed in the ger and realized that I was leaking into my shorts. It was dark, I had no way to put in my contacts, and so I gingerly got out of bed and blindly walked down the slope to the closest outhouse. When I got there, I kind of missed the hole as everything let loose and it was a midnight mess. After trying to clean it up as best I could, I trudged back to bed and tried to wait out the night. It wasn't easy.

The next day was hard as I didn't feel well all day. I rested as much as I could in the morning and went on a liquid fast to try and get the bad stuff out of me. In the afternoon, was a real highlight (though I was kind of weak and tired). We all went down to the Tuul River and while the group sang and prayed, we baptized fifty of the new believers! It was a magnificent sight. I gave the blessing over them in English, Sodoo would do it in Mongolia, then they were dunked beneath the water about six at a time.

This is a memory I will always treasure (and captured on video on my phone).

In the final evening session, I spoke to them all about rising to their destiny out of Titus 2:11-15. Then we commissioned them, I signed two hundred of my books and my gave them out

as gifts, and had a glorious time of worship and praise. After that, the camp had a talent show then worshipped all night until 4 am! God is raising up a new generation in Mongolia to love and follow him.

After the camp, we returned to the apartment in Ulaanbaatar to rest for a day, then meet with different people and friends. This has not been an easy trip to Mongolia. I am getting older and I probably need to take shorter trips to this part of the world and take care of my health. But it has been wonderful to again be a small part of discipling the Mongol Church and I am excited about their future.

Port Orchard, Washington

June 26, 2015 - 22,534 – 8,377

Today the US Supreme Court handed down the second worst decision of my lifetime--legalizing same sex marriage in all fifty states. I'm broken, depressed, yet lifting my eyes up to heaven.

Here is the article I wrote in response to the landmark decision. May God help us.

The Real Meaning of Changing the Definition of Marriage

It was both interesting and agonizing to watch the legal collapse of American morals and marriage from thousands of miles away--in Asia.

I was in Mongolia and then China when the US Supreme Court changed the five thousand-year definition of marriage through *Obergefell vs. Hodges*. Both Asian nations are "rising" countries where the Good News of Christ is bringing increased morality and positive changes to many peoples' lives.

But America--my home nation--is a "falling" nation where the current rejection of our Christian heritage is breath-taking and is bringing about the demise of a once great nation.

While in Asia, I pondered the consequences of what is taking place in the United States. Here is the real meaning of changing the definition of marriage.

1. *The world has changed--not to be legally renewed in my lifetime.*

Changing the definition of marriage in the world's only superpower will cause a flood of nations to follow suit in the coming years--causing the Western world to release its moorings from the Judeo-Christian traditions that made it great and prosperous. The world will dramatically change as a result by decreasing and hurting children and tearing apart the family fabric.

It's already been fraying due to easy divorce, co-habitation, and dead-beat dads--but this could be the death-knell. And because SCOTUS wrongly legislated a "right" to same-sex marriage in the Constitution, this means that only a Constitutional Amendment (CA) can change that.

CA's are rare. It is not likely that this decision will be reversed in my lifetime, if ever. Marriage may never be the same again on planet earth until Jesus returns to make all things new.

2. *Secularism has triumphed (for the present time) in American culture.*

As I pointed out in my 1989 book *Leadership for the 21st Century: Changing Nations Through the Power of Serving*, there are three worldviews that are battling for supremacy in the 21st century. The first is the biblical faith which is multiplying via loving persuasion in South America, Africa, and Asia, but receding in the West.

The second is radical Islam which is terrorizing the world of the Middle East, North Africa and across Central Asia--trying to establish a regional or global caliphate.

The third is secularism or atheism which controls China, North Korea and Cuba via communism and many Western nations by way of secular philosophy. Atheism uses education, the media, and the power of government (especially the courts) to champion its man-centered ideas of hedonism.

The rejection of biblical, covenant marriage in the USA is a huge victory for the secular cause. The war of values will continue, but it is uphill now for people of faith.

3. *Cultural Christianity is dead in the urban cities and rural America will be forced to follow.*

Though the nation is divided over the marriage issue, and the Supreme Court decided the issue prematurely via judicial fiat, the fact that marriage was altered in thirteen states and then rammed through the courts indicates that the Christian consensus on basic moral issues is a thing of the past. Our heritage of Christian truth is no longer strong enough to stop the tide of sin.

This is especially true in our cities--urban areas--which have gone secular in the past few decades. Cultural Christianity is no longer dominant by legacy or default. In many of the southern states, cultural faith is still the norm in many aspects of society, but the SCOTUS decision will force them to change. The North has defeated the South again--and this time in the battle of family morality.

The one area of the country that has been a restraint on ungodly behavior (the Southern States) will now be forced to accept the way of the world.

4. *This was never about marriage, but the degrading and destroying of the image of Christ.*

If we think the *Obergefell v. Hodges* decision was simply about marriage, our view is too narrow. No, it was the next battle in a long string of conflicts designed to degrade and destroy Christianity in American life. This is a culture war with many fronts: right to life, human sexuality, prayer in schools, Ten Commandments, the war on Christmas, morality on television and in the movies, and now marriage.

As Franklin Graham said recently, "All the things of God are under attack." That's true because the architect behind the degrading and destroying of biblical faith is not a human being or movement--but the Devil himself.

In America, that means we are battling for the future of 320 million people.

5. *President Obama's "transformation of America" is now complete.*

President Obama did a major victory lap after the Supreme Court decision, and even illuminated the White House with the colors of the rainbow. This is because, whatever the motivation, his stated goal of "transforming America" is nearing completion. It contains three main elements:

- Economy - putting the USA on a pathway to socialism (especially through the Affordable Care Act).
- Military - downgrading America influence in the world and weakening the military.
- Social - destruction of Christian morals (immigration, drug laws, right to life, sanctity of marriage, etc.)

6. *Persecution of Christians has arrived on our shores. First silencing then sentencing.*

It is notable that even a secular progressive, Kirsten Powers, a columnist for both *USA Today* and the *Daily Beast*, has recently written a book on how the secular left wants to silence all faith-based speech in our nation. In *The Silencing: How The Left is Killing Free Speech*, Powers details not only how secular-progressives aim to win the war of ideas, but are committed to completely silencing anyone that disagrees.

Guess where that strategy comes from? It's not Hollywood, but from the darker forces behind the human voices.

Because of the Satanic relationship to atheism, there is no interest in a marketplace of ideas. Just like the political arm of communism, secularists want a monopoly on speech and ideas. Increasingly, the voices of the Church and Scripture will be shouted down and removed.

After the SCOTUS decision, some newspapers announced they will no longer publish articles in favor of traditional marriage. The silencing has begun. So has the persecution. Bakers, florists, and anyone else who will not participate in a same sex marriage will be made to pay for their faith.

The next battles will involve outright persecution of the Church over tax exempt laws, and many other issues. Are you ready to suffer and stand up for your beliefs?

7. *American exceptionalism is dead - now only a historical reality.*

What made the United States of America a unique and exceptional nation for two hundred years was the blessing and fruits of its unique Christian heritage and ideals. Faith powered morality. Morality gave birth to freedom and liberty. And liberty produced success, innovation, entrepreneurship, wealth, and many other blessings that came to us as a nation when we honored and followed God's ways.

Turning away from this exceptional faith and its fruits will bring exceptional *calamity* to a nation that was once "the light of the world."

As we become like other nations in turning away from God, we sabotage our unique leadership and role in the world. All that is left is the *history* of exceptionalism--not the practice.

8. *We are living in days parallel to Jeremiah - shallow revival then judgment.*

The prophet Jeremiah lived during a time of the decline of a nation. In his early years, he participated in a glorious religious revival under the leadership of the godly King Josiah (2 Chronicles 34). But that revival was shallow--and near the end of Jeremiah's life, the southern kingdom of Judah turned away from its God-given roots and was destroyed.

I participated in the last "American revival"--the Jesus Movement and charismatic renewal of the 1960s and 70s. It was wonderful and many lives were changed. But it also did not go deep enough to renew the biblical foundations of the American nation.

Will America experience the same fate of decline and judgment as experienced by the prophet Jeremiah?

9. *God's blessing is being removed from our nation - He is not answering our prayers.*

The Harbinger by Jonathan Cahn is a prophetic book that warns US citizens that God's blessing is being removed from this nation if we do not pray, repent, and return to the Lord.

Many people are praying. I have participated in many movements of prayer in the past few years. But God is not answering those prayers because we are not turning to Him in sufficient numbers to confess our sins, change our lives, and plead for the healing of our land (2 Chronicles 7:14).

10. *It is time to flee the public schools.*

This may seem extreme but changing the definition of marriage means that the secular indoctrination of the public schools will be acute during the coming years. Christian children will be persecuted, ridiculed, and labeled as bigots if they do not toe the new morality line.

It's time for the Church to evacuate the schools for private and home education where they can train their children in God's ways and not let them fall prey to a worldly system. Some will stay to shine the light. But most need to flee--for their own safety and salvation.

11. *This could be the Church's finest hour. We will find out who the real believers are.*

The great upside of our cultural demise is that God could use it to awaken the American Church to her finest hours of prayer, worship, evangelism, mercy and social impact. In the coming years, we will truly find out who the followers of Jesus really are. There will be no fence-sitting, no cultural Christianity.

Some may even die for their faith as they take a stand for Christ. This could be the time of America's greatest revival--as the people of God return to Him and become channels for his power in our backslidden land.

12. *The future is all about birthrates -- physical and spiritual.*

It is sunset in America at the present time--a time when life is ebbing. Same sex marriage will deflate both physical birthrates and spiritual ones and increase the looming darkness.

If America is to be revived again, then we must restore the American family through a love of children and a renewal of marriage and family--and we must evangelize the nation with many through spiritual births.

Is it sunset in America? Only God knows. The future is all about birthrates.

Which side will multiply the most?

July 1, 2015 - 22,539 – 8,372

I have finished my assignment in the nation of Mongolia and am on my way home—a couple hours to Beijing, an eight-hour layover, then eleven back across the Pacific. As always, I'm very grateful for my trip, want to apply all the lessons from it, will continue to pray for my friends and projects here, and go home with a sense of clear priorities for the coming months.

I spent some days with Zaya and others visiting properties around Ulaanbataar and talking about the possibility of buying a camp. One day we visited a new children's camp donated by a wealthy woman named Oyuna. It's called "Gift of Love" and is the most lavish kid's camp I've ever seen in my lie in any nation. Everything is first class (except the

landscaping—they still don't seem to have the vision for that here) and it reminded me of a camp for Richie Rich. But it was very self-sustaining (I really enjoyed their greenhouse). But I can't imagine building that type of camp here.

Another day we went out to a piece of land about thirty miles west of the city where Zaya said the local government will give us the deed to it. It's in a beautiful valley on a mountainside, though the terrain is fairly slanted. It contains about five hectares and Zaya said it was worth about \$500,000. I am open to helping with this project, but the big considerations are: 1) Can we raise at least 1-2 million dollars for its development, 2) How should own it? 3) Who should operate the ministries there? These are big questions in which I will pray in the coming weeks.

On another day, Zaya took me to see the National Kids Camp which is a large, beautiful property built by the Russians and now used for summer camps and international exchanges. It is quite a beautiful spread. But we can't reach for something that big—but could take some ideas from it.

Zaya is a great person, but she's very hard-driving and hard to read. At times she's soft and open and that we're on the same page spiritually regarding the use of a camp for the kids of Mongolia, but at other times she seems more government and culturally oriented—not putting Christ first—and possibility in this for herself and her own family. I don't trust her the same way I trust Sodoo and others.

Lord, please lead me forward in this matter. I only want to do your will.

Sunday, I preached at Sodoo's Living Word Church and prayed for many people after the service. That's the Mongolian way, and I enjoyed asking God for words for people. Jesus—fulfill them in your power and timing. Also spent an evening with YWAM UB and that was good.

This trip was the hardest one I have taken for a long time and from it come some insights:

- Because of my age, I need to take shorter trips in the future—ten days max and maybe closer to eight. Two and a half weeks is just too long to be on the road and away from Shirley.
- I maybe need to start staying in cheap hotels because living in Mongol apartments is not as easy as it used to be. Lord, guide me in this.
- Always take the Pepto-Bismal night and day. Don't think you can beat it yourself.
- Next month we will host Sodoo and Aldaraa in Port Orchard for a few days. I want to pray about turning over FCC support to them over the next few years.
- God's will for the camp. May we hear from heaven and be successful in his vision.

Port Orchard, Washington

July 26, 2015 - 22,564 – 8,347

It has been a busy but enjoyable month being home for the summer. We have had one of our hottest summers in memory with very little rain. And until last night when God gave us a good cloudburst, I don't think we've had precipitation since May. The grass is unusually dry, but we have also enjoyed the many days in the 80s and even some nineties.

I continue to go the seminary two days a week and have a few students during the summer quarter. I'm grateful that God has opened this door at Faith and believe that it is a nice addition to God's call on my life for this stage in my life.

Here are other highlights of the past few weeks:

Bothell, Washington

I spoke at Calvary Chapel in Bothell on the US Supreme Court decision on marriage. It was a sobering but hopeful message that was well received by Pastor Marty's congregation.

Puyallup, Washington

I had the privilege of teaching hundreds of young children at Bethany Baptist's VBS in Puyallup the week of July 13-17. This was an unusual five-day assignment at a large church that said they would take an offering for missions for us. That offering came to almost \$1000. It was a labor of love for Sodoo and team though I enjoyed the challenge of trying to make the Good News and missions interesting to the young ones.

Lynden, Washington

Went up to Lynden WA on July 19 for the Raspberry Festival and kick-off of YWAM Lynden. They did a great job of feeding dinner to 1600 people and putting up a stage for worship and a missions message from Loren Cunningham right under the windmill on Front Street. Jeremy and Gen Dorrough are good leaders and I believe this was an excellent launch of what will become an effective YWAM ministry.

Salem & Bend, Oregon

This week I travel to Salem for a board meeting, go down to Bend to see the new YWAM property there, and meet with Pastor Steve and Brady Cottle in Canby, OR. This is my summer "Oregon Trail" and I'm looking forward to God's blessing of friendship and ministry in every place.

Lord, help me to use my time wisely, to disciple those you've brought into my life, and to continue to finish strong in this season of my life. Thank you for your daily forgiveness and power which is the greatest part of my life and being. I love you and want to make you happy in everything that I do.

Port Orchard, Washington

August 16, 2015 - 22,585 – 8,326

Was a treat to have Sodoo and Aldaraa in our area for the first time August 7-9. They came to America for a conference at River of Life Chinese Church in Santa Clara, and we flew them up for a few days to deepen our relationships.

They spent the first few days in Port Hadlock with Ron and Ruth Berger who are pastoral types from Youth for Christ. Then my mom hosted them down here for us and we spent one day visiting Discovery Bay, having lunch with Dr. Adams and others at Faith Seminary, and doing a whirlwind tour of Seattle which included a ferry ride to downtown, Pike Place Market, going up in the Space Needle and finishing with dinner at Ivar's. They were blessed by it all, especially seeing the beauty of Seattle and the Pacific Northwest.

On Saturday we showed them around Port Orchard and had dinner together at Mom Boehme's. Sunday, Sodoo spoke for ten minutes at First Christian--which was a blessing. I am praying about turning over my church missions support to them, gradually, over the next few years. Monday morning, we sent them off to finish their trip in Kyrgyzstan before returning to Mongolia.

They are a worthy family to invest in for God's kingdom work.

As soon as they left, David arrived for his normal summer visit, which was also good.

September 20, 2015 - 22,620 - 8,291

We had somewhat of a record-breaking summer which was very warm and very nice. The garden grew fabulously, and Shirley and I really enjoyed picking lettuce and tomatoes every day for weeks and having fresh salads.

I have not traveled much during these months, but three things stand out during the early fall:

Lynden, Washington

I had the privilege of being the keynote speaker at YWAM Lynden's first-ever fund-raising banquet up near the Canadian border on September 11. We have a great team there led by Jeremy and Gen Dorrough who are being given great favor in the Dutch community. That night we raised \$75,000 for them to renovate a portion of the downtown mall (complete with a windmill!) for a brand new DTS. It was an honor to share God's vision in Lynden.

Tacoma, Washington

Faith Seminary Persecution by the Federal Government

After I completed a doctorate in Strategic Leadership from Faith Seminary in Tacoma, WA in 2012 they soon thereafter they asked me to help modernize and upgrade the missions classes there and do some adjunct teaching. I am currently doing a fall quarter class on *Reaching Unreached Peoples*. But Faith Seminary really needs your prayers. The federal government is persecuting Christian colleges right now (in fact, 47 of them around the nation are suing the current Administration), and just a few weeks ago the feds pulled the plug on our financial aid--throwing everything into chaos. It's blatant discrimination against the Christian faith

This is a difficult time at Faith where many aren't getting paid and we don't know what the future holds. I helped launched a Prayer Surge among staff and faculty to call upon God during this time of distress. What we really need to do is grow the college from 400 to 800 to step completely out from under the shadow of our anti-Christian government.

We also need a new president and Congress in 2016 which can put the government back on the side of the righteous. We are certainly praying for that.

Port Orchard, Washington

Fall Teaching Series

For ten weeks this fall, I'm teaching a class at First Christian Church on Sunday mornings to help disciple our folks and also put ten of the most important messages God has given me over the past forty years into a YouTube format. (The classes are being filmed by Northwest Productions-- Ron Finney.) It's also a way to preserve my legacy and continue to pass on truth

well after I'm no longer on earth. It will cost \$1200 to film, edit, and produce the ten hours of video (that is cheap by normal standards).

The older I get, the more I realize that **legacy is important**: To leave behind that which can multiply the cause of Christ and give Him glory.

This series is one step that direction.

Hood Canal, Washington

October 10, 2015 - 22, 640 - 8,291

Shirley and I just got back from our "annual" visit to Selah Inn-- this year celebrating our 39th year as a married couple. It was as low-key weekend of rest, meals out, time together and enjoying the exclusiveness of married love.

I'm very grateful that God brought Shirley and I together nearly four decades ago. She has many wonderful qualities that I have learned from--and I love her very much. Too people can be different yet blend those differences in Christ into something that makes each one of them more like Jesus.

Thank you, Lord, for my faithful and wonderful Shirley Jean. I don't take our love for granted but see it as one of the greatest gifts you have ever given to me.

November 19, 2015 - 22, 680 - 8,251

Been away from my journal for a biblical 40 days (and nights). Time to catch and share the highlights of God's constant work in my life:

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Enjoyed a good but quick trip to Minneapolis, MN October 14-16 where I attended my final National Association of Evangelicals meeting at Hosanna Church just south of the metroplex. My nine-year term is over, and I thank God for this privilege of working and serving with many national leaders.

This year's event focused on Christian persecution in the Middle East and the Christian response to gay marriage and its erosion of religious liberty. **I also drove over the YWAM Minneapolis in Rockford, spoke at their community night on the Fourth Wave**, and spent some good time with David Clark. Productive trip.

Port Orchard, Washington

My videoed teaching series at First Christian continues to go well, with the tenth class taking place this coming Sunday. It's an opportunity to put my most important messages on YouTube for a lasting legacy. I want to use all mediums possible to share the truths God has given me throughout my lifetime.

Faith Seminary is going through a very difficult stage due to persecution from the Federal Government that most certainly is an effect on the Obama Administration anti-Christian bias in our nation. It involved the Feds canceling our student aid program. I am leading a "Prayer Surge" at Faith to seek the Lord for favor and carry us into his future. The plan has been to multiply students through offering a "debt-free college tuition" for \$195 a quarter--and eventually be totally free of federal encroachment.

To do that, we need to grow the student body to about 800 students--and I want to do my part. I am feeling more and more at home at Faith and a part of the family there. Next quarter I will be teaching seven classes on leadership and missions. I pray that Faith will weather this storm of persecution, budget cuts and lay-offs and lay a new foundation for future explosive growth. I am enjoying the new challenge of teaching and mentoring on a college level.

Battleground, Washington

On October 26 I traveled to Vancouver WA for a YWAM Battleground board meeting. It was held at a large Christian business park called US Digital owned by a gentleman named Dave Madore that allows and pays for 30 different Christian ministries to share free space. Marvelous concept. It's a gorgeous facility complete with offices, work-out and meeting rooms and a cafe with free food. Wonderful testimony to marketplace ministry and business and non-profits teaming up together for the Kingdom of God.

Port Orchard, Washington

On November 1 I spoke at First Christian at the annual Faith Promise event and encouraged the congregation to adopt the Mongolia people as their "ends of the earth" interest in missions. I also introduced the concept of beginning to turn over my missions support to Pastor Soodoo and Aldaraa in Mongolia. "They must increase, and I must decrease." Lord - lead us forward in both ideas.

The past few days a severe rain and windstorm knocked out power to 200,000 homes in our area and left us in the dark for about 36 hours. We took care of our parents and kids, and God used this storm to speak to me about some things:

1. We need to get a natural gas generator for our home and a generator for the water system to carry us through times like this and other disasters that may come upon our nation. I will make it a focus of the coming year to finish those things here at 6831 Arlington Place, including the food storage aspect that God spoke to me years ago.
2. I will use our monthly savings to fund that effort for the coming year. That is the wisest use of funds. I will aim to keep \$10,000 in savings and bank on most of our future savings coming from inheritances from both parents. I am deeply grateful for these possibilities.
3. In the coming year, I want to focus on four aspects of ministry:
 - Teaching at Faith Seminary (maybe Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays).
 - YWAM leadership responsibilities and occasional teaching.
 - Missions involvement at First Christian Church.
 - Revival projects and events as God gives vision and opportunity.

These seem to be the new priorities in my life at this stage in time. As always, I want to be faithful to the Glorious One that has called me.

November 26, 2015 - 22,687 - 8,244

We hosted Mom & Dad Cookson, Mom Boehme, Bethany and Greg and Marta for Thanksgiving today while three of our kids enjoyed the holiday with one another in LA.

As I was praying downstairs tonight before bed, the Lord reminded me to keep living by Faith, Hope and Love.

Here is the meaning:

- Faith is the momentary "grind" of trust where I must keep *looking for opportunities* to point my loved ones toward the Savior. Always look. Always believe.
- Hope is the long-term perspective--that they will be saved and that I must never give up. If faith is the moment, then hope is the future.
- And love is the action I must always lead with--caring, sharing, warmth, personal concern and meeting them where they are. Love is a verb.

I will continue with those marching orders while I have my breath. I realize that "a prophet is not without honor, except in his own family" but that is little consolation because I do love them all.

Lord Jesus -- I love you and THANK YOU today for all that you are and ask you to move in the lives of our family. And help me to rise to live more faith, hope, and love.

Discovery Bay, Washington

December 7, 2015 - 22,698 - 8,233

I just finished a good week up at Discovery Bay, teaching the new DTS on Character, Worldview, The Secret of Happiness and The Fourth Wave. I also enjoyed sharing "There's No One Like Jesus" at the Monday evening community night.

Had some good times walking around the property, praying, and praising God for what he has done up here over the past fourteen years. Once a dump--now a training center for missions!

He is the God of resurrection, and I praise his Holy Name.

In early December I also finished my Sunday class series of "Classic Messages" that have now been loaded onto YouTube. Thank you, Jesus, for helping me preserve this part of my legacy and I pray you will use them long after my passing to shape the lives of those who follow Your Son.

Port Orchard, Washington

December 31, 2015 - 22,722 - 8,209

A busy December has flown by with a new quarter starting at Faith Seminary and my student load rising to about 25 students. As we finish this year, it's pretty obvious and sovereign to me that my teaching at Faith Seminary has now become my number one ministry, supplanting my YWAM work after forty-two years of that commitment.

It is a bit sad and sobering to me--but it's also clearly the will of God. Just at the time when YWAM didn't need me much anymore, Faith Seminary opened a wide door of favor. I want to walk through that door this year in obedience while doing everything God shows me to do with Youth With A Mission.

Life is a season of passages and assignments. Mine are changing but living for the glory of God never will--for all eternity.

Lord Jesus -- I'm grateful to be ending 2015 and soon to enter the "10th chapter of my life" as I turn 63 in March. Thank you for your magnificent faithfulness. I sense that the coming years will not be easy--maybe a "Jeremiah time" in my life. But even if I walk the path of suffering to a great extent alone, I know that you will be with me just as you were in my younger years.

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

I take great hope in that reality and give my life to you afresh for revival in America, endeavoring to be a faithful son, husband and father, and teaching and sharing God's truth as you allow me to.

I love you my King and my God.