

The Journal of Ron Boehme – 1980

Washington, D.C.

My Numbered Days – January 1980

My Calling: Promoting spiritual revival through preaching, writing and laboring for souls.

Three Priorities: Be a man of prayer and the Word. Preach the Gospel. Lead the Renewal Team.

LIFE OBJECTIVE: Glorify God by laboring for revival.

STRATEGIES: Pray, Meditate, Preach, Write, Lead.

PRAYERFUL TACTICS:

1. January 11-14 – Preach and inspire in Solvang and El Paso.
2. Jan. 12 – May 10 – Washington For Jesus activities.
3. May-June – European Trip – Operation Friendship
4. July 4-August 10 – Round the World Trip.
5. August 11-17 – Team Retreat

*Establish Home Base.

January 7, 1980

News-wise—world-wise—the 1980s have begun on a note of trouble. Fifty American hostages are being held captive at the U.S. Embassy in Iran. A week so ago, the U.S.S.R. invaded Afghanistan. Everyone is anxiously looking for something...and the return of Christ seems to draw near.

Our time here in Washington State has not been an easy one personally. In a number of areas, God has convicted me of sin, and I have set my heart to rise up and go on with God.

I've been reading the book *The General Next to God* about the life of William Booth and the Salvation Army. It has been so inspiring! What a zeal for the lost and compassion for the down-trodden these people had. May their example change the way I live my own life.

*This is our last week here—and my main priority is to seek the Lord about various things. I greatly look forward to “hearing his voice.”

January 9, 1980

I set aside yesterday to fast and pray and be alone with God. My main purpose was to seek His face concerning the coming months. He bountifully and fully answered me.

As is often the case, we began with cleansing. God made it very clear to me that my two easily besetting sins were pride and lust. He showed me that these were the sins of Lucifer. I mediated around this and the Lord was very practical to show me the path of victory. A few other confessions and repentance followed.

Then I pressed in in prayer and sanctified thinking of the structure, strategy and team workings of Washington for Jesus. A river of revelation flowed! For hours I wrote down the ideas God was bringing—with most being backed up by Scripture. By the end of the day all my questions had been answered. It has been a very fruitful time with my Savior.

The prayer of William Booth is the prayer of my life today: May God possess every bit of Ron Boehme.

Solvang, California

January 12, 1980

Time in Washington State has come to an end. I am now in Solvang, California for three days to speak at the Renewal Seminars School—then a quick stop in El Paso, Texas to speak on Washington for Jesus at the YWAM Field Trip Outreach. Then it is back to Washington, D.C. to begin waging the war.

As I flew from Seattle to San Francisco, the following Scripture leaped off the pages of the Bible at me in a personal promise:

“All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I promised you” (Genesis 28:14,15).

*These verses were loaded with meaning as I read them. Thank you, Father, for your humble, tender support of my life. I trust you to the hilt for the things you have promised me.

El Paso, Texas

January 15, 1980

Just in time—I flew into El Paso, Juarez last night to speak to the field trip participants on Washington for Jesus. This was after three very good days of ministry in Solvang. Over the

weekend I spoke to the Renewal Seminars School and really enjoyed my time with the “brethren.”

It’s been a very busy speaking schedule. God has brought daily strength, I have known his anointing even though I have not had the times in prayer I would have liked. I must go deeper in prayer.

*On the airplane yesterday od seemed to encourage me about our proposed “Round the World Trip” in June/July. I will pray more.

**And worthy of note is that yesterday at the Los Angeles airport I ran into an old friend—Kim Olsen—for works for Continental Airlines. Three months ago, Kim “returned to the Lord” and what a good and refreshing time we had together. This encounter me that God was at work...all praise and honor to Him.

Washington, D.C.

January 21, 1980

We are now moving head-long into Washington for Jesus and these are busy days. After some “hard” days, God has really given me faith and assurance that He will be with us here. His faithfulness endures to all generations.

This week we all gather back together—serve at the National Religious Broadcasters Convention, make many important decisions, and move out in ministry. May the favor of our God be upon us and establish the work of our hands.

January 27, 1980

These are busy and exciting days. With almost total abandon to the Washington for Jesus Project, we are working in ministry in the nation’s capital. This past week has seen monumental strides taken in the development of the national movement. There are great things to praise God for that have directly come in answer to prayer:

- Most importantly, this past week has seen the evangelical wing of the American Church join in endorsing the rally. Dr. Bill Bright of Campus Crusade for Christ led the way and has now become co-program chairman along with Pat Robertson. Soon the National Steering Committee is to be shuffled to include 15 evangelical and fifteen charismatic leaders. What tremendous credibility this now gives the project!

[I should add here that when Dr. Bright was asked to join WFJ, he went back to his hotel room and got down on his knees and prayed, “God you know I can’t afford to get involved in this

Pentecostal-led event. I will lose all my donors.” God then spoke reality into his heart: *Bill, this event is of me. You can’t afford NOT to be involved.* Bill then repented of his attitude, called John Gimenez and told him “he was in.”]

- And here in Washington, D.C. God has brought some wonderful movements together—including the *Jesus* movie committee to draw all our plans together. I’ve been in meeting after meeting that had the sovereign hand of God on it and our list of endorsements has steadily grown.

+ Lord Jesus—I praise you for all these happenings and consecrate my life to be consumed by your will.

February 18, 1980

We are now enjoying a few days of rest. On Saturday morning we had our own first Greater Washington Christian Leaders Meeting at Lisner Auditorium. About 250 people showed up and I believe it was a very good meeting. Many miracles and answers to prayer undergirded that meeting.

It was nice to have **Leland Paris** with us for a few days recently. His presence and encouragements are always refreshing. I had the flu for a day or two, but God wonderfully carried me through.

All-in-all I’ve continued to know the grace of God in my life and I am continually looking ahead and being single in heart and mind in our quest of Washington for Jesus.

February 20, 1980

I received a call at 8 am this morning from Uncle Donald saying that at 3 am Grandma Boehme had died of a very sudden and large heart attack. Both Shirley and I were stunned and grieved over the loss of “Grams.” After the tears flowed, we did rejoice as we believed that she was now with her Lord.

Later, I found out that the funeral would be put off for ten days to allow my dad and mom to return from Thailand (they were serving there for two months with World Vision in the “boat people” refugee camps). I’m sure that them receiving the word so far from home was not easy.

The reality of Grandma’s death really struck me like powerfully. In the evening before going to bed, **I went and got the Bible that Grandma and Grandpa gave me in 1969—only a few months after I first committed my life to Christ. They had dedicated the Bible with the following verse: Revelation 2:10 – “Be faithful unto death and I will give you a crown of life.”**

*As I wept, remembered and prayed, I firmly re-committed myself to do just that.

Port Orchard, Washington

March 2, 1980

I'm back in Washington State for a few days. Yesterday was Grandma's (Boehme) funeral at Elim Lutheran Church and our family and friends gathered in mass. God clearly led me to words to share at the memorial service and I now pray that God will use them.

The Scripture God impressed me with was Judges 2:10-14, and 17. A generation of Boehmes is now gone. Other generations are now being reared who "do not know the Lord or what He has done." Which way will we go as a family?

It was not an easy day. Though the funeral was touching, and the family fellowship took place, God and his ways were noticeably left out. That left a void.

It seems to me that my family is deteriorating the same way America is. God has now left it to those of us who know Him to re-establish a new tradition that places Christ at the center.

*I commit myself to this. God has strengthened and kept me on this trip, and tomorrow I return to the east coast to unswervingly march on for Jesus.

Washington, D.C.

March 13, 1980

I hardly have time to write! Yesterday my birthday was a hectic day which included the first national press conference on Washington for Jesus. Many Christian leaders were here for the event—and praise God for continued blessing.

March 22, 1980

The time continues to fly by, and Washington for Jesus gets bigger and bigger, I have never been busier in my life than I am right now, but it is a busyness that is very sweet.

[One thing our team did night after night in the churches of D.C. during this time period was share the vision for WFJ through our "Great American Machine" drama. God really used it to touch lives.]

We have switched out base of operation from the Bladensburg Marina to the Upper Marlboro area—about ten miles away. God has provided a good setting here for us [at a Baptist Church pastored by Jack Willett] and we are very grateful. The Rally is now only about 5 weeks away and what a wonderful mushrooming tide of support continues to build and build. We are

believing God for revival and I am now studying the great national revivals of the Old Testament. May God be pleased to do it again!

March 30, 1980

In one month, Washington for Jesus is history. We continue to be consumed in the work here and it is increasingly an awesome responsibility.

Saturday morning, we again brought leaders from the metropolitan area to hear Dr. Bill Bright, Bishop Winley and Kritz Klein's moving presentation of "Abraham Lincoln." The entire meeting was dynamic, and God's clear word truly came forth.

After a day of little rest, I am now ready to serve Christ in one of the most important months of my lifetime.

April 16, 1980

Almost every day this month I have begun the day with the thought: this is the most important month of my entire life! I believe this is so. The work on the Washington for Jesus project sure confirms this. The days are extremely busy, but the glory of the project spurs us on. Now, only a few days and the church will gather together to call upon God...

******April 30, 1980**

"May God arise, may his enemies be scattered."

"The Lord announced the word and great was the company of those who proclaimed it."

"Sing to the Lord O kingdoms of the earth, sing praise to the Lord, to Him who rides the ancient skies above, who thunders with a mighty voice. Proclaim the power of God, whose majesty is over Israel, whose power is in the skies. You are awesome, O God, in your sanctuary. The God of Israel gives strength and power to His people."

Washington For Jesus is now history. Praise the Lord! Yesterday over 600,000 people who loved God from all the fifty states, Puerto Rico, and many nations gathered together on the Washington Mall to pray for America.

For days leading up to the rally, we had been extremely busy as momentum for the event seemed to blossom. In the capital city alone, we had passed out nearly 100,000 bulletin inserts, and personally visited 400-600 churches in the final weeks. I had done numerous interviews for both radio and television and there be to be a "lifting" of the satanic grasp on the city overall. We can only attribute that to prevailing prayer.

Forty-eight hours before April 29th, the phones began to ring off the hook. Numerous YWAM teams also came into the area—about 220 YWAMers altogether. On Saturday night, April 26, we all met together at a local church and both Loren Cunningham and Leland Paris shared with us.

On April 28th, the push began with all our team members moving into high gear. In the afternoon, Constitution Hall was packed out for a National Women's Meeting as was also a National Pastors' Conference in the evening. Both services contained powerful prophetic messages to the church. An Evening Youth Rally was estimated at 30,000.

For the days prior to the rally, the D.C. area had been enveloped with stormy, low-hanging clouds and on-and-off drizzle and rain. The evening of the 28th and the early hours of the 29th were the same on the Mall grounds—saturated with water. I spent all night on the grounds near the stage making last minute plans and arrangements.

About 3:30 am people began to gather. It was awesome to see them come! [We had bought out the Metro system in the system from 3 am to 5 am—exclusively for the WFJ crowds.] It was still dark, but lovely to behold.

At 6 am the program began on the huge stage located right in front of the Smithsonian Building. As it did, miraculously the skies over the Mall began to change becoming clear and blue. This seemed to be token of God's approval for the event. The crowds continued to come.

All day long various speakers shared their hearts, led in prayer, also in worship, and we repented and interceded together. A couple of times while on the stage I wept as we worshipped. What an awesome sight it was to behold! The crowds continued to build. Between 2 and 4 PM they seemed to reach their peak, reaching all the way to the Washington Monument and two-thirds of the way to the Capitol. Songs, shouts and prayers went up by the masses all day long before God—and the sound could be heard for blocks.

Our team worked very hard all day long. Many of the us were involved in the transportation of speakers and VIP's during the day as crews of YWAMers distributed literature. Most of the day, I personally bided my time between the stage area and the Command Center behind it.

Everything went smoothly all day long—wonderfully blessed by God. In the afternoon the sun was bright and warm. There were no reported incidents or problems with activists, groups, or cults. The PA system boomed out the messages of God and the prayers of His people all through-out the day.

The crowd reached its zenith at about 4 pm. It had been building all day long. Over fifty major Christian leaders had shared from the stage and a great spirit of unity had come upon the people. The rally officially ended at about 6:30 pm (“from the rising of the sun to the going

down of the same...”) with hundreds of thousands holding hands and singing the Lord’s Prayer together.

For a few hours thereafter we tiredly but gratefully began to pick up the area and then all pulled away. Near exhaustion, I fell into bed about 10:30 pm after one of the most thrilling days of my life.

+ What will be the outcome of Washington for Jesus? Did the Body of Christ really meet God’s conditions for national forgiveness? What now lies ahead?

These questions will be answered by revelation and time. April 29, 1980 was a great day for the church. It saw a beautiful uniting of the Body of Christ together. It saw the Word of God come forth in Washington, D.C. It witnessed the prayers of God’s people for themselves, our nation, and the world.

As I prayed and read the Bible this morning the word of the Lord seemed to be:

“Now it really begins...”

The better part of eight months of my life have been given for this project and every minute was worth it. Now we move on in the call of revival until the return of King Jesus or death ends our pilgrimage on earth. Our worthy Savior was glorified through Washington For Jesus on April 29, 1980.

Now we continue to move forward as his unworthy servants.

May 2, 1980

Psalm 106:34-43 really contains a prophetic passage that applies to America. It deeply spoke to me as I read it this morning.

We are getting back up on our feet and now looking to the coming months. Three truths that come out of the WFJ Rally we are focusing on obeying and carrying out:

1. The unprecedented unity of the Body of Christ.
2. The strong warning about imminent judgment upon our nation.
3. The new beginning of repentance in the Church.

May 17, 1980

We are on vacation. Following the WFJ Rally, I moved into many aspects of writing about the results of the event and all of us continued to be involved in aspects of winding down the ministry.

Now we are taking some much-needed REST. I am personally in real need of it. Shirley and I are just hanging around the base and relaxing (I’m also recovering from a cold). Some of the other team members are on a trip to Maine.

*God has done many wonderful things for us the past weeks. One area has been the perfect on-time release of our finances for the Around the World trip. About two weeks ago, we needed as a group \$800 for the first payment (plane tickets). That day God spoke to a family to give us a large gift that they had been holding for months. It met the need.

Two days ago, another \$3500 came due. Just before that we had some tremendous services at Ray MacAnanny's church. I preached on "The Sins of a Falling Nation" and "The Church in the 1980s." From a congregation of around 150 people, an offering was taken for over \$2000!! All in all, the day was really blessed by God.

Sometime after, we shared a time of giving among ourselves—and at the end only \$850 was still needed to meet the full expenses. The next day when the payment was due, some unusual release came in the mail and the entire need was met. All of this has come in answer to prayer out of the faithful and giving heart of the Father.

In eleven days, the final \$12,000 is due. Our eyes are lifted up to heaven.

Annapolis, Maryland

May 20, 1980

It has been a good vacation. Because of a cold. and bad hay fever symptoms, I have not felt the best. However, this has not prevented me from having a relaxing time.

Yesterday Shirley and I visited Annapolis, Maryland. The historic part of this state capital is very quaint and lovely. We also visited the Naval Academy.

During my evening prayer time, I sense TWO clear impressions from the Lord:

1. Personally, God is going to be taking me through a time of real testing. He would prove and refine me like gold. This is needed in my life right now to prepare me for the next steps of growth and expansion in ministry.
2. I need to give clear thought and prayer to the coming year's Renewal Team ministry—especially the possibility of continuing to help sponsor days of repentance, fasting and prayer. These types of projects might be the BEST means to revival to pursue at this time.

May 24, 1980

Yesterday evening we began an "Operation Friendship" seminar here at the base. George Otis, Jr. and his wife Lisa are leading the ministry team and about 35 people are here for the weekend. So far it has been very powerful and enlightening.

*Last night as I prayed about gaining full benefit from the seminar, God encouraged me with these words: "I am teaching you that you may prophesy."

*God is also continuing to speak to me about trusting Him for our trip—especially for the finances. This morning he turned me to Psalm 4:5: "Offer right sacrifices and trust in the Lord."

London, England (U.K.)

June 4, 1980

We're in the air—and on our way to Europe. I haven't been there since 1976 and am greatly looking forward to this return. God has truly been our Guide, Faithful Provider and Friend.

[We went with a team of nine including Shirley and I, Wendy Wiedenmeyer, Mary Scott (Cresswell), Ruth Hope, Judith Anderson, Bev Fish (Riedesel), Rich Riedesel, and Nancy Graves.]

Many miracles paved the way for this our Around the World Trip. The first one was God helping us with a very good slide-tape presentation on Washington For Jesus. Many hours went into this project and what emerge out of the final 20-hour recording session was a 25-minute presentation that I believe is going to be mightily used by God. For one, we're going to be taking it around the world.

RENEWAL TEAM TRAVELING MINISTRY ITINERARY

Summer 1980

May 31	Leave Washington, D.C.	- - - - -
June 1-4	England (YWAM)	Share-Teach-Visit
4-8	Germany (YWAM)	Share-Teach-Visit
10-14	Switzerland (YWAM)	Share-Teach-Visit
12-13	Warsaw, Poland	Ministry-Preparation
(14-22)	Russia-Baltic Region	Personal Evangelism
14,15	Vilnius	
16,17	Riga	
18-21	Leningrad	
22,23	Warsaw, Poland	Ministry
24	Frankfurt, Germany	Travel
25,26	Delhi, India	Share-Teach-Visit
27	Bangkok & Chang-mai	YWAM International
July 6	Thailand	Conference - Ministry among refugees
7-8	Hong Kong	Share-Visit
9-10	Osaka, Japan (YWAM)	Share-Teach-Visit
11-13	Kona, Hawaii (YWAM)	Share-Teach-Visit
14-22	Auckland, New Zealand	Share-Teach-Visit
July 23 - Aug. 1	Various "homes" in U.S.	REST!
Aug. 2,3	YWAM North American Staff Conference-Lexington, KY	
4	Return to Washington, D.C.	

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

1. God's full release of finance for the trip.
2. That our team would function together as a good harmonious whole in the places to which we travel.
3. A powerful anointing from the Holy Spirit in sharing, teaching, and involvement in evangelism.
4. God's protecting and sustaining power to be upon us at all times.
5. Much fruit to be born for Christ's Kingdom in many nations.

"Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving; praying at the same time for us that God may open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ ..."

1 Thess. 4:2,3

Regarding our trip, God brought us right down to the wire financially, then gloriously released the final \$4000 of an \$18,000 miracle. I wept in gratitude as I learned of the final provision. Through this time, I learned much about trust, unity, and obeying God in detail.

And now, a new spiritual adventure is before us. In all honesty, the busyness of the past week, my annoying spring-time hay fever and other factors have brought me to the place of feeling spiritually dry and needy.

I want to be rejuvenated in my God.

June 8, 1980

It's a beautiful summer morning in southern England. We've been staying at Holmstead Manor and have had four very good days here in England. I spoke to the DTS here for two days immediately after we arrived—and my messages were well received. Saturday evening, we shared a tremendous reunion with Steve and Anita [Herzig] and Friday evening we showed the slide-tape to the entire base. They were thrilled with what God did through Washington For Jesus. May it be multiplied here.

Hurlach, Germany

June 10, 1980

Yesterday we traveled all day from England to Schloss Hurlach in Germany. It was a long and tiring day—and I was much bothered with hay fever—but God was faithful to us and watched over us. This was particularly evident during a potentially dangerous accident we had at the Frankfurt airport on an escalator. I really knew the peace and strength of God during this time.

*And now we are back at the Castle. I feel terrible, but this morning I have been instructed to “consider it pure joy” to be going through this physically-afflicting season. I have much character to develop.

++ For our trip this summer I have asked every team member to seek God for specific goals that he or she should aim at during these months. I am doing this myself and so far, these are the following results:

1. God wants me to pray fervently for revival in every nation we visit. I must also ask God to raise up national or local days of repentance, fasting and prayer.
2. I should do all I can to establish a strong relationship with each base and its leaders.
3. I will do much Bible-reading and meditation during this time to be “well-soaked” in the Word.

Warsaw, Poland

June 13, 1980

We have left the Free World and are now once again in the land of communism. In this case, it is Warsaw, Poland. A young guide met us at the airport and led us to our hotel.

Our first hours here were somewhat disjointed as we made some mistakes in ordering food and did various other thing. My hay fever was also troubling me terribly—and coupling this with the spiritual warfare in the atmosphere we sensed around us, we felt very weak.

In the evening God led us into a time of cleansing as we confessed sin, prayed for each other and worshipped. It was a good lesson to me. I had not been “spiritually on my toes” as we entered these oppressive lands. This had opened the door to spiritual attack.

*Together we re-grouped in God.

June 14, 1980

God gave us a good time of prayer this morning for Poland—that we should be bold, compassionate, and singing praises in these countries. After breakfast we went out into the streets and after looking around, we decided to begin worshipping and praising him with our guitars in a large open square.

As the nine of us joyfully sang, a large crowd of people began to gather. At the height of it, there were probably about 200 people who had been drawn to listen and even participate. At one point an interpreter stepped forward and I spoke to the gathering. They were very sympathetic to the things of God and even sheered as I preached. I told them that we loved them. Afterwards we had some great fellowship with some Christians who had joined us and shared some good witnessing opportunities led by some friends that had leaned out a window to listen to us.

*This was a good object lesson for us. The warmth and joy of worship was a powerful weapon. God was speaking to us to use it everywhere we go behind the Iron Curtain.

*On this day also, God had really spoken to me about my annoying hay fever problem. First, he reminded me that exactly six years ago to the day, I had been in Kiev, Russia and in the middle of suffering with the pollens, he had showed me out of Philippians 3 that we must love him just for who he is and not for what he does for us. “That I may know him” must be my goal in life.

What a PERFECT and TIMELY reminder! And now, Lord, you are saying to me to have a heart of joy and praise despite my physical condition. Praising you for who you are while suffering will help me greatly to identify with the suffering peoples in communist lands. You also want me to be perfectly clean. I bow to your Lordship and thank you for teaching me.

Vilnius, Lithuania

June 15, 1980

Yesterday evening we boarded the train for the 12-hour ride into the Soviet Union—our first stop being Vilnius in Lithuania. We slept very little on this overnight express. Many border stops took place and two or three times we were searched and questioned by soldiers. Though we were well prepared, **we still had some things that were confiscated—especially Christian music tapes**. In the early morning we arrived in the city, went to our hotel, and promptly went to bed to rest. In the evening we went out and ate in a little café and looked around the town.

*Lord, we want to really use our short time here.

On Sunday, we went to a Catholic Church around noon. **Lithuania is about 90% Catholic and deeply steeped in the tradition. (In the city, there are about 40 churches of which 18 are open and 22 have been converted into museums, hospitals, prisons etc.)**

In the afternoon we went to a large park in the old city and **began to sing. After a time, people began to gather, and we had opportunity to share about Christ to many. It was truly wonderful! During this time, we also met some believers from a Baptist Church, and they invited us to the evening service. At about 5:30 pm we walked about a mile-and-a-half to the church.**

They seated us all up front and the people seemed pleased that we were there. The building was packed. **During a part of the meeting we sang, shared and generally showed out love to the people. It was a wonderful experience.**

Afterwards we shared with their young people's group and they excitedly walked us into the city to show us around. Together, we walked up to the remains of the old castle of King Gediminas, and founder of Vilnius around 1410 A.D. We sang together, they proudly shared their history with us—fed us a meal in the park (we hadn't eaten since breakfast) and then we returned to our hotel just before midnight curfew. **What precious and hospitable friends we have made!** I was overwhelmed at their graciousness and love. They also instructed us in many things.

The meal our friends served us consisted of bread and meat. The next day in my daily reading, I came across this passage: "The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening" (1 Kings 17:6).

*What a divine coincidence! God HAS truly met our every need on this trip so far. We have entered the USSR with little money and lived on less than \$2 each day per person. Praise and glory to Jehovah Jireh.

June 16, 1980

Today we again went into Vilnius in the afternoon and met some of our friends and then went to the university to witness. **Had a tremendous open-air in a courtyard of the college and talked to many students.** We then returned to the hotel in time to get our bags and go to the airport. There we boarded an Aeroflot (Soviet) plane and said goodbye to our Lithuanian friends.

We may never see them again until we meet in heaven. What a good time this has been!

Riga, Latvia

June 17, 1980

We flew into Riga the capital of Latvia last night and were taken to our hotel. It is nice. We have been watched very closely here in the Baltic region of the U.S.S. R. Everyone seems to know us...

After checking into our new Intourist Hotel we looked around and went to bed. God has given us a glorious time here so far, but the travel at times takes its toll.

June 18, 1980

A very good and interesting day. Riga is a large city of nearly one million situated on the banks of the Daugava River. In the morning Intourist took us on a "tour" of the city. Some of the historical parts were interesting, however the tour was loaded with propaganda and afterwards we felt a very heavy spirit upon us. We are learning to have righteous anger toward the deception of the Soviet government and be kind and compassionate toward the people.

After resting in the afternoon (it has been difficult for some of us to sleep here as there are 19 hours of daylight at this time of year) we went out for a very good dinner in a café.

In the evening we sang and worshipped in a park near the hotel where a large crowd gathered. When a young translator stepped forward, I was able to preach to the crowd. As I continued my message a police car pulled up and two or three officers pulled me out of the crowd off to the side. Many on-lookers began to scatter.

All eyes were upon me as they asked for "our documents" and told me firmly that "we must come to the hotel." (These words were being spoken by a police translator who was translating the man in charge.)

At that moment, the Spirit of God prompted me to say, "We know that the Latvian people love music. We have come to sing to them. Can we sing? The harsh main policeman mumbled some words to his translator and he, disbelievingly said to me, "Yes, you can go and sing."

That was all I needed. Happy over the complete reversal of attitude, I quickly walked over to the others (who believed I might be arrested) and we picked up our guitars and continue to sing God's praises! We had been close to arrest, but God had given us favor.

After some minutes of singing, we went out among the people who remained and shared with them the love of God. Some hearts were hungry...and others were not. It was a good evening of lifting up Christ's Name in Riga, the capital of Latvia.

And the closest I ever came to an arrest--for preaching about Jesus.

Jurmala, Latvia

June 18, 1980

Today the Lord allowed us to travel over to the Baltic Sea to a resort called Jurmala. Here again we brought the weapon and refreshment of praise and worship onto this beautiful beach area.

After singing and drawing a crowd, we ministered to many individuals. One man I spoke with was a major of a tank division in the Soviet army. I learned much about how the Soviets view the world and the possibilities of war. Very interesting.

In the evening we enjoyed the privilege of ministering at one of the few Baptist churches in the city. They graciously allowed us to sing and speak and I believe we were greatly edified by the visit. Giving us flowers, kisses, and with tears in their eyes, they escorted us back to our hotel. They truly displayed the hunger of the local believers for fellowship and for hope. Again, as in Vilnius, we were deeply touched by their graciousness.

June 19, 1980

And now we are finally on our way to our final Russian city of this trip—the important city of Leningrad.

*Lord, continue to open our eyes, hear our prayers and use us to minister your life and love in this very dark nation.

Leningrad, USSR

June 20-21

Leningrad is a very pretty city—rich in history and culture, but also in deception and oppression. It is the city that was the birthplace of the Bolshevik Revolution and now it bears the name and continual “presence” of Vladimir Lenin.

On Friday morning we went on a tour of this city of over four million people. In the evening we began a fast together for the USSR and had a powerful time of intercession in one of our hotel rooms. It was truly quite prophetic and detailed.

1. We interceded much for the city, and felt that God would judge it, re-name it--St. Petersburg, and humble its people. Scriptures came out of Exodus and Joshua about God blotting out the memory of Amalek. We felt this applied to Lenin.

[The prayer for Leningrad to be re-named St. Petersburg would be stunningly answered nearly ten years later when the Iron Curtain fell. I will tell that story in detail later.]

2. Much spiritual warfare was done, and we really prayed for revival in this strategic city.

In the evening we went out and sang in parts of the downtown area and mainly prayed in many places. God was really speaking to us about **breaking down the works of the devil through prayer**. Some very significant contacts were made that day.

The next morning, we continued our fast and spent time in prayer for all the people and situation we have encountered in the USSR. In the evening, after an afternoon of outreach in a park. We boarded a train to begin our trip back to Europe.

*By this time, I was personally very run down. The busy days, basic meals, fasting and lack of sleep at night had really taken their toll. God had really blessed our time behind the Iron Curtain but now a rest was needed. Praise God for his all-encompassing power.

June 22, 1980

Our trip out of Russia is, to our surprise, about 36 hours long. And then, the train takes us to Hannover and from there, God must provide a way to Frankfurt.

Poland

+ Today I learned a great lesson. Upon arriving back in Poland, we were told we needed to pay another \$7 each for a transit visa across the country. Because of our tightness of funds, I fought the request for quite a while. Eventually, we had to pay or leave the train and so we did. After this episode, God really spoke to me about **my unloving attitude toward the Polish guards and my lack of trust in Him to provide for us**. He had enabled us to spend only \$120 while in the USSR. He would now take care of us.

East Germany

I repented. In the evening, we all got together, talked about the lesson, sang and prayed and had communion, and focused our eyes on Christ. (Later on, we entered East Germany and humbly paid out another \$3 per person.) **We now have only \$80 among us. But we are right where God wants us—not cocky or proud, just completely dependent on him.**

Frankfurt, Germany

June 26, 1980

And so, our trip to Russia—Operation Friendship [during the year in which the United States boycotted the Moscow Olympic Games] is over. What a good time of ministry and learning it was. In a day or so we will do an evaluation and I'm sure that will help us focus our minds on the lessons learned.

Since arriving in Frankfurt, and while getting here, we have seen many financial miracles. We arrived in Hannover with only about half the money between us to catch a train to Frankfurt. God led me to use my Master Charge card to put toward out fare and the amount we were able to charge was exactly what we needed! (About 165 marks.) We went on our way rejoicing, made it to Frankfurt and arrived at the YWAM apartment thankful and penniless.

We've had five good days in Frankfurt since then. The day we arrived was a day a large German outreach began here. There were about 150 Germans who came for it and their times of worship and preparation were precious. God is really using them in creative forms of ministry (a real need in Europe) in dance, drama, music and pantomime.

While we were staying in Frankfurt, God spoke to a Scripture one morning to Shirley about having children. We had rarely discussed this topic before as a married couple. The Scripture God quickened to her was 2 Kings 4:16:

"At this season next year, you will embrace a son." Shirley felt that not only were we to have our first child in about a year, but that it would also be a son. We committed this unusual promise into God's care.

[One year to the week later, on June 28, 1981, God would bring Natan Ronald Boehme into the world in Takoma Park, Maryland.]

Lausanne, Switzerland

During the week Shirley and I took a 24-hour trip to Lausanne to share the WFJ slide tape with the base. On the way down, we had a great time sharing—especially regarding the possibility of God preparing us to have children. It was good, and we will continue to share and pray.

God again worked some financial miracles to get us down to Switzerland and back. On the way going I was able to charge the exact amount we needed, and for the trip back, an anonymous student handed us an envelope with 150 Swiss francs in it.

*I have really learned about faith and finances on this trip. In Lausanne, God really spoke to me about the "rest of faith" and my unbelief. Almost all of God's releases have been the unexpected. This has allowed him to prove himself God. I can never learn this lesson well enough.

Frankfurt, Germany

After the days back in Germany, we finished this portion of our trip. It was especially good to fellowship, even though briefly, with Keith and Marion Warrington. On Friday we shared our presentation here and now we're on our way to Thailand (via India).

*I believe God really wants to speak to me at the YWAM World Strategy Conference in Chang Mai, Thailand and I look forward to preparing myself.

June 28, 1980

We are flying east on our way to Asia—my first time in this region of the world. For the past seven years of my life, one of the best places to write in my journal has been in the air. It's a great time to sit, reflect and put pen in hand.

[I should mention that for the entirety of our Round the World Trip on TWA, the nine of us flew stand-by on every flight—and never missed a plane. In fact, quite often, as on the flight described above, each of us found an entire row of empty seats and simply laid down and slept.]

As we travel to Thailand, I've been impressed to really have some clear goals in mind for our time at the conference. Here they are:

1. I desire to see the “place” of the Renewal Team in the international and North American scope of Youth With A Mission.
2. To deepen many relationships with different YWAM leaders.
3. To be greatly instructed and disciplined during this time.

+ Lord, I open my eyes to see your desires fulfilled in my life. You have never disappointed me.

[On this long flight across Asia we spent some hours in New Delhi, India—the only time I've ever set foot in that amazing nation.]

Chiang Mai, Thailand

July 2, 1980

As expected, the conference here in Chiang Mai has been a great blessing. Being with the leaders of YWAM from all over the world has been a special treat itself and the fellowship has been precious. What God had said to us through the meetings has been equally significant. A better word would be life-changing.

So far, God has really opened my eyes to the following truths:

1. My prophetic message on the “shaking” of this generation has been greatly enforced. I must go on preaching it. It makes revival even more important.
2. I must carry a burden for the cities of the earth. If I do not, I have rejected humanity. I really want to pray this through regarding the future.
3. I am learning the concept of seeing people groups in the world and the desperate need to reach the unreached. A whole doorway of understanding has become clear here.
4. I must be concerned about the poor and needy and sojourners [refugees] of the earth. My desire to read the books of Proverbs and Deuteronomy during this time really enforce this. I want to change the way I live to accommodate this truth.

And I know that more lies ahead. God is really answering my prayers and now, even more, I look forward to God's guiding hand upon my life and ministry at this crucial time of change, establishment and growth in number and revelation. Lord, my I hear your voice clearly and obey it concisely.

July 6, 1980

A blessed conference has come to an end. What a time of power and direction! It was said that this meeting was the most important turning point in the history of YWAM and I believe it. This is certainly true of my own life and I greatly look forward now to walking through this doorway into the future. There is so much to think and pray about.

One memorable evening during the conference the Lord led us into a real time of brokenness over our lack of burden for the lost. As many confessions came forth, and the Spirit of God directed us. I personally saw something very clearly.

This was it. That I have never ever REALLY had a burden or love for the lost. I have had a burden for God—truth—obedience—but never really for people.

+ As I confessed and wept over this in a small group, I set my heart to not let go of God until I have this burden and His anointing in evangelism. I must have the anointing in my life. I'm sorry I have not pressed in until now.

+ One other thing that God really did at the conference was to bring Shirley and I together in good ways. I really am committing myself to pray and encourage her into spiritual equality in our marriage. This is a significant step forward.

*It was a blessed time. Though I am on the verge of exhaustion, deep within I am thankful and encouraged. Thailand was a turning point.

[It was at the Chiang Mai Conference that I first got to meet and sit under the teaching of Don Richardson, author of *Peace Child*. His teachings on "unreached people groups" changed YWAM from that year on. This was also the time that "Mercy Ministries" in YWAM was born.]

Bangkok, Thailand

July 7, 1980

The past few days we have had the privilege of visiting the [Vietnamese Boat People] refugee camps in southern Thailand. After coming down by bus from Chiang Mai on Sunday, we traveled about four hours out to the Cambodian border. There, we saw the refugee crisis face-to-face.

All day Sunday we spent at Aranyapatt, the large camp of Kao I Dang. This is a refugee camp of over 130,000 people who fled across the border. Now they live in a bamboo and mud city beneath a small mountain.

For hours we visited with the people, sang songs, encouraged believers, viewed the facilities and the poverty and tried to see. Hundreds of children flocked to us to hang on and seek love. It was touching and awesome at the same time.

Today we visited a “transit camp” here in Bangkok. It is a “cement city” where Vietnamese, Khmer, and Laotian people are waiting to be taken to the U. S. and Canada. This was a precious time also.

*Now my mind and heart are full, and my body is tired. The final leg of the trip is coming up. Lord, I don’t want to miss you in anything. Refresh and strengthen me to pray, we, speak, and lead for your glory.

Hong Kong (China)

July 10, 1980

We have had a delightful stay in Hong Kong. The Lord once again provided our finances to get to the YWAM base here and we have spent two very enjoyable days.

On Wednesday we took a ferry across the harbor to visit the “Jubilee” Refugee Camp. It is a cement city of 3000-5000 Vietnamese boat people with whom the local YWAMers are very involved in services, Bible studies, medical care, teaching English, pre-school, dirty work and other things. God has given them real favor here because of their willingness to do menial tasks and to serve.

Tuesday evening, I spoke to the DTS and last night the whole community got together for the WFJ presentation. God led us in a tremendous time of prayer afterwards—interceding fervently for revival in the nations of the earth. We especially prayed for JAPAN and now I am very excited to arrive there and minister today.

+ Here, I also want to record some things that God has been sharing with me just today and over the past weeks:

1. During the Thailand Strategy Conference, I believe God really impressed upon my heart his desire that my ministry become more international. Many thoughts circulate in my mind as to the meaning of this. I will let the Lord Jesus order them.
2. God seems to be speaking to me about considering the possibility of seeing our ministry base itself be established in Washington, D.C. Last night, Leland Paris and Shirley and I went out for some dessert and even during this time, Leland mentioned that he was open to the idea.

+ This morning this Scripture was really quickened to me: “The day for building your walls will come, the day for extending your boundaries” (Micah 7:11). Also: Micah 7:14.

Tokyo & Osaka, Japan

July 11, 1980

An incredible “test” and many miracles have finally brought us to Japan. In Hong Kong, we really encountered problems with our plane tickets. After much negotiation, phone calls, and telexes, we were stumped until God broke through and moved on the heart of the Pan American supervisor and we began to see daylight. In a mad scramble we had also found out that we needed Japanese visas, and again helped by God, a miracle was worked, and Shirley and I ran to the airport (the rest of the team had to stay).

We arrived in Tokyo about 11 pm, got to a hotel, slept some, then flew to Osaka in the morning. We were met at the airport and whisked to a pastor’s conference. About 25 people were present and God strengthened me to slow the slide-tape presentation and speak on revival. The Spirit of God was present.

*Now, I desperately need a rest. The months of work, ministry, and traveling are beginning to take their toll. As we near the home stretch of our trip, I cry out to You, Lord, for a renewing of my body, soul and spirit. Thank you for your ever-present love and care.

July 13, 1980

Our stay in Japan was very good. I had a few ministry opportunities (to the YWAM community on “Humility” and the WFJ presentation) and these culminated in us ministering in a Japanese Assembly of God Church on Sunday morning. God truly anointed this time and we challenged the congregation to be involved in the world harvest of evangelism.

In the afternoon, I did an interview with a reporter from a Christian newspaper and then we rushed to the airport.

I also had a fruitful time with the YWAM leaders here, especially Topi Kivimaki (from Finland). I have grown to really love him and carry the burden of the country to which he is called. God miraculously AGAIN provided all our needs through ministry honorariums. Praise His Name!

Kailua-kona, Hawaii

And now after a long and difficult flight, (I began to get sick with a high fever), we are in Hawaii—and back on U.S. soil. Though I feel very weak, I am grateful. I just need a touch from God, and I will go on.

July 15, 1980

I arrived in Kona Hawaii not feeling too well and very much in need of rest. In the evening we shared the WFJ presentation with the community and God gave me enough strength and anointing to get through. Since then, I’ve gone to bed, seen a doctor and begun recuperating.

Last evening, we had a final time together as a team before we begin splitting off. Our wonderful Around the World Trip is nearly over. We shared and rejoiced together in all the great things God had done.

+ This morning I had a “refreshing” time in God’s Word and am now trusting Him for a new anointing for these next steps. I’ve committed myself to “cast off the sin which so easily entangles” and to “run the race that is marked out for me.” God’s faithfulness is new every morning (Lamentations 3).

*Worthy of note: After my message on Sunday evening, Loren Cunningham came up to me and encouraged me to seriously consider planting ourselves in Washington, D.C. I record this here so that in the coming weeks I will carefully examine this decision. How excited I am to hear from God and obey Him.

Auckland, New Zealand

July 22, 1980

I’m back in the land of New Zealand where God laid his hand on my life some seven-eight years ago and where I first began to keep the life journal. I am stimulated to be here, and I am contemplating the work of God in my life over these last seven years. SEVEN YEARS—from rags to riches—infancy to maturity—lack of direction to life’s calling—all the bounties of Christ! I am deeply grateful, Father.

Shirley and I arrived on Thursday and have been extremely busy ever since. Saturday morning and evening I spoke at a YWAM youth camp up north and enjoyed the anointing of God there—very free, flowing and easy. I endeavored to challenge the young people to fulfill God’s destiny for their lives and shared the Washington For Jesus world vision.

Sunday, we attended Valley Road Baptist. In the evening, I had the great honor of preaching at the conclusion of their Missions Conference. Prayerfully, I spoke on “The Church in the 1980s” as especially adapted to them.

Things have not been well at the church. Right now, they are experiencing some painful divisions and personality conflicts. After listening to “both sides,” and seeking the Lord about the situation, I really felt that what Valley Road was experiencing was symbolic of the whole of New Zealand. Satan had built a “siege work” against the church through disloyalty, pride, a party spirit, and disobedience. The needed remedy was a time of prayer, fasting, repentance and reconciliation (2 Chronicles 32).

As I talked and prayed with Pastor Jacobsen, God seemed to indicate He would bring healing quickly, even in a day! I will continue to pray for this.

*And this is the word for the nation: The church is a divided, factious, disloyal and disobedient companion of the Lamb. She missed the hour of revival—possibly twice in twenty

years—due to her hardness and sin. Now is the time for a national gathering for prayer, fasting and repentance. It is the ultimate offer.

God has seen fit to give me a burden and a voice to the nation while I'm here. I've met with spiritual leaders and worked closely with YWAM. My heart and hunger for revival are here with them. May our contribution this week bear its fruit.

+ Thank you, tender Father, for the ministry and fellowship you've given during this time. It's been wonderful to be "home" and to be reminded of your constant care and love over my life.

July 26, 1980

Finished is a lovely fruitful week in New Zealand. What a week for God's glory!

- I was able to show the slide-tape 7-8 times to many groups and leaders.
- Good, strengthening fellowship was had with Bernie Ogilvy and the NZ YWAMers.
- Input was given to the situation at Valley Road that I believe God will use.
- We had great times of fellowship with many friends.

And in the end, God's financial blessing began to flow toward us in a mighty way—which was such an encouragement.

*Also, on the last night that I spoke at a public gathering, at the conclusion of the evening, there was a time of prayer over our ministry. This was so encouraging, coming at the right time of tiredness and drain for me personally. It was as if God is now gently lifting me up to glimpse his plans for my life to encourage me to go on. I was greatly built up.

Now we are on to the Pacific Northwest after a good trip to Auckland—Honolulu—Los Angeles and Seattle. I am ready for a time of strengthening, rest and revelation:

"I am the Lord your God who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go" (Isaiah 48:17).

*I desperately cry out for your strengthening and revelation My King and my God. Restfully, I wait in the palm of your hands (Isiah 49:16). May I hear your voice.

+ My goals for the Northwest:

1. Rest – relax and exercise.
2. Revelation – from prayer, study and reflection.
3. Ministry and fellowship—it never ends!

Port Orchard, Washington

July 29, 1980

Sweet has been the rest I'm enjoying here in Port Orchard. The weather is beautiful, and it is good to be home.

God has led me to read the book *Destined for the Thrown* and just today I re-read E.M. Bounds' classic *Preacher and Prayer*. Both books have really stimulated me to be a man of prayer. I commit myself to this! Lord, if I fail in anything, may it not be in the place of prayer.

Our home church—**Harper Evangelical Free Church**—now has a new pastor. Keith Meyer is a young man of 24 whose father is the president of Trinity Divinity School. Monday, we got acquainted by sending nearly three hours together in his study. I came away from the time very thoughtfully. He and I disagree on styles, trends, emphases, and theological perspectives in the church and God's work on earth. I respect him as a strong young man with a good heart, but I regret having to conclude that he is very traditional, denominational, anti-charismatic and politically somewhat liberal.

Yesterday afternoon I sought the Lord after our encounter. My desire was to understand what had taken place at Harper by his coming and how God wanted me to now view our relationship.

The Lord led me clearly to 1 Samuel 12:18-25. From this passage I discerned that Harper Church had been tested in their choice of a pastor. Would they continue to move ahead in the things of God or retreat into their old, secure ways? They had made a backward choice, but God would still bless them if they would obey him. And as for Shirley's and my role, verse 23 was very clear "As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you. And I will teach you the way that is good and right."

I was encouraged by these revelations from God. Last evening, we shared the WFJ presentation at First Christian Church and spoke on obedience. The anointing of God was there because we had spent time in prayer.

My Numbered Days – August 1980 (Psalm 90:12)

My Calling: Promoting revival in the church for world missions.

Priorities: Be a man of prayer and the Word. Prophecy. Lead the Renewal Team.

LIFE OBJECTIVE: Glorify God in revival.

STRATEGIES: Pray, Meditate, Speak, Write, Lead, Inspire.

PRAYERFUL TACTICS:

1. Aug. 21-19 – Tie up work in D.C.
2. "Readying time" in Texas – Sept. 1-15?
3. Attend Prayer Conference - Kansas City – Sept. 18-20
4. Return to Washington, D.C. – establish work – Sept. 21 on.
5. Sept. 21 – Feb. 15 – Give BIRTH to our Washington, D.C. ministry (base).

August 7, 1980

A few days ago, Shirley and I spent a very enjoyable 3-4 days with my parents in Portland. We all spent a lot of time together and **I really saw a spiritual growth in both of my parents**. God has brought a very special closeness between us and our parents. During the weekend I also spoke at their church, the Southwood Park Evangelical Free Church. I felt God's anointing in both settings.

Monday evening, we returned to Washington State **where I spoke at the CMTS on Tanglewood Island with YWAM**. The Spirit of God also left a deep sense of awe there.

This week I have been resting, enjoying friends, and preparing to return to the battle. Yesterday I received much revelation in reading the book of Habakkuk. Much of this time, I have been pondering in my heart the decisions we will be making soon.

*Lord Jesus – have complete control of my life at this moment to prepare me for greater spiritual harvest. I am yours—weak and dependent. But I am also committed unswervingly to you.

Solvang, California

August 12, 1980

Our time in the Pacific Northwest came to an end and we flew on to California. There, **we spent a few enjoyable days in the Solvang area being involved with Greg Musch and Ramona Jensen's wedding**. It was a beautiful time. I was Greg's best man. (The Solvang YWAM base is almost totally gone now. They have moved to Texas and God has opened the door to purchase David Wilkerson's property [Twin Oaks Ranch] to be the new, large, North American headquarters. It is exciting. All glory to God!

During this time, Shirley and I were able to spend some quality time with Leland. I shared with him my thoughts on the development of the Renewal Team. He gave wholehearted support to the ideas and even said that he felt our work should be re-named "YWAM Renewal Ministries." God has already given me this same name. Wonderful confirmation.

Arrowhead Springs, California

We spent two exciting days at **Campus Crusade's International headquarters** at Arrowhead Springs. It's a beautiful 1200-acre property run by an efficient Great Commission-mined organization. We asked them many questions to learn their strengths and enjoyed in-depth fellowship with them. We also showed the WFJ slide tape and God really knit our hearts together. John chapter 17 is truly happening during our day.

Washington, D.C. (Upper Marlboro, MD)

August 14, 1980

*What a tremendous two-day retreat and fast God has given us [with our team at Ritchie Baptist Church, Upper Marlboro, Maryland]!! The center point of this time was the clear revelation of God that our ministry should plant its roots in the WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA. What revelation, insight, and holy fear was given us regarding this step.

Here is how the revelation developed:

+ We began by talking about the direction and burden of YWAM right now as seen in the International Conference held recently in Thailand. We talked about the fresh burden of missions as seen through the emphases of:

- a. Our role in history as a missionary band.
- b. Long-range mission to the “hidden peoples.”
- c. The need of the world’s cities.
- d. Ministry to the poor, needy and sojourners.
- e. The prophetic warning of the times.
- f. The explosion and resurrection of Christ’s work on the earth.

This sharing showed us where our “head” is going.”

+ Next, we took an in-depth look at our own personal callings and the development of the Renewal Team. We have been together for three years. My own life preparation goes back in an orderly sequence of steps about eight years.

+ On this double foundation, I began to share what my heart had been pondering for months, and that is, where are we going. I shared about the national and international dimensions that I believe our ministry is to have. We also looked in detail at the forms our local ministry should take.

+ Then we began to ask God the specific question that we have been coming to for over two years: “Where is our work to base itself?”

*Everyone, then, went away to seek the Lord and pray. Out of this time, overwhelming revelation emerged.

+ The unanimous witness of God was that Washington, D.C. was to be the headquarters of YWAM Renewal Ministries. God had prepared our burden, our message and our strengths for the capital city of the United States.

- Many Scriptures were given. Joshua 1 spoke of our approach. Ezekiel 3:5 and Jonah 1:2 mentioned the “great city” that we were to minister in. Jeremiah 29:5-11 was given to a couple of people and gave God’s promise to guide, and again, the

importance of the “city.” Jeremiah 2 was the confirmation of speaking a prophetic word in the capital city—and Isaiah 61 and 62 gave much insight into the thrust of our work.

- Clearly, we were shown that God had sovereignly led us in ministry to the east coast and particularly to Washington, D.C. He wanted us to:
 - o Be a cutting edge of prayer here in the nation’s capital.
 - o To minister in the inner city to the black and minority peoples and be involved in mercy ministries of all types.
 - o To see revival here.
 - o To make Washington, D.C. the greatest missionary-minded and sending city in the world.
 - o To prophesy to the nation – Jeremiah.
- We were also shown that it would be good to have this guidance confirmed by many, and for us to go to Texas to be commissioned and sent out.
- God also showed me some significant dates that encouraged me to see the mantle of anointing that God was giving to us here.
 - o April 29 – 1975 – America withdrew in disgrace from Vietnam.
 - o April 29, 1980 – Washington for Jesus called the nation back to God.
 - o April 17, 1974 – Under Leland Paris’ leadership, YWAM was given the “If My People” message to this nation.
 - o August 17, 1980 – This anointing was to be passed on to the Renewal Team.

*What a bucketful of revelation!!!! After this, we all submitted ourselves to the apparent will of God—and the Holy Spirit led us in a precious and tender time of individually seeing the hand of God ordering each of our steps right up to the present time.

One day had birthed the idea of a destiny.

Now to move into it.

Sunday, August 17, 1980

This day began with us fervently praying for the United States—the nation of our primary calling. It was a tremendous time and afterwards we felt led of the Lord to all pile into the van and go out into the city and pray over our “inheritance.” We began at the Washington Monument on this warm, sunny day and interceded. We then walked the length of the Mall (reminiscing on the April 29th gathering) and prayed on the south steps of the Capitol Building. Finally, to claim the territory and the anointing, we drove about 70 miles around the Beltway singing and praying for the work of God in this metropolitan area.

Arriving back at the Ritchie Church (1822 Sansbury Road, Upper Marlboro, MD), we broke our fast with a light dinner together and communion.

*The vision has been given. Now to place it on its feet and get it up and running. I’ve never been as desperate for God as I am now. Day by day we now begin.

August 19, 1980

We are currently taking a necessary step of faith of negotiating the short-term or long-term use of the Ritchie Baptist Church property as we begin our work in the area. Much prayer is going up. Tomorrow we make them a proposal. I have been greatly encouraged in the Psalms recently and want to daily walk with the mind of Christ.

*Father—thank you for the glorious privilege of your calling. May we truly “accomplish your work” here in Washington, D.C. To do it, I pledge my head and heart to heaven. Give us your favor and we will present precious souls to You.

August 21, 1980

After proposing last night to the Richie Baptist Church trustees an offer to continue using the property—and after much prayer and fasting for God’s will to be done—we were turned down. This was hard to take at first, but after thought and prayer and a night’s sleep, we trusted in the gracious hand of God and began to move out. We’ll be off the property in a week, and totally God-dependent.

+ In the evenings, now, I’ve ben impressed to begin a slow meditation in the book of Joshua. In chapter one, during my first reading, I came across these words:

“Now then, you and all these people GET READY to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them...I will give you every place where you set your foot” (Joshua 1:2,3).

I believe God is saying to me through these Scriptures that the coming weeks are done of READINESS—preparing to “claim our inheritance,” in order of:

- People
- Ministries
- Place(s).

And God will give us the areas of Washington, D.C. that we “tread upon” or get involved in. I wholeheartedly look forward to moving ahead with your care and guidance, dear Father.

*Some important thoughts that God has crystallized in my mind the past few weeks:

- God has prepared me personally for eight years for his calling on my life (1972-1980).
- We may have only eight years left on the earth according to some eschatological predictions.
- 1980-88 must be the years of harvest and fruit-bearing in our ministry.

+ And a thought God gave me in prayer the other day: “I have a radio and television ministry for you here in Washington, D.C.”

August 24, 1980

A word for the uncertainty and many decisions of these days: “The Lord will be the sure foundation of your times, a rich store of salvation, wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure” (Isaiah 33:6).

August 31, 1980

A good “final” week in Washington, D.C. has now been completed and we have traveled across the eastern U.S. to Texas for the September 1-5 orientation time at the new YWAM base near Tyler.

A chapter has now closed, and a new chapter is open.

We’ve packed up our trailers and possessions, moved off the Ritchie Baptist Church property and stored everything. **In this sense, our first nine months in the nation’s capital has ended.** However, after our “refueling time” here in Texas, we go back to start from scratch and lay the foundation for a whole new ministry there. That is truly a new chapter beginning.

Twin Oaks Ranch, Garden Valley, Texas

We had a good 30-hour trip here in our two vehicles. We are staying at the Twin Oaks property and will be for the two weeks we will be here. I know this is going to be a significant time.

*I already “miss” Washington, D.C. Being in the South has only re-affirmed my burden to minister where he has called us—in the northeast, in the city of Washington. I praise God for this heart confirmation.

*I am being stirred by the reading of the book of Ezekiel right now. I also want to have clear goals regarding our time spent in Texas. These are the things to look for and pray about:

1. To receive Loren’s and Leland’s approval and commissioning for launching YWAM Renewal Ministries in Washington, D.C.
2. To have some very important session together as a team re-founding the ministry and preparing for its growth.
3. For each team member to get clear guidance for the future individually; Also, to see other people join the new ministry and to talk and pray with them here.

This is a time of “readying.” May it be a precious time of launching for Christ.

September 3, 1980

It is good to be in Texas and to be staying at Twin Oaks Ranch (headquarters of David Wilkerson’s ministries), the new property that is to become the center of North American YWAM.

So far, our time here during the season of the birth of this new center has been good. More than anything, God has encouraged me to “Be still and know that He is God” (Psalm 46:10). I am to RELAX in all things that lie ahead for us.

Orientation has been good. Loren and Darlene Cunningham have given anointed words and last evening David Wilkerson shared with us. It was powerful. God is doing a mighty work in joining our ministries together.

Today I am gladly fasting and praying. God has led me to really seek him and his greatness. This has been a joy and a treat. I really want to come to the place of loving to be with God more than food. Amen!

September 5, 1980

The last couple of days God has led us into a fast here in Texas which is simultaneously being participated in by YWAM world-wide. The focal point is our ship—the *Anastasis*—which needs a financial release and birth into ministry.

God has shown us that it is the cutting edge of Youth With A Mission world-wide and as it is released first, then other blessings will come to our work everywhere.

Yesterday we had a tremendous time in intercession and spiritual warfare during our fast. God really led us specifically to pray against the prince of the sea. This morning out of Ezekiel 27 and 28, God really gave me some revelations about this.

Last evening, we also had the privilege of hearing Leonard Ravenhill speak. He is a powerful man of God who deeply challenged us to be God’s intercessors. This morning God followed up this word in my heart by leading me to 1 Peter 4:7:

“The end of all things is near. Therefore, be clear-headed and self-controlled so that you can pray.”

September 11, 1980

What a blessed time we have had in Texas! Stimulating. Encouraging. Refreshing. Confirming. Sitting under the following men’s ministries has been life-changing enough: Loren Cunningham, Winkie Pratney, David Wilkerson, Leonard Ravenhill, and Keith Green.

And my greatest purpose for coming here—to receive confirmation about launching our work in D.C.—has been wonderfully settled. In sessions with both Loren and Leland, God has given overwhelming assurance that he has ordered our steps. Hallelujah!

On Sunday morning September 14, we will be commissioned by the base to go to the nation’s capital to begin a new Youth With A Mission center. We are extremely excited.

*I have had some special times during our stay at Twin Oaks. One afternoon I was able to talk and pray with Leonard Ravenhill at his home. Another evening I spoke to Keith Green. And the same night I fellowshiped with Winkie Pratney. A great privilege—all of this.

Now a few days are left, and we go back to begin. We are continuing to “ready ourselves” and I am personally crying out to God for the greatest portion of wisdom that he has ever given me. I wait...believe...and HOPE.

Sunday, September 14, 1980

Today we were officially sent out by the Texas base to begin a brand new YWAM work in Washington, D.C. I was able to share the vision with the entire base and then Leland shared with us and they all prayed over us. The Scripture that God led Leland to share with us was 2 Timothy 4:1-5:

“Preach the word. Be ready in season and out of season. Reprove, rebuke, exhort with great patience and instruction...But you be sober in all things. Endure hardship. Do the work of an evangelist. Fulfill your ministry.”

*Do these words sound familiar? They are the very verses of God’s calling on my own life! Thank you, Lord Jesus, for your great encouragement and confirmation. Now we prepare to go.

Kansas City, Missouri

September 18, 1980

We finished our stay in Teas on a good note and now have arrived in Kansas City for the American Festival of Evangelism Prayer Congress. God truly built us up and strengthened us at Twin Oaks and then refreshingly sent us out. Now we are in KC to be stimulated in prayer and then to go home.

Through the help of some friends, we are all staying as a team in the fellowship hall of a Presbyterian Church in Gardener, Kansas. It is very adequate. God showed us clearly that we all were to go...and his provision has been consistent with his word.

September 20, 1980

This has been a tremendously stimulating time in Kansas City. The Prayer Congress, held downtown at the Radisson Muehlebach Hotel, has been loaded with good teaching and emphasis on the need for prayer and evangelism in America at this time. Leaders and speakers have included:

- Dr. J. Edwin Orr, Bill & Vonette Bright, Dick Eastman, Joy Dawson, Evelyn Christianson, Wyatt Lipscomb, Leighton Ford, Dr. E. V. Hill. Jack Hayford, and many others.

It has been a very united, in-depth teaching-oriented conference. It is another excellent example of what God is doing in America to bring revival to this nation.

God has spoken to me and I want to list most of those thoughts here:

1. I must renew my commitment to God to be with him as a priority two-to-three hours a day.
2. I must have a “family altar” of prayer with Shirley every day. Even while traveling, I can call her to pray together.
3. I was deeply touched by Joy Dawson’s example of “preparing in prayer” to deliver her message. (She was up all night—giving her message twice—and sleeping for two hours.) I desire this diligence and persevering for God’s anointing on my words.
4. We must establish prayer as our priority ministry in Washington, D.C.
5. I must pray more for the nations of the world and finish the prayer map that I once started.

There were many other thoughts and revelations given that are too numerous to name here. It was a blessed but exhausting time. What a privilege to attend. We also enjoyed good fellowship with other YWAM friends and then prepared to drive straight through to the east coast.

Washington, D.C.

September 23, 1980

We’re back in the Washington, D.C. area to open the next important chapter of our lives. Today is the first day of the rest of our lives.

It was not easy getting here. During our stay in Texas and then also driving on our travels back, God kept reminding me that great tests lay ahead.

- We’ve had some personality conflicts on the team.
- We experienced two-or-three near car accidents just before arriving back in the area.
- Our dogs [Joe and Schlitz] have run away from the marina and are lost.

All these little pressures have made me feel very weak and vulnerable. As I prayed about it this morning God reminded me of many other emotionally low moments in my life—yet at the same time, I felt that the responsibilities and the weight of this one just might be the greatest.

*We (the twelve of us—Shirley and I, Mike & Lynn Davision, Wendy Widenmeyer, Judith Anderson, Bev Fish, Rich Riedesel, Roger Cresswell, Mary Scott, Ruth Hope and Mike Fitzgerald) have come back to Washington, D.C. with a vision and a calling, but nothing every tangible. As we take very important territory from the enemy, the battles are going to be great;

Lord, I continue to cry out for wisdom and to cling to your words. Thank you for the strengthening time of prayer that you gave to Shirley and I last night. I vow to move on and, by your grace, produce fruit for God. Every detail and need we are entrusting into your hand.

September 27, 1980

This morning (Saturday) during my devotional time, the Lord ministered to me via the intimacy of his presence and revelation. It has not been an easy first week here in the D.C. area. I have personally felt weak and vulnerable. How encouraging were some of God's words to me this morning:

1. "Give careful thought to your ways" (Haggai 1:7). This phrase is mentioned five times in two chapters. I will carefully think through the birth of our ministry here.
2. "From this day on I will bless you" (Haggai 2:19). What a precious promise to us! I receive it.
3. I received much other revelation about our work and ministry. Much of it came after praising God.

October 5, 1980

All last week was spent in team meetings to pray over, talk over and formulate our understanding of the ministry God has called us to here in Washington, D.C. It has required much time and thought but has been very helpful.

At the end of the week we started three days of fasting and prayer called by Intercessors for America for Octo. 1-3. This national fast was for the purpose of praying through the outlawing of abortion in America and to pray fervently for the important November elections that are only a month away. We had some tremendous times really laying hold of God! I believe that a true turning point was reached, and that God's answers are on the way.

Recently in my "evening quiet time," God spoke to me to begin meditating in the book of Isaiah. When I began to do this, opening the first chapter, I instantly learned WHY I was to be reading it now:

"The vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem."

Application? My calling is to America and its capital city, Washington, D.C. As Isaiah received a vision for his nation and capital, so God wants me to receive some for mine. I rejoice in this awesome privilege.

Virginia Beach, Virginia

October 6, 1980

Just completed a tremendous weekend down in Virginia Beach at the first major organizational meeting for the America for Jesus project. People attended this dynamic conference from every state. With great vision, burden and organizational strategy, we talked about the reality of bringing the message of Christ to 52% of the people of America in at least 20 metropolitan areas in the next eighteen months. It is an awesome and exciting undertaking. I will mention a few of God's instructions to me:

1. While I listened to Gen. Jerry Curry speak at the Saturday luncheon, God really quickened to me that **one day he may use me as a spiritual advisor of the U.S. government—possibly even in the White House.** I hold this loosely in humility.
2. This morning as I sought God about the coming important weeks in our ministry, God turned me to Hebrews 11. This verse was outstanding: “He persevered because he saw him who is invisible” (Verse 27 – NIV).

*Today I rise with faith in my Savior to travail through the birth of our ministry here in Washington, D.C. He has said, “I am the Lord. That is enough...for I am a servant of his.”

October 12, 1980

A lot of things have happened. These are some of the busiest and most pressurized days of my life, mainly because of catching up for the months of travel, and because of the personal attention that I must give to so many areas. It has not been an easy time—but God’s faithfulness keeps me afloat.

I was impressed by God recently out of Daniel 10 that we as a ministry were to go into “21 days of battle” to see our ministry born in Washington. As Daniel prevailed with God over a three-week stretch of prayer, so we are to do the same in birthing our ministries and seeing the necessary properties released here. So far, we are praying three times a day as we Daniel’s custom. Our strong God will come to our aid.

The past few days it has been difficult to get the need for properties off my mind. **There is one property in particular—a 32 room building on Capitol Hill—that we have looked at that I just can’t seem to forget.** In all these decisions God has encouraged me through His Word (Ez. 36:8, Prov. 24:3,4,27).

*I am really wanting to have the mind of Christ and to obey God in giving careful thought to all our ways.

Annapolis & Laurel, Maryland

+ **This morning Shirley and I are having a lovely quiet time on the waterfront in Annapolis. We have come overnight to celebrate our fourth anniversary** and we have had a great time. Tonight, I speak at a church in Laurel, Delaware.

I am also much aware of my need for forgiveness and the “fine-tuning” of my conscience right now. I will obey God in this right away. *I rest in your hands, FAITHFUL AND TRUE.



YOUTH WITH A MISSION RENEWAL TEAM

P. O. BOX YWAM, SOLVANG, CA. 93463
Phone (805) 688-7905 or 688-8467

October 14, 1980

O Lord, revive Thy work in the midst of the years.

Hab. 3:2

Dear family in Christ,

Warm greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus!

Hope you enjoyed our recent newsletter. We were glad to finally get it out to you describing our recent around-the-world trip and also continuing the articles on revival. We thank God for your prayers and support which make our renewal ministry possible.

I promised in the last letter to share with you some interesting developments in our work that have come about recently. That is the occasion for my writing you today. Because of your support of the Renewal Team and the good relationship that we share, I wanted to take the time to give you a detailed account of the most exciting and important step in ministry that our team has ever taken.

To come right to the point: We believe that God has clearly directed us to permanently headquarter our revival ministry in the city of Washington, D.C. In order to expand our thrust and enhance its effectiveness, we believe that at this time it is in the will of God to bring our base of operations to the capital city of the United States. In effect, we are being led to permanently plant a new YWAM center in Washington, D.C. that has a particular emphasis on revival in both local and national dimensions.

Surprised? We were too! Some of you might have had a hunch about it after our extensive involvements in "Washington For Jesus". And others of you already knew or had heard some 'rumors in the air'. Well, it's all true - and I'm sure all of you can imagine the significance of this decision and the potential of its ramifications. Please allow me to explain.

Since the inception of the Renewal Team in 1977 we had looked forward one day to expanding our team emphasis and headquartering our work in a strategic location. For the first few years God clearly led us to pioneer our message and methods through one full-time mobile team - a large caravan of vehicles, trailers and 12-14 people who moved from place to place. During this time our YWAM "home" was in Solvang, California. Practically speaking, however, we found ourselves "ministering out" all twelve months of the year.

Our calling was to a traveling ministry of revival. Yet in the back of our minds we knew that eventually our continually-moving team structure would have to be altered. What would happen when we grew in number? What would our families do when we outgrew our travel trailers? How long could we actually move from place to place without having a "home" to come back to? As we grappled with these questions in the beginning, God simply assured us that in His way and time He would provide for us a suitable "home." "One day", He said, "you will have an established ministry headquarters out of which you will continue to send out multiplied teams of people with the message of spiritual awakening."

Logo above, *General George Washington in Prayer at Valley Forge* by James Edward Kelly, a bronze bas-relief, 1904, and used courtesy of Library of Congress, symbolizes the Renewal Team's commitment to world evangelism through revival.

For two years, then, we put our hand to the plow and simply waited. One year ago the Lord clearly indicated to me that the fall of 1980 would be the right moment to move out of our trailers, grow in number, and expand our ministry. At that time we had invitations from the west coast, mid-west, and the east coast regarding possible "headquarter" sites. We were open to them all. (Some were "more open" to certain ones than to others!!)

On October 15, 1979, we rolled into Washington, D.C. to help spearhead the "Washington For Jesus" national movement. For seven strenuous and exciting months we gave ourselves heart and soul to this great project. On April 29th, 1980, the largest and most significant gathering of Christians in the history of the United States took place in the nation's capital with us having the privilege of significant involvement. A few weeks later we flew through ten different nations to tell the story, and encourage many groups to seek God for revival in their own lands. In August we returned to our trailers and equipment still parked in the Washington, D.C. area.

At that point, the moment of decision had arrived for us. What were we to do? Was it at this time that we were to establish ourselves and multiply? How were we to carry on the means and methods of our revival ministry?

I had personally thought and prayed over this decision for many months. Still, the answer was not clear. To dispel the haziness, we began to fast and pray as a team for God's direction. As we sought the Lord together and began to analyze the many pieces of this very large puzzle, suddenly it all came into focus. And it was unanimous.

Now was the time to plant and expand our renewal ministry. The place of God's choice: Washington, D.C. And God seemed to say to us that this had been His choice all along. We had simply been being prepared for the plan.

"The steps of a man are established by the Lord; and He delights in his way." (Ps. 37:23)

Let me share with you just a few of the confirming evidences in our decision:

1. My own personal calling and entrustment in ministry. For eight years God had trained and used me in revival ministry. Particular emphasis had been given to America's Christian heritage and the application of Biblical principles in the church and society. Could this be best utilized in Washington, D.C.?
2. The leading and ministry gifts of the Renewal team. Since 1978 our team had ministered primarily on the eastern seaboard from Virginia to Maine. All of us carried a burden for this part of the States and share in a "national" concern. (For interest sake - nearly 2/3 of the entire population of the U.S. lies within 600 miles of Washington, D.C.) In October of '79 we had come to the capital for "Washington For Jesus". Had our burden, invitations, and ministry steps to D.C. just been a coincidence?
3. Unusual favor and incredible Christian relationships in Washington, D.C. Through "Washington For Jesus" God had used us to build links between some 3000 churches in the metropolitan area. A pastor of a leading black church urged us to stay. Another pastor (of a leading white church) who

hosted the most listened to radio program in the entire area had invited us weekly onto his show for over six months. A tremendous working relationship had been established with Campus Crusade. Everywhere we went in the metropolitan area we were encouraged to stay on as a vital, complimentary missionary organization. Had God given us this wealth of favor and relationship with no long term plan in mind?

4. Clear scriptural encouragements and directives. In Jeremiah 2:2 God had commanded the prophet to "go and proclaim in the ears of Jerusalem" his message. This was the call for revival in the capital city, and it was quickened to us to apply it in our own ministry. Joshua chapter one was also laid on our hearts, and was the story of the Israelites preparing to tackle the stronghold of Canaan - Jericho. Isaiah 61 and 62 spoke much of revival and again specifically mentioned the "capital city". Many other scriptures came and Jeremiah 29:11-13 summarized God's clear general promise to guide us.

"I know the plans that I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare, and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. ."

5. Confirmation from parents and other spiritual leaders. Many of our folks had been contacted and agreed with the guidance. (Even through tears. .) I had talked personally with Leland Paris and also Loren Cunningham about the idea and they had whole-heartily embraced it. Other pastors and leaders had been favorable. Were these important human checks and confirmations?
6. A deep and abiding peace of God in our hearts. This became our final security. All of us began to deeply feel that this was the will of God. Our hearts were drawn to the nation's capital. Was God about to give us the desire of our hearts?

And so, after much thought, prayer, sharing, and receiving counsel, we rejoiced that God was truly leading us to base and expand our ministry out of the Washington, D.C. area. This would be a new, but thrilling step to take.

Right now we are pursuing this goal. As we've continued to pray God has shown us to begin adapting and expanding our work in two distinct directions.

Locally - Washington, D.C. area

We will be extensively involved in revival ministries in this area. As a mission society we will encourage the local Body of Christ in intercession, spiritual renewal, evangelism and missions. Our staff people will continue to work out in teams in the cause of revival. This will include ministry in the inner city (a large ghetto area with the largest black population outside of continental Africa) and also in the suburbs. Our goals will be:

- to be a catalyst for revival in the city
- to help our nation's capital become a "capital of prayer" for our own country and the world.
- to encourage Washington, D.C. to become one of the greatest missionary-minded, missionary-sending cities on the earth. (We send everything else from here - why not the gospel?)
- to be a positive prophetic voice in the capital.

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We will work alongside many churches and Christian organizations in the area to accomplish this purpose. Many dynamic ministries are uniting together at this time to try to make our capital city "a city set on a hill."

Nationally

Speakers, teams, and revival materials will also continue to be sent out to various parts of the nation. These shorter-term renewal teams will carry on our traveling thrust. In the next eighteen months we will be helping to coordinate YWAM North America's involvement in America For Jesus. This national movement will be bringing the spirit and emphasis of "Washington For Jesus" to possibly 250 U.S. cities between March of 1981 and April of 1982. On April 29th, 1982, we will again help to host "Washington For Jesus II" here on the Washington Mall. Our slide-tape presentation of the rally is soon to be mass-marketed and used all over the nation.

That's the vision and exciting news!! We've found a "home" where we are to headquarter and expand our ministry. At the moment we're clinging to the calling. All our possessions are in storage. We're temporarily staying in the homes of friends while we look for a place to live. And tangibly speaking we have nothing. Just a calling. But that is enough. Where God guides, (and we are faithful) He provides. We are right now trusting Him for the necessary miracles.

Will you stand behind us in prayer at this crucial moment of growth in our ministry? This is my main reason for writing. We have never needed your prayers more than we do now. As God directs and empowers you in prayer,

- intercede fervently for the twelve of us and others that are to join us. Pray God's strengthening and protection down upon us as we begin this enlarged task.
- pray for our urgent need of suitable living accommodations for the ministry and also strategically located offices and ministry center. (We are currently looking at a 35-room building on Capitol Hill just two blocks from the U.S. Congress. Pray for God's direction and necessary miracles!)
- ask God to meet the great financial needs that will be incurred in establishing our headquarters here.
- and pray that God will do such a work in our hearts as to grant our primary request...for revival in this city and the nation.

Thanks for taking the time to read this and rejoice with us - and then for taking time to pray. I would love to receive a letter from you sharing any advice or encouragement God may give you. It would be our privilege to pray over and respond to your input.

Until further notice we can still be contacted through the below address. I look forward to hearing from you, and am grateful for your continuing support as we turn this vital corner in our ministry. On behalf of all the others, I am

Yours for increasing revival,


Ron Boehme

P.O. Box 389 Bladensburg, MD 20710

Washington, D.C.

October 20, 1980

Busy and exciting days these are. We are now mid-way through our 21 Days of Battle. It is one of the most difficult times of our lives as we are all still in transition, extremely busy and doing all in our power to establish God's ministry in Washington, D.C.

Over a week's time we have edged very close to the purchasing of a building on Capitol Hill. I have met with Mr. Alejandro Palau, the owner, a few times and have been able to minister to him, become his friend and watch God sovereignly open his heart. Tomorrow we will make him an offer on the building.

God has really led us in this direction. Pastor Willett and Ray MacAnanny have felt the leading is of God, and during a very good prayer time last Friday, God clearly spoke to us as a team to "move ahead."

The word was very clear from Scripture. God laid Haggai 1 & 2 on various hearts and many powerful verses are here. We were also led to Psalm 24:27, Deut. 19:1,2, and Psalm 127:1.

*God's direction to me personally was out of Matthew 5:14-16. "A city on a hill cannot be hid. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they will see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

*I am pressing into God in thought and prayer. His continual encouragement has been to persevere and take careful thought of our ways. I need you, precious Father and lean on your strength and care right now.

October 25, 1980

Our battle continues. It was not an easy week for me personally, but I thank God for his sustaining grace. As we've carried on looking for properties to establish ourselves here, it has been a constant fight of faith and determination. I have vowed to not quit, and God has been with us.

It is also a very precarious time in U.S. history. The presidential and local elections are ten days away. Political murmurings to help free the hostages in Iran are coming to a turning point. Right now, in my spirit I have an incredible sense of destiny of the hour—and I desire to do and be all that God would have me to be.

With multitudes of decisions to make and courses to set, I call upon you, my King and my God, to lead me. May these days not pass without seeing my best at this time for your kingdom. Lead on O King Eternal!

October 26, 1980

Last night in my evening meditation God began to give me understanding about testing we are now encountering. First, I was led to 1 Peter 4:12: "Do not be surprised at the painful trial that you are suffering as though something strange were happening to you."

I then began to think about areas of trial of seemingly unanswered prayer that I have struggled with lately. As I did this, revelation came to every point.

1. Losing our dogs—this has been a Job’s test, “that which we feared coming upon us,” a great emotional drain to rise and conquer. Satan has done this, and God is teaching character through it.
2. Losing our camera—a test involving learning how to deal with failure.
3. Difficulty finding a property to live on—this is a “death of a vision” test.”
4. Becoming pregnant—a test of perseverance in gaining the word of the Lord.

*All these have been brought to us to strengthen us to perform our ministry out of Washington, D.C. This help in understanding has really set me free.

Now I cry out for the other half—for wisdom. “Speak, Lord, for your servant hears.”

My Numbered Days – November 1980 (Psalm 90:12)

My Calling: Promoting spiritual revival through my leadership, preaching and teaching.

3 Priorities: Be a man of prayer & Scripture. Lead with humility & strength. Preach the Word.

LIFE OBJECTIVE: Glorifying God by promoting spiritual revival.

STRATEGIES: Pray, Meditate, Lead, Preach, Unite, Write.

PRAYERFUL TACTICS:

1. November – Base our ministry in D.C.
2. December – Begin Washington for Jesus II – 18 months
3. Dec. 16-20 – YWAM Staff Conference – Texas
4. Dec. 21 – Jan. 7 – Family in the Pacific Northwest
5. Jan – Mar – Build and begin our ministries.

November 6, 1980

Some exciting days have just passed and now some revolutionary ones lie ahead of us. A few days ago, all our staff were involved in two days of fasting and prayer for the November elections. During about nine hours of intercession, God really led us in repentance, spiritual warfare and much detail regarding the crucial decisions facing the American people.

The evening of the general election we all watched excitedly on television as Ronald Reagan won in a landslide to become the 40th president of the United States and many conservative leaders rose to power in the U.S. House and Senate. An incredible move of the Spirit of God!

Today, Washington, D.C. is in an uproar. The people have spoken so clearly that literally overnight the political course of our nation has been amazingly altered.

*Yesterday I was privileged to be in a luncheon at the Pentagon with Gen. Jerry Curry. Reflecting on the current movements, he commented that he believed that Washington for Jesus won the spiritual battle for this nation. He said that the election had now brought the result.

There is an awe in the air right now. A day or so ago God said to me, “Now is the hour for the church.” With all my heart I have said, “I am committed to be your servant at this hour, Lord Jesus.”

*Also: As a ministry we are now facing the biggest financial decision of our lives. After weeks of thinking, praying and negotiating, we must make the decision to buy the Convent on Capitol Hill—133 C. Street—or not.

I personally feel very weak and in need of God. Lord, hold my hand now to base, build and begin our ministries here where you have called us.

November 12, 1980

A couple of days ago I also lost my notebook in the inner city. Praise God that it—and especially the writings in my journal have been found.

We are about to buy the former Convent at 133 Ct. St. SE on the Capitol Grounds. As we’ve neared the decision time, God has given us much assurance that it is his will, and so we are moving ahead. I’ll list below most of the guidance given out of two-to-three prayer meetings we’ve had:

- 1 Peter 5:5,6, Ps. 33, and Prov. 19:2,20.
- “Het out on the water.” “Will you go it with Me?”
- Ezra 1:2 – encouragement to go up and build.
- “I have given it to you; I have set it aside for you.”
- “Go forward with caution”—like an intersection with a blinking yellow light.
- Regarding finances: be wise and lay a strong groundwork.
- Ps. 104 – We are “receiving in due season.”
- Psalm 133 – same as the house number – a center of unity for the Body of Christ.
- Ezekiel 33:7 – watchtower.
- Mark 5:36,50,52 – “don not be afraid; only believe.”
- 2 Sam. 7:3, 18-29.
- “Faithful is he that calls you—he will bring it to pass.”
- * Isaiah 49:3 – from David Saavedra
- Continue in faith.
- 2 Chr. 7:12-22
- Ps. 47
- Job 22:27,28,30.
- Ps. 70:4
- “Tell the children of Israel to move forward.”

And so, we are. It is the biggest step of our lives...but it may also be the most influential and fruitful.

***And the other blessing: God has allowed Shirley to become pregnant. All praise to His Name, our first child will be coming next summer—exactly what he told us would happen. May this conception of a new life only be symbolic of the conception and the birth of our ministry here in Washington, D.C.

[Nathan was conceived while we lived with Rick and Linda Fraser in Silver Spring, MD.]

Tyler, Texas

November 17, 1980

I write from Tyler, Texas where I am speaking for a week at the Texas DTS. We have continued to press onward in our preparation for purchasing the Convent in Washington, D.C. Now I have a week to get away and speak and get a clear perspective on what all this means.

As I prayed and began sharing this morning, God encouraged me to rebuke the enemy and fulfill my ministry. I am trusting God for great things here.

November 18, 1980

I am enjoying a “free-flowing” time here in ministry so far. God has led me to pray daily for the students by name and I am enjoying the authority I sense upon the Word of God.

Today on a short walk with God around a part of the Twin Oaks property, I was once again in prayer for our property purchase in D.C. Again, I was firmly reminded that it was God choice and would see his provision. He also shared this tidbit with me: “I am giving your access to the throne room of a nation.”

*The other day I was also thinking through my own personal goals for the coming six months and came to these conclusions:

1. To wisely set 10-year goals for our ministry.
2. To lead the large promotional thrust of our work.
3. To see a Renewal Foundation raised up to undergird us financially.
4. To get to know the city and the people of Washington, D.C. very well.

Washington, D.C.

November 27, 1980

Back in Washington, D.C. A few days ago, I was led into a real desperate seeking time of intercession regarding the purchase of the building on Capitol Grounds. Because of our house being used by different people, I had to go into the bathroom to be alone with God.

There, in solitude, God really met with me. Strongly and assuredly He spoke clearly to me out of Matthew 14 & 16:

- “Step out onto the water in faith.” “Come to me with complete trust into an experience of faith you have never attempted before.”
- I was led clearly to rebuke Satan and cast him behind me.
- Out of Isaiah 54:2-4, 17 came the total assurance that this step was of God and that “no weapon that is formed against you will prosper.”

+ I greatly needed this precious time of strengthening and I love and praise you, Father, for always being there in times of need.

*Today is Thanksgiving and we are celebrating it with friends in the area. This morning I deeply thanked God for all his blessings to me. And he gave me this revelation: Thanksgiving or Christmas without an acknowledgment of him would be like going to someone’s home for their birthday party and never talking to the person. Ridiculous? Yes. But it shockingly shows the depravity of the human heart and turning away from God.

December 7, 1980

A very busy and complicated week has come to an end and another one begins.

We continue to draw near to the purchase of “133 C St. SE.” Only legal stipulations and technicalities remain. We have been busily working on the building and are beginning to see God’s vision for it. May we be worthy!

Tired, I press on. My eyes are on Jesus. My conscience is clear, and my heart ever set on revival.

December 14, 1980

It has been quite an eventful week. The most exciting happening was that after weeks of negotiation and preparatory work, on December 12, 1980, God allowed us to purchase 133 C. St. SE—the 8000 square foot Convent on the U.S. Capitol Grounds—to become the new headquarters of Youth With A Mission, Washington, D.C.

The settlement took about three hours, but in the end, we walked away with a \$550,000 purchase [the building was worth 1.2 million market-value at the time], with \$7200 down, clear title, [major payments to make], and the great excitement of a vision. For me, personally, it was a long strenuous process that was finally completed—and at long last, we could move into the building.

Our ministry was birthed and planted. HALLELUJAH!

That evening—though we were all very tired, we “celebrated” at the property with some donuts and apple juice all together and then we spent some hours praying over all the areas of the building, singing to the Lord and reading all the Scriptures that God had given to us in this big step. God really met us as we gave the building back to Him and released his spiritual blessing and authority over it.

- We began in the prayer room, and the Spirit of the Lord really met us [where a large stained-glass window shows children on the lap of Jesus]. A vision was even given to one of an angel--seated on the roof with a sword of light that swung across the city and nation while we prayed. We will begin our prayer ministry in this room January 20, 1981.
- In the meeting hall [back of the main floor], we interceded and believed God for discipleship training that would reach even senators and congressmen.
- All the other areas were similar—cleansing the rooms in Jesus' Name and praying down God's blessing and vision.

And so, we are in. Great and faithful are you, Lord God. You have quickly moved on our behalf. May we be as faithful in being the "swift news of the Gospel" coming into the hearts and lives of people.

*God has recently led me back into an evening meditation in the book of Nehemiah. It is stimulating and encouraging in the building of our Washington, D.C. work.

*I have also been impressed by God to pray for all 200 nations of the world in a month. This is seven nations a day. I want to cry out for the world and become thoroughly acquainted with the planet that God is striving to redeem.

Dallas, Texas

*And now I am in Dallas, Texas for the YWAM North American Staff Conference. I am greatly looking forward to the vision, sharing, rest and fellowship.

December 20, 1980

What a tremendous week! Over 120 YWAM leaders have been gathered together here at Brookhaven Retreat in Texas for our leader's conference and we had a "gem" of a time. As usual, it has been visionary, powerful, tearful, warm and exhausting!

In some ways the messages and emphases here have been carry-overs from the Thailand Conference. Most of this, however, have been further expanded and has especially zeroed in on YWAM's call to evangelism and the cities in 1981. Loren Cunningham, Floyd McClung, Joy Dawson, Don Stephens, David Wilkerson and others have brought forth the word. All of us "received it with joy" and have now gone away to obey. The great theme of the conference was the burden for lost souls in evangelism, especially in the cities. God really met me personally regarding this and I have set my heart to change. This year I want to be a soul-winner!

Port Orchard, Washington

December 21, 1980

It is good to be back in the Pacific Northwest. I want these days over Christmas to be fruitful ones before returning to Washington, D.C.

*This morning this little “nugget promise” was given to me: “Whatever you ask of God, God will give you” (John 11:25). I want to ask BIG THINGS of God and stand on this promise. This will glorify His Name.

December 27, 1980

I praise you, Father, for a wonderful Christmas. My heart has overflowed with love for Jesus and I have repented of my shallowness, and desire to go deeper in Him!

Christmas Day was a full day with family. I thank God for some opportunities to share the Gospel with relatives. My burden in prayer for them goes deeper.

My quiet times have been disjointed as I’ve enjoyed basically a week of rest. This morning as I meditated in God’s presence, the Word was very alive to me. The following Scripture was especially quickened to me as a promise and encouragement:

“I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door that no one will shut and no one will open because you have a little power and have kept my word and have not denied my Name...I have loved you...Because you have kept the word of my perseverance, I will also keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come on the whole world, to test those who dwell upon the earth...” (Revelation 3:7-10).

December 28, 1980

While visiting a friend this evening, God impressed upon my mind a certain truth. The words were that in 1981 I was to lay the foundations of our ministry in Washington, D.C. and simultaneously lead the team out in revival and evangelism. A double calling—and my expanded capacity to handle it—are being asked of me.

*I receive the word, Lord Jesus and believe you for the anointing and the grace.

December 31, 1980

Another vitally important year has come to an end. For about the eleventh year, I spent my New Year’s Eve where I ought to be—in church—and, as usual, it was a blessing. God tenderly spoke to my heart. After the service I was led to drive down to Southworth Beach for a few moments of reflection.

It was there, almost seven years ago, that God called me into his service in Youth With A Mission. As I stood in the dark with the wind blowing in my face and the waves breaking upon the rocks, once again the rocks, once again the voice of God came to me:

“Remember this, but don’t look back. Keep moving ahead in my calling. “Go your way.” It will continue to be done to you as you have believed. Dark and tumultuously days are coming, but I will be with you. Step out on the water in faith and keep your gaze on me. I will guide you until death.”