

## Mahon Kenyan Dispatch #05 07.24.09 Mornings With God In His Word

### Pictures

- 1\_One Of Four Morning Men's Bible Study.
- 2\_Weekly Saturday Evening Bible Study
- 3\_With Elders African Inland Mission Church
- 4\_University Student Ministries Are The Same Everywhere.
- 5\_Prayer for El as she gets women into the Word.

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In this dispatch...

- I. The Guthrie Team hits the ground running
- II. Mornings With God In His Word - The Daily Quiet Time Alone With God
- III. Mornings With God In His Word - Bible Study With Serious Men
- IV. El's Ministry of the Word
- V. Prayer Requests: Please allow the accompanying passages to guide your prayers...
  - A. The Guthrie Team arrives Saturday morning with Richard Price. They will have just enough time to shower, shave and change before heading out to teach and preach. There are three conferences going on that day and they will be actively participating in all three. Ask God to empower these men as they face a very challenging day of ministering the Word of God.  
*Isaiah 40:29-31 He gives strength to the weary, And to him who lacks might He increases power. Though youths grow weary and tired, And vigorous young men stumble badly, Yet those who wait for the LORD Will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary.*
  - B. Ask God to bless the preaching and teaching of His holy, eternal, inspired, inerrant, written Word.  
*2 Thessalonians 3:1-2 Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you; and that we will be rescued from perverse and evil men; for not all have faith.*
  - C. All men will be active in evangelism. Ask God to empower their witness as they share Christ. They have all memorized 30 plus verses, many having to do with their testimony. Ask God as well to empower the Word as they share Christ.  
*Acts 1:8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."*
- 1 Peter 1:23 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.*

D. Ask God to bless the morning Bible studies I am teaching, in addition to weekend conferences and week night home meetings.

*Acts 5:42 And every day, in the temple and from house to house , they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.*

*Acts 20:20-21 how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly and from house to house , solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.*

E. Ask God to bless the ladies studies which Eleanor is teaching.

*Titus 2:3-5 Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.*

Dear Prayer Warriors,

### **The Guthrie Team hits the ground running**

First things first. The Guthrie, Oklahoma team just called and due to a rain delay they have missed a connecting flight. Please pray that the arrangements for their continuation to Kenya will go smoothly. I am cutting and pasting below the last email I received from Richard Price, their team leader...

**John we are on our way, look forward to seeing you, we are your servants we will be happy with any and all plans that you have made for us. We have already decided several weeks ago that the circumstances we encounter along the way good or not, is of no matter, the chief concern is making the most of the time the Lord is giving us. Or as my ole friend would say butcher though to victory Make hay while the sun shines. Psalm 27:4  
Blessing,  
Richard**

This team has responded to the Macedonian call, the call for help from a far away land by a people they do not know. They will get off the plane after flying all night and be thrown right into battle. They will have just enough time to shave, shower, pick up their Bibles and Bible study notes before being thrown into action. They are men coming to do a man's job. They will be teaching and preaching the holy, inspired, eternal, inerrant written Word in churches and homes across Nairobi all day. They are men though, and like Joshua's men they have come ready. They will do an all night forced march and then throw themselves into the battle. The enemy is not unprepared and is already arrayed. We look to you to break up their lines with a Shock and Awe Prayer Bombardment. You will put them back on their heels and the Guthrie team will cut through them with the Sword of the Spirit like a flaming sword through butter.

### ***Joshua 10:6-10***

***Then the men of Gibeon sent word to Joshua to the camp at Gilgal, saying, "Do not abandon your servants; come up to us quickly and save us and help us, for all the kings***

*of the Amorites that live in the hill country have assembled against us." So Joshua went up from Gilgal, he and all the people of war with him and all the valiant warriors. The LORD said to Joshua, " Do not fear them, for I have given them into your hands; not one of them shall stand before you."*

*So Joshua came upon them suddenly by marching all night from Gilgal.*

*And the LORD confounded them before Israel, and He slew them with a great slaughter at Gibeon, and pursued them by the way of the ascent of Beth-horon and struck them as far as Azekah and Makkedah.*

By your prayers the Guthrie team, after an all night forced march, will throw itself into the spiritual battle and send the enemy reeling.

### **Mornings With God In His Word - The Daily Quiet Time Alone With God**

*Psalms 119:147-148 I rise before dawn and cry for help; I wait for Your words. My eyes anticipate the night watches, That I may meditate on Your word.*

Hitting the ground running is nothing new for men who come before the Lord to do a man's job. I happen to know that Richard Price rises at 4:30 a.m. every morning to make sure that he gets in his Quiet Time Alone With God and Scripture Review before heading out to work each day. The student who disciplined me at the University of Texas told me right off to live by two rules.

First: Ask yourself at 10 p.m. each night. "Is what I am doing right now more important than being alert for God during my Quiet Time in the morning"

Second: Decide what time you need to get up to fulfill your responsibilities to work and school and then set your clock an hour earlier for your Quiet Time Alone With God. It was good advice and has stood me well over the years.

### **Mornings With God In His Word - Bible Study With Serious Men**

*1 Corinthians 16:13 Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men , be strong.*

Hitting the ground running is no big deal for serious men, doing a man's job. Early morning Bible studies are a way of life for me. It is no big deal for a man who is already getting up early every morning to spend time with God, to set aside one of those mornings to meet in Bible study.

Everywhere I go, in every culture and in every country I hear the same - men will just not get up early to study God's Word.

Every where I go, in every culture and in every country I find the same - men who are willing to get up early to study God's Word.

While in Nairobi I meet with men for 6:30 a.m. Bible studies on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. On Saturday mornings we have a large group Family Discipleship Seminar. Those attending all must rise will before 6:30 to get there on time.

These studies all require preparation and Scripture memory. I praise God for the privilege of spending time with serious men of God, preparing to do a man's job. *Job 40:6-7 Then the LORD answered Job out of the storm and said, "Now gird up your loins like a man..."*

### El's Ministry of the Word

*Proverbs 31:26 She opens her mouth in wisdom, And the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.*

Eleanor also, in addition to her role as my helpmate in GCI and in the ministry is leading Bible studies of her own. Eleanor is currently leading four ladies Bible studies (wives of those in leadership) as well as teaching the women at conferences which we are invited to speak.) This will be covered more extensively in a future dispatch but please remember her as she ministers the Word to the wives of these men.

As always we minister by the empowerment of your fervent and effectual prayers. Were it not for your co-laborship with us through your faithful intercessions this ministry would not be possible.

By His mercy,

II Corinthians 4:1

Rev. John S. Mahon - You may find me early in the morning, with men, doing a man's job in the harvest fields of Kenya.

Please allow me to close with dispatch with a hymn from my prayer notebook that has been especially meaningful to me...

*(Psalms 104:33-34 "I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. Let my meditation be pleasing to Him; As for me, I shall be glad in the LORD.")*

### Rise Up, O Men Of God

Rise up, O men of God!  
Have done with lesser things.  
Give heart and mind and soul and strength  
To serve the King of kings.

*Rise up, O men of God!  
The kingdom tarries long.  
Bring in the day of brotherhood  
And end the night of wrong.*

Rise up, O men of God!  
The church for you doth wait,  
Her strength unequal to her task;  
Rise up and make her great!

*Lift high the cross of Christ!  
Tread where His feet have trod.  
As brothers of the Son of Man,  
Rise up, O men of God!*

By William T. Merrill 1867 - 1954

Merrill was a graduate of Rutgers College (BA 1887, MA 1890) and Union Theological Seminary (BD 1890). He pastored at Presbyterian churches in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Chicago, Illinois; and the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City (1911-1938). Of this hymn he said, "**Nolan R. Best, then editor of *The Continent*, happened to say to me that there was urgent need of a brotherhood hymn. The suggestion lingered in my mind, and just about that time I came upon an article by Gerald Stanley Lee, entitled The Church of the Strong Men. I was on one of the Lake Michigan steamers going back to Chicago for a Sunday at my own church, when suddenly this hymn came up, almost without conscious thought or effort.**" [Laufer, pp. 132-3](#)

### **Holy, Holy, Holy**

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee:  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

*Holy, Holy, Holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who wert and art, and evermore shalt be.*

Holy, Holy, Holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;  
Only Thou art holy - there is none beside Thee  
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

(**Reginald Heber** - Born: April 21, 1783, Malpas, Cheshire, England. Died: April 3, 1826, Trichinopoly (Tiruchirappalli), Tamil Nadu, India, of a cerebral hemorrhage while bathing. Buried: St. John's Church, Trichinopoly, Tamil Nadu, India (north side of the altar). Heber attended Brasenose College, Oxford, where he won a number of awards in English and Latin. He received a fellowship to All Souls College, and later became Rector at Hodnet, Shropshire, England. In 1823, he became, somewhat reluctantly, Bishop of Calcutta, India.)

### **Break Though The Bread Of Life**

Break Thou the bread of life, dear Lord to me,  
As Thou didst break the loaves Beside the sea;  
Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee Lord;  
My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word

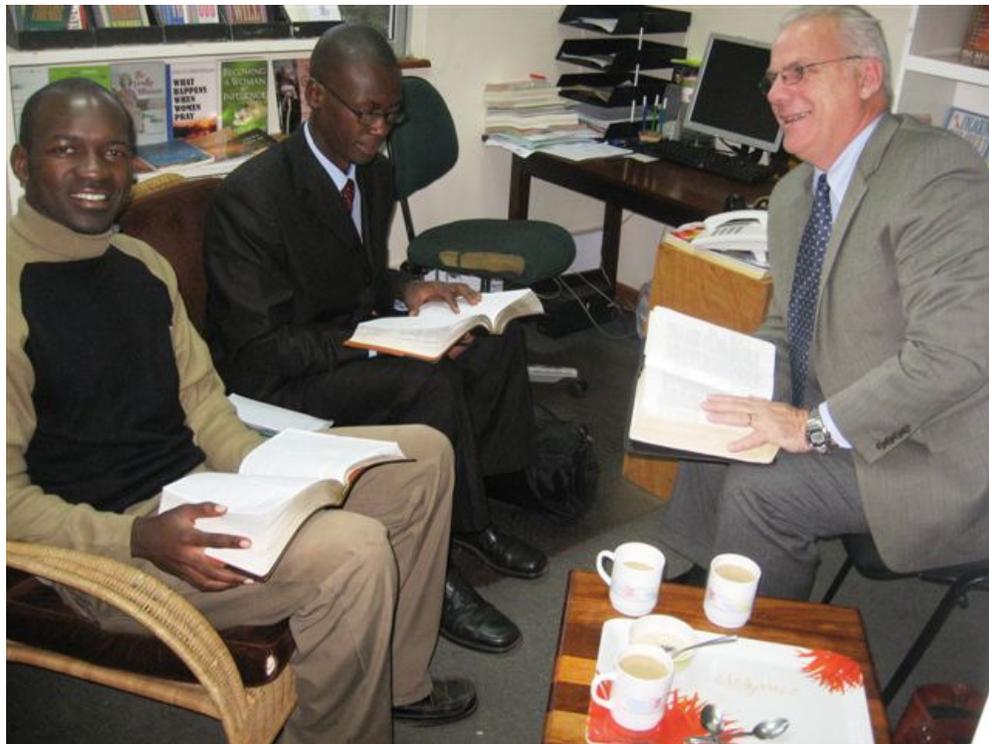
*Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord, To me, to me,  
As Thou didst bless the bread By Galilee;*

*Then shall all bondage cease, All fetters fall;  
And I shall find my peace, My all in all.*

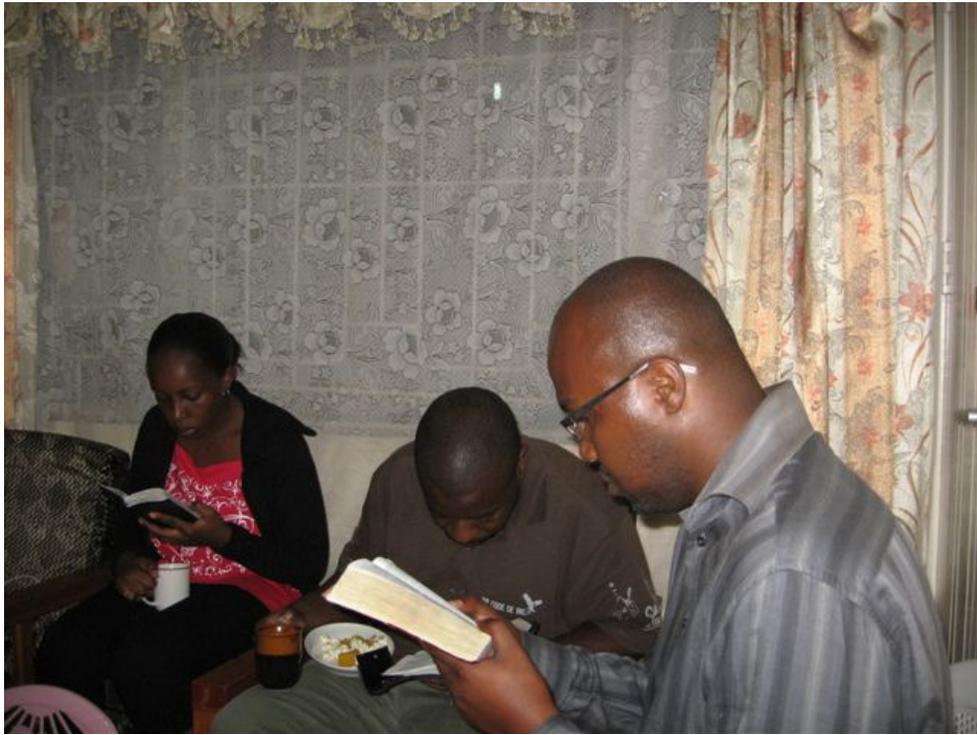
Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me,  
Thy holy Word the truth That saveth me;  
Give me to eat and live With Thee above;  
Teach me to love They truth, For Thou art love.

*O send Thy Spirit, Lord, Now unto me,  
That He may touch mine eyes, And make me see;  
Show me the truth concealed Within Thy Word,  
And in They Book revealed I see Thee Lord.*

(Mary Artemesia Lathbury; 1841-1913; Daughter of a Methodist minister. Active in the women's temperance movement and wrote for several Christian periodicals. Of her gift for poetry she said she felt the Lord had impressed upon her these thoughts concerning this, "Remember, my child, that you have a gift of weaving fancies into verse and a gift with the pencil of producing visions that come to your heart; consecrate these to Me as thoroughly as you do your inmost spirit.")



**Picture One**



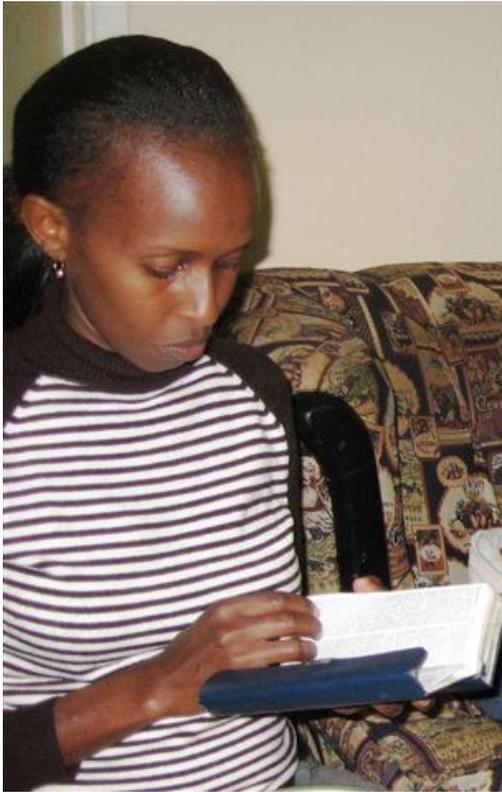
**Picture Two**



**Picture Three**



**Picture Four**



**Picture Five**

