

Prayer Dispatch 10.22.13 / Countdown To Nigeria!!



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2 Corinthians 1:11 "you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many."

A. Spiritual Preparation - Receptive Hearts In Nigeria

Ezekiel 36:26-27

26 "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

27 "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.

Mark 4:14-20

14 *"The sower sows the word."* (Bless the teaching of Your holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word)

15 *"These are the ones who are beside the road where the word is sown; and when they hear, immediately Satan comes and takes away the word which has been sown in them."* (Protect them from satan who will snatch God's Word.)

16 & 17 *"In a similar way these are the ones on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy; and they have no firm root in themselves, but are only temporary; then, when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they fall away."* (Protect from a wrong reaction to affliction and persecution which makes hearts hard and unresponsive)

18 & 19 *"And others are the ones on whom seed was sown among the thorns; these are the ones who have heard the word, but the worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful."* (Protect from worries of the world, deceitfulness of riches and desires for other things which choke God's Word)

20 *"And those are the ones on whom seed was sown on the good soil; and they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold."* (Rather give me good soil that the Word I preach may bear fruit and multiply)

B. Spiritual Empowerment - The Word of God

2 Thessalonians 3:1-2

1 *Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you;*

2 *and that we will be rescued from perverse and evil men; for not all have faith.*

C. Packing Party - Pray we will have a good turnout and that our prayer warriors and support team would respond with both faith and works.
Judges 5:2 *"That the leaders led in Israel, That the people volunteered, Bless the LORD!"*

Psalms 110:3 *"Your people will volunteer freely in the day of Your power; In holy array, from the womb of the dawn, Your youth are to You as the dew."*

D. Safety - By your prayers we will be returned safely to Houston. We ask of you that same faith that God asked of the supporters of the missionary Paul

Philemon 21-22

21 *Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, since I know that you will do even more than what I say.*

22 *At the same time also prepare me a lodging, for I hope that through your prayers I will be given to you.*

We ask you to pray for our protection from the enemies of the Gospel with that same prayer given by God the Holy Spirit to David

Psalms 121:7-8

7 The LORD will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul.

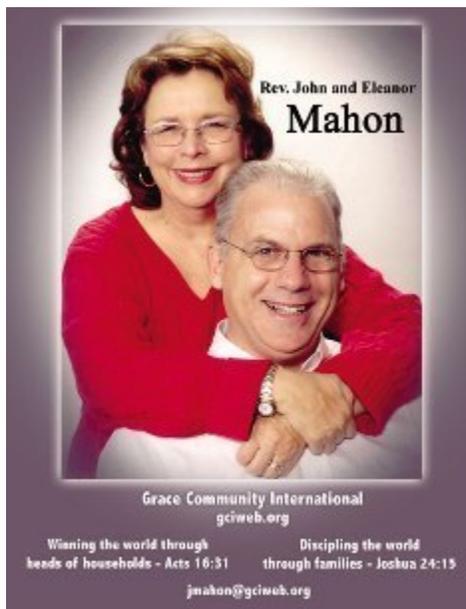
8 The LORD will guard you're going out and your coming in From this time forth and forever.

- E. That God would bless the ministry materially, that we might in turn bless those to whom we minister. We ask nothing for ourselves but only for the privilege of blessing ministers of the Gospel, building up the church and grounding families and marriages on the Word of God.

2 Corinthians 9:10-11

10 Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness;

11 you will be enriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God.



Dear Prayer Warriors,

Collecting Supplies



This Friday night is our Nigeria Packing Party. As you can see boxes of Bibles, Bible study aids and Bible reference works are beginning to stack up in our foyer. We will be sorting, labeling, boxing, weighing and securing Bibles, Bible study aids and Bible reference works for pastors and ministers in Nigeria. God has blessed and we ask that you offer up sincere and fervent prayers for both the safe arrival of this precious cargo and that God would use it in a powerful way. These volumes are not given out in a haphazard manner but go to specific ministers for specific purposes. These men have proven themselves to be committed to God's holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word of God and it is our privilege to equip them for this ministry of the Word of God. In most cases these leather study Bibles, imprinted with their names, exceed their monthly salary.

A Precarious Call

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-20141305>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-24604586>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-24353555>

The above links to BBC coverage of the rise of violence against Christians in Nigeria give you an idea of the need for prayer. We ask that you offer up sincere prayer for my safety as I travel, for the safety of the pastors and ministers who will be traveling to and from this conference and for God's protection of this conference. As you can well imagine, such a large group of pastors and ministers makes an inviting target for satan. By your faith and fervent prayers we will be kept safe from the evil one.

National Marriage and Family Conference for Pastors and Ministers



This conference will be attended by pastors, ministers and student workers from across Nigeria. I have spoken at the conference many times in the past and it is a joy to be once again invited to minister to these godly ministers.

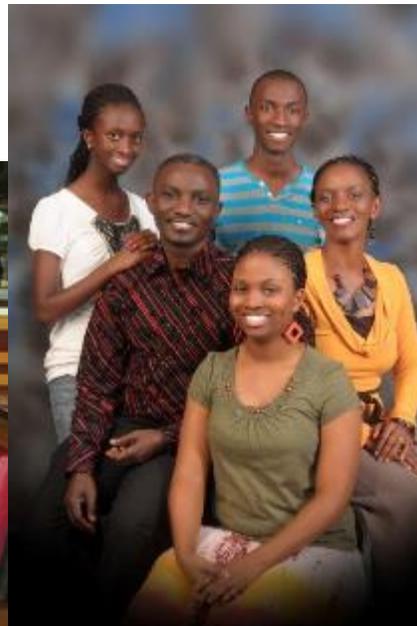
Bitter/Sweet: Reuniting With Dr. Tekdek & Stanley Mukolwe But Missing Udobong Idemeter



One difference between this and former conferences is that my longtime friend and fellow minister Udobong Idemeter will not be there. Udobong is now a Nigerian missionary to the country of South Africa. I rejoice in his call but will be missing the found fellowship and iron sharpening which always takes place when we are together.



On the other hand there will be a reunion with my good friend Dr. Tekdek who hosts this conference every year. Dr. Tekdek is an instructor at the college of Veterinary Medicine in Jos, Nigeria and has a heart for the marriages and families of ministers. As a result he arranges each year for this conference to take place to build up the marriages and families of God's servants across Nigeria.



When Dr. Tekdek invited me to speak I immediately suggested that Dr. Stanley Mukolwe of Nairobi, Kenya be included. Dr. Mukolwe serves on the GCI Board of Directors and ministers with the Navigators as Country Leader of Kenya. He teaches the FDS throughout Africa and is imminently qualified to co-laborer with me. When John the Baptist's disciples asked him about the ministry of Jesus he replied, "He must increase, while I must decrease". This is how I feel concerning Dr. Mukolwe and the ministry of Family and Marriage in Africa.

I close this email, as always, with a deep and abiding thankfulness for your sacrificial and effectual prayers, which empower and drive this ministry ever forward in the cause of Christ.

By His mercy,
II Corinthians 4:1
Rev. John S. Mahon
Grace Community Int. – Preparing for departure to Nigeria

Please allow me to close this 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.”)

Link to music/tune for this hymn: <http://nethymnal.org/htm/a/l/t/altheway.htm>

All The Way The Savior Leads Me

All the way my Savior leads me;
What have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt His tender mercy,
Who through life has been my Guide?
Heav’nly peace, divinest comfort,
Here by faith in Him to dwell!
For I know, whate’er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well;
For I know, whate’er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well.

*All the way my Savior leads me,
Cheers each winding path I tread;
Gives me grace for every trial,
Feeds me with the living Bread.
Though my weary steps may falter,
And my soul athirst may be,
Gushing from the Rock before me,
Lo! A spring of joy I see;
Gushing from the Rock before me,
Lo! A spring of joy I see.*

All the way my Savior leads me
O the fullness of His love!
Perfect rest to me is promised
In my Father’s house above.
When my spirit, clothed immortal,
Wings its flight to realms of day
This my song through endless ages –

Jesus led me all the way;
This my song through endless ages –
Jesus led me all the way.

Fanny Crosby

Frances Jane Crosby *Born:* March 24, 1820, Putnam County, New York. *Died:* February 12, 1915, Bridgeport, Connecticut Fanny Crosby was probably the most prolific hymn-ist in history. Though blinded by an incompetent doctor at six weeks of age, she wrote over 8,000 hymns. About her blindness, she said: **“It seemed intended by the blessed providence of God that I should be blind all my life, and I thank him for the dispensation. If perfect earthly sight were offered me tomorrow I would not accept it. I might not have sung hymns to the praise of God if I had been distracted by the beautiful and interesting things about me.”** In her lifetime, Fanny Crosby was one of the best known women in the United States. To this day, the vast majority of American hymnals contain her work.