

Mahon Dispatch #06 08.25.10 Finishing strong...

Message of the week: **Marriage Covenant Seminar Lecture Two – The Covenant of Marriage and The Husband**

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In this dispatch...

- I. Working hard for God...
- II. Matthew 28:19 & 20 in action – a pictorial report from the harvest fields of Cameroon
- III. Preparing to depart for Kenya
- IV. Prayer Requests: As you pray please allow the accompanying passage from the Word of God to guide your prayers
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. Go therefore: Please pray that doors would remain open to us to minister the holy, eternal, inerrant written Word of God
Colossians 4:3-4 "praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ... that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak."
 - B. And make Disciples: Ask the Lord's blessing as we give ourselves to equipping and training pastors, ministry leaders and the next generation of husbands and fathers
Ephesians 4:12 "for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;"

C. Of all nations: Petition God to grant grace that we might continue to respond to Macedonian Calls from throughout the world

Acts 16:9-10 "...: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' ... immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them."

D. Teaching: Ask that God would bless the ministry of His holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word

Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

E. I am with you always: Sovereign care of God - Please pray we would trust in the sovereignty of God over our travels, our ministry and our family. Call upon the Lord to protect and watch over us as we minister throughout Africa. Pray especially for safe connections and travel between Yaoundé and Nairobi on Air Kenya.

Isaiah 41:10 "Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

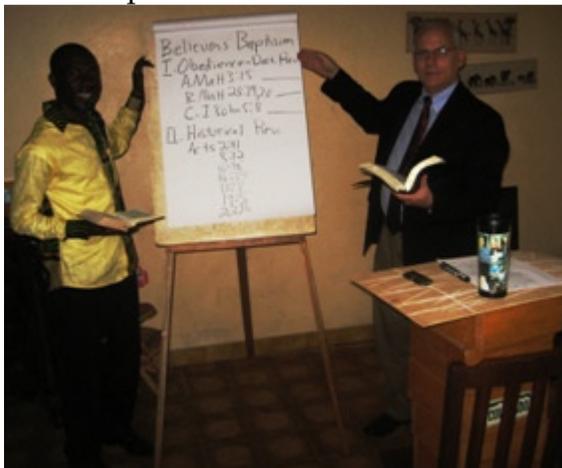
Dear Prayer Warriors,

We are working hard in the harvest fields here in Cameroon on your behalf. Hard work, as presented in the Bible is a Christian virtue. Jesus Christ was not only a hard worker but He also taught His disciples to work hard - "*We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work.*" (John 9:4). Paul was a hard worker and modeled this to his disciples and to his churches, "*For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, how working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.*" (I Thessalonians 2:9) God the Holy Spirit instructs us that in the same way we must labor hard in the harvest fields of the world, "*The hard-working farmer ought to be the first to receive his share of the crops.*" (2 Timothy 2:6)



El hard at work packing and weighing for our next stop – Nairobi, Kenya (didn't we just do this?)

Last night we spoke in church and by the time the message started there was standing room only. I was giving the first of a two part evening series on the Marriage Covenant – two one hour sessions each night. That afternoon I gave a message on Baptism and five disciples followed the Lord in Believers Baptism.



Here I am with Andre, my French translator and close friend teaching on Believers Baptism. Two of the Disciples who followed the Lord in Believers Baptism were from his study.

Our daily ministry schedule has remained packed throughout the two weeks. During the day we meet one on one with individuals and couples. Many have gained assurance of their salvation, others become grounded in the basic disciplines of the Word of God and prayer, many more want help in the application of Biblical principles to marriage and family. Many men are committing themselves to coming home at night to lead their families spiritually, many women are renewing their vows to submit to and obey their husbands. During the Marriage Seminar, I was preaching over the din of night club music blaring below. While out on the streets of downtown Yaoundé men

and women were ruining their marriages, in an upper room a church met and over 30 couples were saving theirs. After the seminar a testimony time revealed healed marriages and a renewed commitment to submitting marriage and family to the authority of the holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word of God. Your prayers are being answered!!

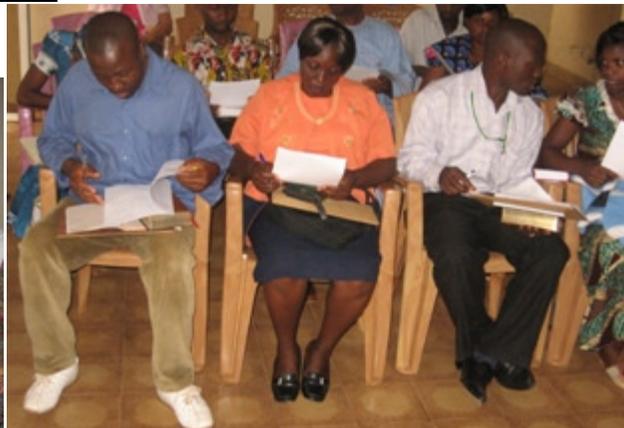
Matthew 28:19-20 Has been our guiding passage on this leg of our mission trip...

" Go therefore



I had the privilege of being involved in the commissioning of the first Navigator mission team to Nigeria. We have had reports from them that God is blessing their ministry. Please continue to pray for this team as they minister for the next two weeks in Nigeria.

and make disciples of all the nations,



Acts 24:26-27 "At the same time too, he was hoping that money would be given him by Paul; therefore he also used to send for him quite often and converse with him. But after two years had passed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus, and wishing to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul imprisoned."

Julius and Frida have been active in teaching the Family Discipleship Seminar in Cameroon. The last time we visited them they were living in a wood framed house

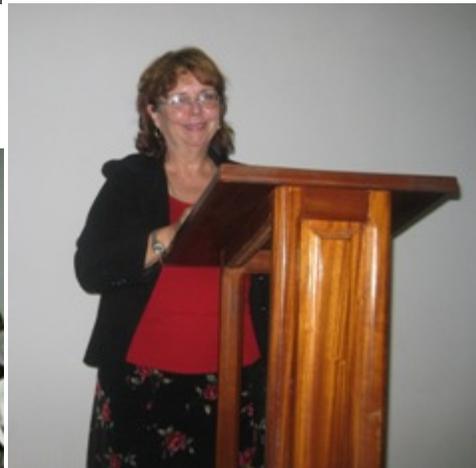
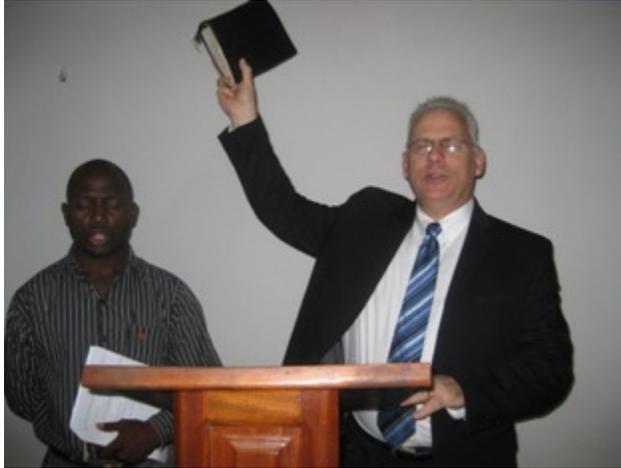
with dirt floors and open windows. They had heard in my seminar how I do not pay bribes and how God hates bribes. Julius is a research fellow at the state university and it is accepted that you pay bribes to receive your grants and salary. Rather than doing this Julius instead witnessed to the officials. For four years he did research at a prestigious institution and lived in abject poverty. Then God answered his prayers and all back salary was given in one lump sum. This allowed Julius to buy a nice piece of property and construct a stone and brick home. It is nicer than they ever dreamed they could live in. Julius told me that by not paying bribes God was saving money for him that he would never save. That if he had paid the bribe and received the salary he would never have lived in a home as nice as this. This of course would not have been possible without the support of his wife. Pray that God would continue to raise up a new generation of godly families who place the Word of God over worldly gain.

baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,



I was privileged to Baptize a group of young disciples in the name of Jesus. When we arrived at the river bank all was busy. Men washing their taxis, women bathing their children, others washing their clothes, sill others collecting water for cleaning at home and children swimming. In the midst of all this five Cameroonians followed the Lord in Believers Baptism, giving a public witness to their faith and commitment to the Lord as His disciples.

teaching them to observe all that I commanded you;



The downtown Marriage Covenant Seminar was well received. They had to open a side room for the overflow crowd. One heart warming incident – as I arrived there was a group of about 15 men standing outside the building where we were to meet. These were men who had attended my Word of God seminar and the Family Discipleship Seminar. They had heard about the Marriage Covenant Seminar but did not know the location in the building. They arrived early and were waiting for me to arrive so that they could attend. Eleanor was already there. The ladies had asked her to come 90 minutes early to speak to them about their role as wives and mothers. God continues to expand Eleanor’s conference ministry to women. She remains firm in the Biblical conviction that the Holy Spirit commands that a woman *“shall not teach or exercise authority over men”*. When satan whispers in her ear, *“has God said?”* she replies with confidence – “Yes!”.

and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

The comfort of God’s sovereignty is a constant source of encouragement while we are on the mission field. During this time...

El’s mom entered the hospital with pneumonia and heart problems

My sister in law Charlene, has gone through multiple surgeries and begun Chemo Therapy

My niece Kelsey has also had to have surgery and is in a slow recovery
My sister continues to recover from cancer and the treatments she received
In addition to this we feel keenly the separation from children, grandchildren, friends
and church

The reminder by God the Holy Spirit that Jesus is here with us, laboring with us in the
harvest fields of the world is a great encouragement. As is the thought that through
your prayers and gifts, you too are by our side.

We are working hard for God and for you. We realize that a *night is coming when no
man can work*. That every seminar, every evangelistic opportunity, every one on one,
small group or large group meeting is a privilege from God that cannot be taken for
granted. We also realize that you are sacrificially praying and giving to make this
ministry possible. We are working hard on your behalf as well. Be assured, Christ is
being lifted up, the Word of God is sounding forth, pastors and leaders are being
equipped, marriages are being saved and families are being grounded on the
foundation of obedience to God's holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word.

I close this e-mail 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. - Concluding our ministry in Cameroon, turning east to Kenya
We depart from Yaoundé late Thursday evening to fly through the night to Nairobi.
During these last days please lift up the ministry of the Word of God as empowered by
your prayers.

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.")*

And Can It Be

And can it be that I should gain An interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, whom Him to death pursued?
Amazing love how can it be That Thou my God, shouldst die for me?

*He left His Father's throne above, So free, so infinite His grace!
Emptied Himself of all but love, And bled for Adam's helpless race!
Tis mercy all, immense and free, For, O my God, it found out me.*

Long my imprisoned spirit lay Fast bound in sin and nature's night.
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray; I awoke the dungeon flamed with light!
My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

*No condemnation now I dread: Jesus and all in Him is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown through Christ my own.*

Charles Wesley *Born:* December 28, 1707, Epworth, Lincolnshire, England. *Died:* March 29, 1788, London, England. Charles Wesley wrote over 6,000 hymns. Like most hymnists, his works were frequently altered. In the preface to the 1779 *Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People called Methodists*, his brother [John](#) wrote: "I beg leave to mention a thought which has been long upon my mind, and which I should long ago have inserted in the public papers, had I not been unwilling to stir up a nest of hornets. Many gentlemen have done my brother and me (though without naming us) the honor to reprint many of our hymns. Now they are perfectly welcome to do so, provided they print them just as they are. But I desire they would not attempt to mend them, for they are really not able. None of them is able to mend either the sense or the verse. Therefore, I must beg of them these two favors: either to let them stand just as they are, to take things for better or worse, or to add the true reading in the margin, or at the bottom of the page, that we may no longer be accountable either for the nonsense or for the doggerel of other men."