

Prayer Dispatch 05.06.15 / Countdown To South Africa



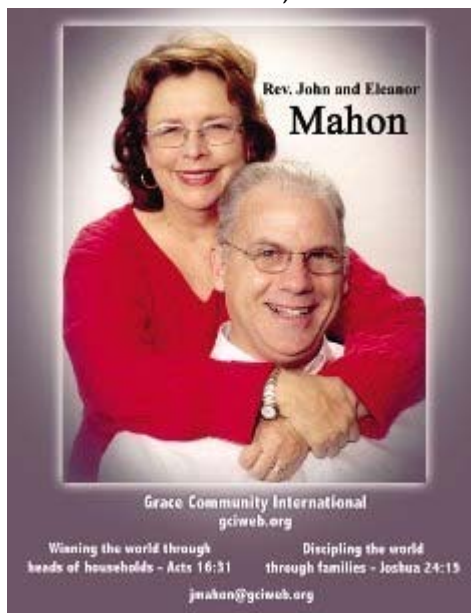
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**Prayer Requests:** As you minister with us throughout the world through your intercessions, please allow the accompanying passages from the Word of God to guide your prayers:

*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. That God would bless the ministry materially, that we might, in turn, bless those to whom we minister. Call upon the Lord to provide the resources necessary for us to provide Bibles, Bible study aids and Bible reference works at no cost to pastors, ministers, student workers and missionaries. Please claim

*2 Corinthians 9:6-8*

- 6 Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.*
- 7 Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*
- 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;*

- B. Please pray through the parable of the sower. Ask God to protect those who hear the word from the pitfalls described, while, at the same time, asking God to bless the preaching and teaching of His holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word.

*Mark 4:14-20*

- 14 "The sower sows the 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.*
- 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.*
- 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.*

☐ 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."*

Dear Prayer Warriors,

As you receive this Dispatch, we are preparing for our departure for South Africa. Before we go, we want to spend both Mother's Day and our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with family, then it is off to South Africa.



My longtime and close friend, Udobong Idemeter, (pictured here with his wife Gertrude) has once again invited me to speak. I will be ministering to staff, pastors, student workers and ministry leaders on marriage and will be giving our Marriage Covenant Seminar.



Last year we spoke on family - giving our Family Discipleship Seminar. Your gifts and prayers made this ministry possible.



Here, Udobong is assisted in giving out study Bibles to pastors and ministers. These volumes are not handed out haphazardly but are delivered to worthy recipients who will put them to good use.



My ministry remains the same – lifting up Jesus and preaching the holy, eternal, inerrant written Word of God. Your prayers and generosity make this ministry possible.

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. -

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/p/a/passment.htm>

### Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior

Pass me not, O gentle Savior,  
Hear my humble cry;  
While on others Thou art calling,  
Do not pass me by.

*Refrain*

*Savior, Savior,  
Hear my humble cry;  
While on others Thou art calling,  
Do not pass me by.*

Let me at Thy throne of mercy  
Find a sweet relief,  
Kneeling there in deep contrition;  
Help my unbelief.

*Refrain*

Trusting only in Thy merit,  
Would I seek Thy face;  
Heal my wounded, broken spirit,  
Save me by Thy grace.

*Refrain*

Thou the Spring of all my comfort,  
More than life to me,  
Whom have I on earth beside Thee?  
Whom in Heav'n but Thee?

*Refrain*

Francis Jane Crosby 1820 - 1915 Fanny Crosby was probably the most prolific hymnist 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."**

Here is a wonderful testimony concerning this song as related by Ira Sankey in his biography

As earnest Christian pastor told of a young man about whom he had long felt much anxiety, as he had seemed so unconcerned about his soul, and was, in reality, a real cause of disturbance and interruption in classes for other young men. Meeting him one day, the loving pastor sought once more to influence him, urging, "We want you for Christ and his service." There was a certain change in his manner which did not escape the eye of the prayerful watcher for souls, and—lacking time to do more—he seized the opportunity to secure the presence of his young friend at a Christian Endeavor meeting soon to be held. True to his promise he was there. When an opportunity was given for some of the young men to choose a song, it was seen that he was urging his companion to select some particular hymn. The other, yielding to his request, asked if the hymn, "Pass me not, O gentle Saviour," might be sung; and both young men joined in the singing with evident interest and heartiness. Later in the evening it was requested that all who were definitely on the Lord's side would confess their allegiance by standing. Whereupon the one over whom the heart of the pastor was specially yearning rose at once, and with decision.

"Tell me about your conversion," the thankful pastor requested at the close of the meeting, when hands were clasped in glad, brotherly welcome and recognition.

"Oh, yes," assented the other. "It was all through that hymn we have just sung. I was working on the canal at G-, and there was a meeting being held at the Mariner's Chapel, nearby. The words floated out over the water, and from the tug where I was working I could hear them plainly enough. When they were just going to sing those lines—'While on others Thou are calling, Do not pass me by!' a great fear came over me, and I thought, 'Oh, if the Lord were to pass me by, how terrible it would be!' Then and there, on the tug, I cried out, 'O Lord, do not pass me by.' And"—with a bright smile—"he didn't pass me by. I am saved."