

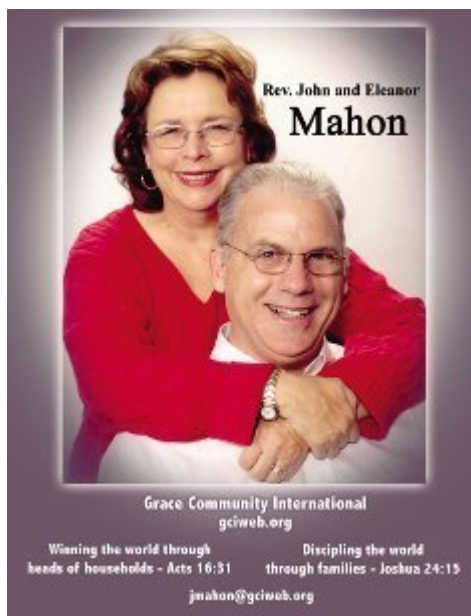
## Prayer Dispatch 09.08.12/ Building Up The Church



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- VI. **Prayer Requests:** As you pray please allow the accompanying passage from the Word of God to guide your prayers. I sincerely believe that you can impact the world for Christ, transform lives, bless the church and bring glory to God by earnestly and in faith brining these requests and these passages before God. God has promised to answer the prayer that conforms to His

will. God's Word is first and foremost God's will. You may pray with confidence over these verses knowing you are praying the expressed will of God. Now that is exciting!!!

**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. God will continue to add to His Church as He has done from the beginning**

*Acts 9:31 So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria enjoyed peace, being built up ; and going on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it continued to increase.*

**B. God would bless the ministry of the 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.*  
*Acts 20:32 And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.*

**C. Our ministry would result in men of the Word such as Ezra in Ezra 7:10**  
*Ezra 7:10 For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the LORD and to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel.*

**D. Strong Marriages and Families would be established in the Church as defined by God the Holy Spirit in Ephesians 5:22 - 6:4**

- ☐ *Ephesians 5:22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord.*
- ☐ *Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,*
- ☐ *Ephesians 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.*
- ☐ *Ephesians 6:4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*

**E. As a result of our commitment to the Word of God Pastors, Elders, Deacons and Teachers would be equipped in the Church**

*2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.*

**F. God would bless, that we might in turn bless the churches in which we minister**

*2 Corinthians 9:10-11 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; you will be enriched in everything for all liberality, which through us is producing thanksgiving to God.*

Dear Prayer Warriors,

Please allow me to take a moment of your time to give you a report on the fruit of your faith, prayers and support of our ministry while in Cameroon...

- I. **Baptizing:** In accordance with the example and teaching of Christ in *Matthew 3:15, "Permit it at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."* And in obedience to His command in *Matthew 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit..."* So we also, having preached the gospel of Jesus Christ exhort those who have never followed the Lord in Baptism to do so. (These are not "re-baptisms" but rather those who have never been baptized.) I continue to be amazed at the indifference in both Para-church and church to the instruction and practice of Baptism. We are in an age where the local church does not emphasize or in many case require that one "join". As a result you have many both attending and even serving in the church who have never come under the scrutiny of a pastoral or elder interview. More amazing still is the dearth of teaching and preaching on the subject of Baptism. This is made even worse by the number of Para-church ministries who now reject Baptism as a universal ordinance of the church. This is not true though in our ministry with GCI. In Cameroon as throughout the world we teach clearly in the churches in which we minister the Biblical injunctions concerning Baptism. In addition we exhort those Christians who have not been baptized to conform to the teaching and the instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is my privilege to be asked by ministers and churches to perform many of these baptisms. Examples of this are below...



- II. **Teaching God's Holy, Eternal, Inerrant, Written Word:** The teaching of the Word of God is central to the multiplication of disciples in the church and the expansion of the church throughout the world. It is by the Word of God that disciples are sanctified and set apart for the service of the Lord. It is by the Word of God that disciples, deacons, elders, ministers and all those who serve the Lord in the church are prepared for every good work.



**III. Getting Men In The Word:** It was not only our goal while in Cameroon to clearly present God's Word but also to train men as to how to study and interpret the Word of God for themselves. It has been said, "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." In the same way we seek to establish men in the skills of the Word of God that they might feed themselves and others for a lifetime.







- IV. Laying The Foundation Of Strong Families In The Church:** A church made up of godly marriages. A church made up of families centered on Christ and in submission to the Word of God. A church such as this is truly blessed. We seek to bless the churches within which we minister through a clear teaching of the Biblical principles of marriage and family.







- V. **Equipping Pastors and Training Future Leaders In the Church:** Not only this but in Cameroon as well as throughout the world we seek to build up the church by equipping pastors and training her future leaders. The instruction of leaders in the church, the provision of Bibles and Bible study aids to ministers, the encouragement and training of pastors, all this and more made up our ministry in Cameroon.



Through these pictures we seek to bring you first hand reports on the fruit of your faith, prayers and gifts. This has been our ministry this past month in Cameroon. This was our ministry this past spring in Zambia and Malawi. By God's grace, by your faith, by your gifts, this will be our ministry this fall in Russia.

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. -

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/b/abidewme.htm>

### **Abide With Me**

Abide with me – fast falls the even tide; The darkness deepens Lord, with me abide;  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away  
Change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changest not, abide with me.*

Not a brief glance I beg, a passing word; But as Thou dwell'st with Thy disciples, Lord,  
Familiar, condescending, patient, free. Come not to sojourn, but abide with me.

*Thou on my head in early youth didst smile; And, though rebellious and perverse meanwhile,  
Thou hast not left me, oft as I left Thee, On to the close, O Lord, abide with me.*

I need Thy presence every passing hour; What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

*I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless, Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness  
Where is death's sting where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still if Thou abide with me.*

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes; Shine thru the gloom and point me to the skies  
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee, In life, in death O Lord abide with me.

(Henry Francis Lyte *Born:* June 1, 1793, Ednam, Scotland. *Died:* November 20, 1847, Nice, France. Orphaned at an early age, Lyte attended Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, distinguishing himself in English poetry. In 1815, he was ordained, and served a number of parishes in Ireland and western England. However, for most of his career, he was pastor at All Saints Church in Lower Brixham, Devonshire, England. He wrote two books of religious poetry and hymns. Lyte was inspired to write this hymn as he was dying of tuberculosis; he finished it the Sunday he gave his farewell sermon in the parish he served so many years. The next day, he left for Italy to regain his health. He didn't make it, though—he died in Nice, France, three weeks after writing these words. Here is an excerpt from his farewell sermon: "O brethren, I stand here among you today, as alive from the dead, if I may hope to impress it upon you, and induce you to prepare for that solemn hour which must come to all, by a timely acquaintance with the death of Christ.")