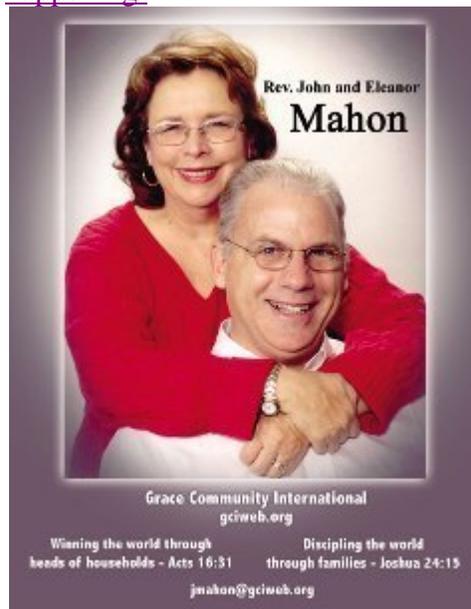


Prayer Dispatch #14 06.15.12/ Update On Eleanor's Ministry In Malawi...



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In this Prayer Dispatch...

- I. The blessings of being married to Eleanor
- II. Pictorial review of Eleanor's ministry here in Malawi
- III. Prayer Requests: As you pray for Eleanor 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. Eleanor has claimed I Peter 5:7 as her life verse from the time she first memorized it in 1970. Please pray this passage for her.
1 Peter 5:7 casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.
 - B. The theme chosen by Eleanor for her teaching ministry is found in Titus chapter two. Please call upon God to empower her teaching and modeling these principles to the women to whom she ministers.
Titus 2:3-5 Older women likewise are to... 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.*

C. Ask the Lord to provide the financial resources for Eleanor to fulfill her calling to travel and minister with me. Please particularly emphasize her teaching ministry, her administrative ministry and her ministry of hospitality as you ask the Lord for resources for her ministries.

Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

D. Rebuke satan and petition the Lord of the harvest to protect and bless Eleanor as she travels and ministers with me in many trying and difficult situations. Satan's animosity towards women of God has remained constant since his attacks on Eve and we look to you our prayer warriors to stand guard over her as we travel and minister together.

Psalms 121:7-8

The LORD will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul. The LORD will guard your going out and your coming in From this time forth and forever.

2 Thessalonians 3:3

But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

Dear Prayer Warriors,

When Eleanor and I were married it was customary for the pastor to ask the young couple if there were any special passages or suggestions for the marriage vows. It was a new thought for me and I had to reflect a bit but Eleanor spoke right up. She had it already and if the pastor had not offered she was going to ask that this passage from Ruth be used...

Ruth 1:16-17

But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. Thus may the LORD do to me, and worse, if anything but death parts you and me."

My godly and loving wife has never waived nor looked back on her vows. She has remained faithful all these years to the Lord, to me her husband and to the vows she so

reverently and humbly swore to Him over 37 years ago. I thought I would send along to you in this dispatch some pictures of Eleanor as she serves her Lord here in Malawi. How I praise God for such a godly and precious helpmate. At a time when many women are enjoying the fruits of a life of devotion to family and church she is found far from both, in far off lands, many times in difficult circumstances, ministering to me and the Lord.



1 Eleanor and Andrea Taylor - ladies tea and Bible study

Eleanor has been a gracious hostess as long as I have known her. One of my earliest memoirs of Eleanor is being served coffee and chocolate chip cookies by her after a Navigator ministry gathering at the University of Texas. Here she is with Andrea Taylor and a gathering of women for tea and Bible study. We have known Dave and Andrea for years. Dave is the founding director of Untangled Ministries here in Malawi. They have been in our home in Texas and we have been in theirs both in England and Malawi. Andrea is a true Christ centered missionary wife which is why she and Eleanor are such great friends. They both love Jesus with all their hearts, have tender servant hearts, love to serve God's people, love the Word of God and prayer and they both love their husbands. Dave and I often get in bragging contests over our wives.



2 Eleanor has been teaching God's Word and blessing others with the Word of God ever since I have known her.

As a student at the University of Texas Eleanor led her first women's Bible study in her dorm room in 1971. Since that time there has never been a period in her life when she has not been teaching women the Word of God. Here Eleanor presents study Bibles to staff and pastor's wives here in Malawi. Eleanor has not only been faithfully teaching the Word of God to women here in Malawi but also supplying them with quality study Bibles. It is Eleanor's burden that the wives of pastor's, ministers, missionaries, student workers and lay ministers be equipped with the Word of God along with their husbands.



3 Eleanor and Andrea sort Bibles and Bible study aids for distribution to pastors, staff and lay ministers

Eleanor has been working behind the scenes to bless others all of her Christian life. One of my first discussions with her, when we were both students, was her sharing with me

her summer ministering behind the scenes at the Glen Erie Conference Center in Colorado Springs. Eleanor had given up the summer of her junior year of college to do this. I was greatly impressed then of her genuine servant heart and have remained so over the years. She is a true servant of the Lord.



4 Eleanor and Andrea fixing lunch for the one day conference

Eleanor was doing volunteer work in the conference kitchen as a student at the first Navigator student conference I attended. Since then she has served meals, cookies and refreshments to countless students, missionaries, pastors and staff.



5 Eleanor uses the time between conferences and Bible studies to keep the GCI office running

I first experienced Eleanor's administrative skills when, as university students, we lead a Bible study together at the First Evangelical Free Church in Austin, Texas. (The same church where we were married.) Later she edited and typed my senior term paper facilitating my graduation. Since then she has logged countless hours doing administrative duties which free me to spend more time in the Word and the ministry. Eleanor gave up a successful career as the head of the Fine Arts Department of her

school to run the GCI office and without her sacrificial heart this ministry would not be possible.



6 Eleanor greets the ladies after Sunday service

I was first impressed with Eleanor's gift of hospitality and gracious heart my junior year of college. My sister Mary was coming to visit and Eleanor invited Mary to stay in her dorm room. I later found out that Eleanor slept on her dorm room floor so my sister could sleep in a bed. Eleanor so blessed my sister that she moved to Austin to be in Eleanor's Bible study. Wherever we go and whatever God calls us to do, Eleanor can be found expressing Christ's love in a very personal way to all those with whom she comes in contact.





7 Eleanor waits to board the van and the road ahead...

"Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge" Eleanor has followed me to over 26 countries in a ministry which spans the globe. She has slept on floors, on couches, on mats, she has traveled in cramped cars, trains and every imaginable other transportation. She has slept in cars, buses, on planes and trains. I have never heard her utter one word of regret and she has never asked to stay behind to enjoy a more stable and comfortable life. Her glory is in the Lord, her heart is in His service. How I praise God for such a godly wife, godly mother to my children and godly grandmother to our grandchildren.

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. - Malawi

Please allow me to close with dispatch with one of Eleanor's favorite hymns...

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.*

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

*His dying crimson, like a robe,
Spreads o'er His body on the tree;
Then I am dead to all the globe,
And all the globe is dead to me.*

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

(Isaac Watts *Born: July 17, 1674, Southampton, England. Died: November 25, 1748, Stoke Newington, England. Buried: Bunhill Fields Cemetery, London, England* Watts' father was Nonconformist imprisoned twice for his religious views. As a youth he showed great promise and was offered many opportunities for advancement but declined them all to follow his father into the dissenting ministry. Here he labored selflessly both in the pastorate and with pen, until shattered in health he departed to be with his Lord.