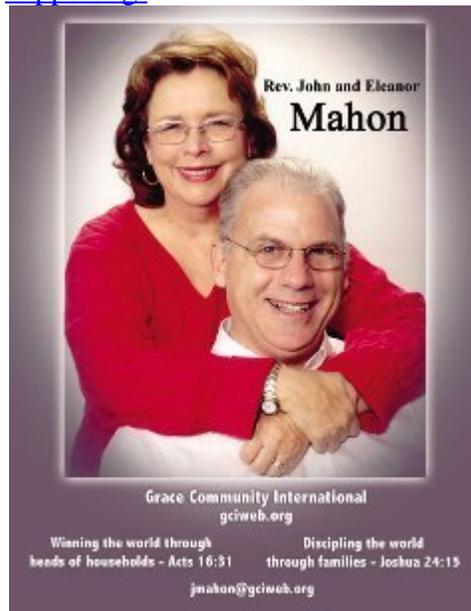


Prayer Dispatch/ Malawi Update Training Leaders



For Family Discipleship messages, Bible studies, daily devotionals and other ministry resources at no cost follow this link to www.gciweb.org

For archived Prayer Dispatches follow this link to <http://gciweb.org/learn-about-gci/whats-happening/>



In this Prayer Dispatch...

- I. Commitment to leadership
- II. Untangled International
- III. Pastors
- IV. Wives and Mothers
- V. 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. Ask God to continue to raise up leaders from our ministry

2 Timothy 2:1-3

You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

- B. Call upon the Lord to use the Word of God to set apart pastors and lay ministers, to whom we minister, to His service and His glory.

John 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

C. Petition the Lord to bless their wives, conforming their lives to the Holy Spirit's teaching in Titus two, that they might be true helpmates.

Titus 2:3-5

- 1.) *Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior,*
- 2.) *not malicious gossips*
- 3.) *nor enslaved to much wine,*
- 4.) *teaching what is good,*
- 5.) *so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands,*
- 6.) *to love their children,*
- 7.) *to be sensible,*
- 8.) *pure,*
- 9.) *workers at home,*
- 10.) *kind,*
- 11.) *being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.*

D. Pray for our ministry, that the Word of God might continue to grow and expand through the blessing of God

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.

Dear Prayer Warriors,

We have just returned from a great weekend on the road. Thursday and Friday were spent with our daughter Lizzy and her family. We were there to help them move to their new apartment but ,also, for consultation with Lizzy on her ministry through SermonAudio.Com, where our messages are hosted. If you have not visited this site lately, let me encourage you to take a look at her innovations. Such items as a blog, Bible studies, quiet times and a more timely posting of messages have all resulted from her sacrificial ministry. You may also want to look at the Spanish language translations of devotional materials translated by her husband, Joe, and posted on the GCI website.

We spent Saturday in Oklahoma City, as a training and planning day with the Smiths, in preparation for our Cameroon mission, which is just a couple of weeks away.

I would like, though, to now give another report on Malawi and the Taylors' ministry with Untangled International.

Commitment to leadership

What made it so exciting to receive a call from the Taylors and Untangled Ministries is the conformity of our two visions and how they so readily complement each other. It has been said, "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and he can feed himself for a lifetime." Untangled Ministries is committed to enabling pastors of impoverished indigenous churches to become self-sufficient, through the establishment of small cottage ministries. This allows for the pastor to be fulltime in the

ministry and for the church to prosper with dignity and self-reliance. GCI shares this same vision, as it pertains to the Word of God. Examples of this are...

Teaching the Word vs. raising up teachers of the Word

Teaching on marriage vs. raising up godly husbands and fathers

Exhorting pastors vs. training them and providing them with the necessary tools.

This principle is illustrated in *2 Timothy 2:1-2* *"You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.*

National pastors and churches, self-sufficient both in their finances and in their ministries, what could be a better partnership and endeavor? What could be a better ministry in which to invest time and resources?

Leadership of Untangled International

The Taylors of England gave the Macedonian Call for us to teach their staff in the areas of Marriage, Family and Leadership. This was very humbling for me, as I know that David and Andrea are more than capable of doing this themselves. It is, though, a wise leader who invites those from the outside to augment his ministry and David certainly epitomizes the humility and wisdom of this course of action.



1 Morning devotionals with the leadership

Everywhere I minister I am told that young professionals will not get up early in the morning to do Bible study, memorize Scripture and receive discipleship training.

Everywhere I go I find young professionals who will get up early in the morning to do Bible study, memorize Scripture and receive discipleship training. I was not surprised to find these habits already at work in Untangled Ministries and it was a privilege to step in and teach a Bible study series on Knowing and Teaching God's Word, each of the mornings we were in Malawi.



2_The objective

This is the objective - men in the Word, having their lives transformed by the Word of God.



3_Marriage Conference

As requested by the Taylors, we taught on Marriage and Family to the Untangles staff.

Pastoral Leadership



4_Taylors, Untangled - Mahons, GCI - One heart in building up the church

Pictured, David and Andrea Taylor with the pastor of the church hosting the pastors' marriage conference. Behind is the church in which the conference met.



5_Each Sunday found us speaking in a different church.

Wives and Mothers As Leaders In the Home and Church





6 - 9_Equipping the Wives of Pastors and Lay Ministers In and With The Word of God

Andrea's heart for the women in her ministry and the churches in which they serve is unwavering. It was Andrea who appealed to us to bring the wives quality Bibles, both in Chichewa (for the non-English speakers) and Study Bibles for the English speakers. It has long burdened Andrea that ,in many homes, the wives languish spiritually because there are just not the finances for both the pastor and his wife to have a Bible. Many times, therefore, the pastor has an English study Bible while his wife, who speaks little or no English, must make her own way. This is not because of the insensitivity of her husband but, simply, a financial reality. Note the joy on the faces of these women as they receive their Chichewa Bibles or their English Study Bibles . Many, for the first time in their lives, have their very own copy of the Scriptures. Some of them we were able to get inscribed with their names before they received them.



10 & 11_Teaching and instruction

Eleanor is not only committed to the principles of instruction for women as laid down in Titus 2:3 – 8, but, she is equally committed to equipping women to carry on this instruction in their own churches.

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 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.")

Link to music/tune for this hymn: <http://nethymnal.org/htm/n/e/nercross.htm>

Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross

Jesus, keep me near the cross,
There a precious fountain
Free to all, a healing stream
Flows from Calvary's mountain.

*Refrain - In the cross, in the cross,
Be my glory ever;
Till my raptured soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.*

Near the cross, a trembling soul,
Love and mercy found me;
There the bright and morning star
Sheds its beams around me. - **Refrain**

Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
Bring its scenes before me;
Help me walk from day to day,
With its shadows o'er me. - **Refrain**

Near the cross I'll watch and wait
Hoping, trusting ever,
Till I reach the golden strand,
Just beyond the river. - **Refrain**

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.