Prayer Dispatch 07.15.14 / Family Discipleship Seminar – Jos, Nigeria



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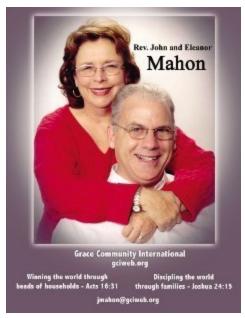
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2 Corinthians 1:11 "you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many."

- A. Conserve The Fruit ask God to preserve the fruit of the Word in the lives of those who attended the conference.
  - □ John 15:16 "You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you."

- □ Mark 4:20 "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."
- □ Luke 11:28 "But He said, 'On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it'."
- □ James 1:22-25 "But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does."
- B. Empower The Word petition the Lord to use the Word of God, as taught at the conference to change lives.
  - □ Isaiah 55:11 "So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it."
- C. Call upon the Lord, that He would bless the ministry materially, that we might in turn bless those to whom we minister.
  - Philippians 4:19 "And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."
  - 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 "Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 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;"



## Dear Prayer Warriors,

Your ministry of intercession has greatly blessed our ministry in Nigeria. This is one of those special times when you can feel the power of your intercessors as they make hearts receptive, open doors and empower the preaching and teaching of God's holy, eternal, inerrant written Word. We are truly grateful for your ministry of intercession.



This is Jonathan. He is a strong Christian who also owns a taxi and limousine company. He personally picked me up and drove me four hours north to Jos. We had a great time along the way as he had many questions from the Bible.



Here are some of the sites along the way. What I could not take pictures of were the many military road blocks. The usual three hour drive took over four hours because of the many military checkpoints along the way. Every major intersection and the entrance and exit from every major town had one of these. As you approach you can see the sandbags and barbed wire blockades set up in such a way that the car must slow down and zig zag between them. Then you come to the main check point where a military man in full battle gear and automatic weapon is waiting to inspect your car. To the side is another sandbagged area with several other soldiers at ready, all with automatic weapons. As we passed through each one I always took the time to share with the solider manning the checkpoint Romans 13:2 that the military are "*a* 

*minister to God to you for good*", then gave each one candy which El sent with me for gifts and a pocket New Testament. I was able in this way to distribute over 40 pocket New Testaments as well as leaving them with a quick prayer of God's blessing on them and always closed by thanking them for their ministry to their country. These gifts, prayers and words of encouragement were universally met with smiles and sincere expressions of thanks. Many shared with me that they were Christians and it was good to know they were prayed for and appreciated.



This is the building I stayed in. My room was next to last on the right. Pictured is first, my room from the front door and then second looking back to the door. Pictured are Bibles and materials yet to be distributed. I came full and left empty.



Throughout the compound were memorials to those who had given their lives for the spread of the gospel in northern Nigeria – some by disease and others by martyrdom. Also pictured is Warren. Warren is 82. Seventeen years ago he lost his wife. He decided to sell his construction company and give his remaining years to building churches and doing repairs for Sudan Interior Missions.





One of the great slanders of the African Church is that it is full of women and children. It is not uncommon at my conferences to find more men in attendance than women. Here is a group of men from the conference who got up every morning at 6 a.m. to attend optional workshops on Family Discipleship. The first photo is of them praying before the beginning of each workshop and the second of them fellowshipoing outside afterwards.



My constant prayer as I preach, "Bless now O Lord Your holy Word..."



I do not come to free men from the teachings of the Scripture concerning Marriage and Family but rather to bring men into subjection of the holy Word of God. I really appreciated the seriousness with which the men at the conference took the Word of God.



The sports times were a hit at any conference and there was a round robin volley ball tournament that took place each afternoon.



This is Emeka, a true man of the Word, of Prayer and of service to our Lord. I would ask Emeka to pray as I knew that he would pray a genuine Word centered prayer. I found in him a man of like heart. He has diligently applied the Biblical principles of the Family Discipleship Seminar and Marriage Seminar. Both his family and marriage were and are a model to all who attended the conference. I praise God for his zeal for the Word and for his heart to see men and women in the church built up in the Lord and grounded in the Word of God.

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. – Miango Conference center Jos, northern Nigeria

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: <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHg-o2eGzM4</u>

### All That Thrills My Soul

Who can cheer the heart like Jesus By His presence all divine True and tender, pure and precious O, how blest to call Him mine

Love of Christ so freely given Grace of God beyond degree Mercy higher than the heavens Deeper than the deepest sea

What a wonderful redemption Never can a mortal know Lo my sin, though red like crimson Can be whiter than the snow

Every need His hand supplying Every good in Him I see On His strength divine relying He is all in all to me

By the crystal flowing river With the ransomed I will sing And forever and forever Praise and glorify the King

Chorus All that thrills my soul is Jesus He is more than life to me And the fairest of ten thousand In my blessed Lord I see

Author: Thoro Harris 1874- 1955 After attending college in Battle Creek, Michigan, Harris produced his first hymnal in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1902. He then moved to Chicago, Illinois at the invitation of <u>Peter Bilhorn</u>, and in 1932 to Eureka Springs, Arkansas. He composed and compiled a number of works. He was well known locally as he walked around with a canvas bag full of handbooks for sale.