

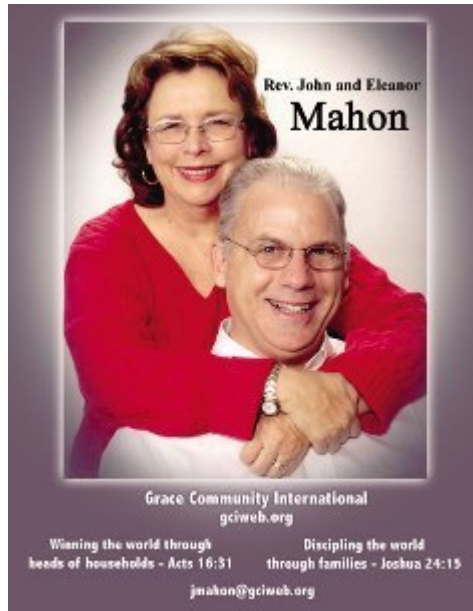
## Prayer Dispatch / Preparing the Way For Cameroon - By Your Prayers...

*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.*



For Family Discipleship messages, Bible studies, daily devotionals and other ministry resources at no cost follow this link to [www.gciweb.org](http://www.gciweb.org)

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



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Dear Prayer Warriors,

This is an exciting time for us. Tonight we are having our regular "Mission Packing Party" from 6 - 9 p.m. at our house and would appreciate your prayers for a fruitful time. (Dinner provided, so, if you are in the area, come and join us!!)

This event is when the Bibles, Bible reference works and Bible study aids supplied by your faith, prayers and sacrificial gifts are sorted, packed, weighed and prepared for their ultimate destination – Cameroon, in west Africa. Once in Cameroon, our ministry will begin in earnest. From the very first day we have conferences, church meetings, home meetings and evangelistic meetings scheduled. When we arrive in a country I tell my hosts that we minister on the “sucked orange principle”. I first heard this term from Leroy Eims, the staff evangelist with the Navigators when I was in the student ministry. I asked him about his schedule when visiting our campus and he replied, “John, when I leave your campus I want to look like a sucked orange!” This is what we tell our hosts.

We do not arrive as missionary tourists but as laborers in the harvest fields of the world. We do not arrive as missionary entrepreneurs but as laborers in the harvest fields of the world. We do not bring items to sell to those to whom we minister but to give. As our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ taught His disciples, *Matthew 10:8-9:... Freely you received, freely give. Do not acquire gold, or silver, or copper for your money belts, ...*” More and more I meet missionaries who share with me great “deals” for offsetting their travel expenses. Bring a laptop and sell it, bring this or that and sell it. The mission calling is a high and holy calling and we do not use it as a means to engage in commerce. We arrive full and leave empty. We arrive with boxes of Bibles, Bible study aids, Bible reference works, handouts and ministry supplies and leave with none. We arrive with a full budget supplied by your gifts and we leave it all in Cameroon. We arrive spiritually prepared and expend ourselves on the field. Our heart is as the great missionary Paul who wrote in *2 Corinthians 12:15 : I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls...*” So we desire to give of ourselves completely as laborers in the harvest fields of Cameroon. This next Tuesday we will be departing for Cameroon to minister the Word of God. Below are pictures from previous visits which will give you an idea of how our time will be spent.

### Preaching the Word



We are committed to the power of the holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word of God – both preached and taught. Our constant prayer before our messages is “O Lord God, bless now Your holy Word...”.

The Word of God is the key to evangelism:

Please claim *1 Peter 1:23 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.*

The Word of God is the key to teaching which transforms life:

Please claim *Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

## Baptizing the Converted



Nothing could be clearer in Christ's Great Commission. Yet more and more I find para-church and even church ministries indifferent to the command to Baptize the converted. Baptism by no means saves. Baptism, however, is not a cultural or denominational anomaly--it is the command of God. As you pray for the preaching of God's Word, ask God to use us as an instrument to call those who have never heard the Word nor been baptized into His kingdom and ask God to use us to bring those who have strayed from the ordinance of Baptism back to the commands of Christ. Please pray...

**That those who come to Christ would conform to Christ's command**

*Matthew 3:15 But Jesus answering said to him, "Permit it at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness ." Then he permitted Him.*

**That those who make disciples would conform to Christ's command**

*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,*

## Discipling Parents



We will be giving both the Family Discipleship Seminar and the Marriage Covenant Seminar in Cameroon. In addition, we will be teaching in churches and home groups on marriage and family. Petition the Lord to use us as instruments to bring families into conformity with the Word of God.

*Joshua 24:15-16 "If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served*

*which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." The people answered and said, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods;*

## **Mobilizing Teams**



Richard Smith will once again be traveling with us with his wife and children. This modern day "Aquila" is a great example of a laymen devoted to the teaching and preaching of God's holy Word. As Aquila fulfilled his call 2,000 years ago, as Methodist laymen spread the gospel throughout the world 200 years ago, so today, godly men like Richard, his wife Kathy and his adult children Andrew and Amanda give of their time and resources to teach the Word of God. As you read these passages below on Aquila, pray for the Smiths but also reflect on your own life and what God would have you do in the harvest fields of the world.

### **Acts 18:1-3**

*After these things he left Athens and went to Corinth. And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, having recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. He came to them, and because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and they were working, for by trade they were tent-makers.*

### **Acts 18:18**

*Paul, having remained many days longer, took leave of the brethren and put out to sea for Syria, and with him were Priscilla and Aquila.*

### **Romans 16:3**

*Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,*

## Raising Up Leaders



We will once again be speaking and teaching at the national laborers' conference in Cameroon. Ministers, staff, pastors and spiritual laborers from all over Cameroon will be there to be equipped in the Word of God. Richard and Kathy Smith will be ministering with us and their adult children, Andrew and Amanda Smith will be directing the children's program. This latter is an important ministry. These are the children of the ministers and staff. They will not only be Discipling children but training their parents as well in the ministry of Family Discipleship. Please claim *2 Timothy 2:2 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.*

## Supplying God's Word



Pictured are staff being trained in the use of study Bibles supplied by your faith and sacrificial gifts. For this trip GCI had built into its budget to pay for Kathy Smith's airfare so that they could travel and minister together. Richard emailed me to say that God had provided and released this money to be used in the ministry in Cameroon. Yesterday I took these funds to a Christian bookstore and bought leather study Bibles for the pastors attending the Family Discipleship Seminar. How I praise God for the faith and generosity of the Smiths. They are indeed a modern day Aquila and Priscilla. Please claim for our ministry...

***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.***

## The Objective - Men Consecrated To God



Please pray, as Christ prayed, that the Word of God which is preached, taught and supplied would set men and women in Cameroon apart for God's glory and for God's service. Please claim...

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

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 with 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/b/l/e/blesseda.htm>

### **Blessed Assurance Jesus Is Mine**

Blessèd assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

#### *Refrain*

*This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior, all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior, all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

*Refrain*

Perfect submission, all is at rest  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

*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 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.”** 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. Of this hymn Ira Sanky, song leader for D. L. Moody records... “During the recent war in the Transvaal,” said a gentleman at my meeting in Exeter Hall, London, in 1900, “when the soldiers going to the front were passing another body of soldiers whom they recognized, their greetings used to be, ‘Four-nine-four, boys; four-nine-four;’ and the salute would invariably be answered with ‘Six further on, boys; six further on.’ The significance of this was that, in ‘Sacred Songs and Solos,’ a number of copies of the small edition of which had been sent to the front, number 494 was **‘God be with you until we meet again;**’ and six further on than 494, or number 500, was ‘Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine.’” Sankey, p. 122