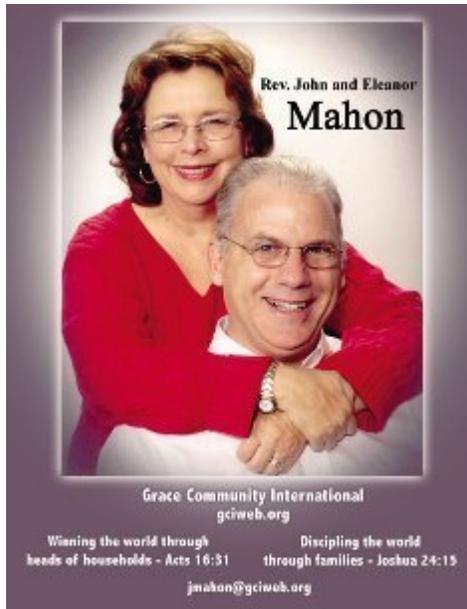


## Prayer Dispatch 10.11.12 / Ministering the Word in Siberia...



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### In this Prayer Dispatch...

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**IX. 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. That God would bless us that we might, in turn, bless others.**

*Psalm 67:1-2*

*God be gracious to us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us--  
Selah.*

*That Thy way may be known on the earth, Thy salvation among all  
nations.*

*Psalm 67:6-7*

*The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God, blesses us.*

*God blesses us, that all the ends of the earth may fear Him.*

*2 Corinthians 9:8-11*

*And God is able to make all grace abound to you, that always  
having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for  
every good deed;*

*as it is written, "He scattered abroad, he gave to the poor, His  
righteousness abides forever."*

*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.*

**B. Ask God to raise up laborers for the harvest from the church in  
Tyumen.**

*Matthew 9:38*

*"Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his  
harvest field."*

**C. Call upon the Lord of the Harvest to give the men in the church here in  
Tyumen a spirit of boldness and discipline, that they might be faithful  
and true witnesses of the Good News of Christ's message of salvation.**

*2 Timothy 1:7*

*For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and  
discipline.*

**D. Petition the Lord of the Harvest to empower His holy, eternal, inerrant  
Word to quicken hearts, pierce darkness and bring salvation to the lost  
as we witness this month in homes throughout Tyumen.**

*1 Peter 1:23*

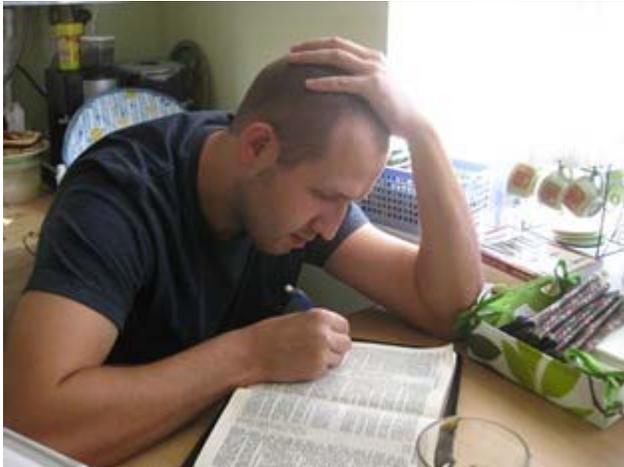
*For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but  
imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.*

*2 Corinthians 4:4-6*

- ❑ *4 in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*
- ❑ *5 For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake.*
- ❑ *6 For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.*

Dear Prayer Warriors,

### **Ministering to the Minister**



One of the great joys of my mission trips is to reconnect with ministers to whom I have ministered as seminary students or with whom I have ministered over the years. Whenever I come to Tyumen, pastor Ravil sets aside multiple days for us to spend together over the Word of God. He has many questions – from his sermons, from situations arising in the church, from questions people ask him, from his life, marriage and family. How the time flies as we pour over the Word of God together. I am reminded of times, as a young minister, spent with Charles Casebolt, Sam Clark, John

Crawford, Gene Warr, Ray Tallman--doing the same thing. It is my sincere prayer that I might be, in some small way, an equal blessing to these men as those great men of the Word were to me in those early years of my ministry.

### **The Devotion of This Church Is Special**



*John 15:7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.*

Sasha Shishkin prays before the service. He always covers his face when praying to God. He does this in humility and in shame for his sinful flesh. Here is the elder, covering his face in prayer, here is the pastor holding the Word of God with head bowed. No pictures more clearly depict the devotion of this church to the Lord and to His holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word than these pictures, taken just before I stood up to preach.

### **Faithfully Lifting Up The Word of God**



**“O Lord, bless now Your holy, eternal, inerrant written Word. You have prayed O Lord, ‘Sanctify them in Truth, Your Word is Truth.’ Use now Your holy Word to set us apart this day to Your service and to Your glory...”** This is my fervent prayer each time I preach or teach--that not my words but the Word of God would be remembered, that not my life but Christ’s would be central and that men would be moved to obedience to the glory of God and the expansion of the Church.

### **A New Generation of Men**



Here a group of men fellowship between sessions in the Marriage Covenant Seminar. It has been a great blessing to see these men grow and mature into leadership positions in the church.

### **A Fellowship That Transcends Time and Culture**



Here ladies prepare the luncheon for the church following the morning service and preceding the Marriage Covenant Seminar. In every church, in every ministry, in every country and throughout time, God's people have fellowshiped over meals. They are rejoicing in Him and enjoying the blessed relationships only possible among God's redeemed.

### Eleanor's Ministry of the Word



Eleanor, as always, is in great demand wherever we go as a teacher of the Word. How I praise God for such a godly and loving wife. God's Word is certainly true in Genesis 2:18 where God the Holy Spirit records the words of God the Father, *"The LORD God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him'."*

### Sonia's Heart for Children In The Church



We first met Karil and Sonia when they were both "youth" in the church in Tyumen. Now they are married, grown, college graduates, Karil a manager in his firm and Sonia a stay-at-home mom. Sonia has a real burden for the children in the church. She works

hard at their spiritual development and always has lots of questions for Eleanor whenever we come.

### Godly Women - Again Transcending Time and Culture



From Jesus (Luke 8:1 - 3), to Paul (Romans 16:6), to present - there have always been godly women who were committed, not to their own agenda but to the service of the church. Here these women, faithful from the formation of this church, are the last to leave. Their service makes the ministry of the Word by pastor Ravil so much easier. May God give every church godly women such as these, who, rather than coveting the role of men, seek to fulfill Christ's call to them as godly women.

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 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/m/j/mjesusil.htm>

### My Jesus, I love Thee

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;  
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.  
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou;  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

*I love Thee because Thou has first loved me,  
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.  
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow;  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death,  
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath;  
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow,  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

*In mansions of glory and endless delight,  
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;  
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow;  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

William R. Featherston 1864; (Featherston was only 16 years old at the time) *Born:* July 23, 1846, Montreal, Quebec, Canada ; *Died:* May 20, 1873, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Little is known of Featherston, except that he belonged to the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Montreal (later renamed St. James Methodist Church, then St. James United Church).

The following is related by Ira Sankey, D.L. Moody's song leader at revivals...

**"A young, talented and tender-hearted actress was passing along the street of a large city. Seeing a pale, sick girl lying upon a couch just within the half-open door of a beautiful dwelling, she entered, with the thought that by her vivacity and pleasant conversation she might cheer the young invalid. The sick girl was a devoted Christian, and her words, her patience, her submission and heaven-lit countenance, so demonstrated the spirit of her religion that the actress was led to give some earnest thought to the claims of Christianity, and was thoroughly converted, and became a true follower of Christ. She told her father, the leader of the theater troupe, of her conversion, and of her desire to abandon the stage, stating that she could not live a consistent Christian life and follow the life of an actress. Her father was astonished beyond measure, and told his daughter that their living would be lost to them and their business ruined, if she persisted in her resolution. Loving her father dearly, she was shaken somewhat in her purpose, and partially consented to fill the published engagement to be met in a few days. She was the star of the troupe, and a general favorite. Every preparation was made for the play in which she was to appear. The evening came and the father rejoiced that he had won back his daughter, and that their living was not to be lost. The hour arrived; a large audience had assembled. The curtain rose, and the young actress stepped forward firmly amid the applause of the multitude. But an unwonted light beamed from her beautiful face. Amid the breathless silence of the audience, she repeated:**

*'My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;  
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;  
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art Thou;  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.'*

**This was all. Through Christ she had conquered and, leaving the audience in tears, she retired from the stage, never to appear upon it again. Through her influence her father was converted, and through their united evangelistic labors many were led to God."**