

On the Wings of Prayer

“Because thou hast been my help, therefore in

Looking For and Hasting Unto

Questions are often asked concerning God's calling on our lives. No doubt, many are called. There is a difference between God's calling and God's choosing. God's calling and direction can be different for each of us, and yet, there should be similarities with that of the disciples. Mark 3:14 ... *that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach*

All Christians are called to have a personal relationship with God through his Son Jesus Christ and the indwelling Holy Spirit. We should consider it a privilege to tell others about Jesus Christ. We can grow and progress in our ability to serve Jesus. We will receive direction on where we should be serving the Master. Some will receive special callings to preach. Some will fill prominent positions in God's work. Some will be ordained as the disciples were. Some will be sent to distant lands. God's work is of utmost importance, and each position is necessary and important.

For me, I sensed God's call on my life at a young age. Over a period of years, I came to consider the end of the matter. I decided that living for Eternity required exactly that. *Looking For* required *Hasting Unto*. No matter what others do, I must make some changes in my life: I surrendered my life to God's will, I came to the altar after a church service, I told my pastor that God had called me to preach, I enrolled in Bible School. After a year, I resigned my engineering career and went to Bible School full-time and took a position at my local Church. 2 Peter 3:11-13 summarizes what happened to me during that time.

¹¹*Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,* ¹²*Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?* ¹³*Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.*

Looking for and hasting unto. This is Peter's recommendation to us. I followed Peter's recommendation over 41 years ago. I have never gotten over it. If you haven't already done so, I recommend it to you.

John Peeples, IBFI Mission Director

October-November 2024

***Scott and Darla Griffin (Homeless No More)** report the launching of a new ministry, The Homeless No More Family Center where housing is provided for homeless families. Please keep this ministry in your prayers. Darla has ongoing problems with her eyes. The Griffin's request prayer on finding a doctor to treat this need.

***Darrain and Mari Coker (Mexico)** are sharing the gospel through door-to-door soulwinning. One of the ladies visiting the church trusted Christ and followed Him in believer's baptism. The Coker's request prayer for the spiritual needs in the city they serve, San Miguel de Allende.

***Tyler Yates (Mexico)** report the Lord blessed the teen retreat. One teenager, from a difficult background, got gloriously saved! The Lord put it on Bro. Tyler's heart to begin a Bible institute at the church he is working with. He is translating notes from his studies at Norris Bible Baptist Seminary to aid in his teaching.

***Larry and Regina McKinney (N. American Indians)** rejoice at the church growth in Tacoma, WA. Needed building improvements are underway.

***Daniel and Michelle Jones (Rio Grande Valley/Mexico)** report seventeen dads were present for Father's Day. For VBS, there was an average attendance of eighty-five and seven came to Christ! The Jones' request your prayers for some ongoing health needs.

***Heath and Caryssa Van Zandt (Church Planter-Rhome, TX)** report an attendance of 110 for Back to School Sunday. The Van Zandt's request prayer for needed repairs on the church building due to water damage and a needed concrete parking lot.

***Bill and Sharon Smith (Brazil)** celebrated fifty-three years as missionaries in Brazil this past July 31st. The Smiths rejoice in the churches they have started are still serving the Lord and souls are being saved!

***Melissa Houston (Rio Grande Valley)** reports the annual mission conference featured four missionary families. The international banquet featured food and décor around the world. Melissa request prayer for continued opportunities to minister to ladies in a women's shelter for protection from domestic violence.

***Breze and Chantal Serugamba (Malawi)** request prayer for the Malawi refugee camps. The need is great for these people to hear the gospel and believe the gospel. Please pray for this need.

***True and Diana Hawkins (Brazil)** rejoice in new Bible institutes being constructed by graduates from their Bible institute in Manaus. Bro. True request prayers as he travels to pastor's conferences, youth conferences, teaching at the Bible institute, visits to churches in jungle villages, and encourages national pastors.

***Mark and Tricia Haynes (Navajo Nation)** report that VBS was well attended with as many as 143 present. There were nineteen coming to Christ! The Ganado Baptist Bible College has twenty-three students this semester. Ganado Baptist Church hosted the Navajoland Baptist Revival. There were close to 300 present. There were nine coming to Christ, four young men surrendered to preach, and two young ladies surrendered their lives to the Lord.