

July 5, 2009

Prayer requests and Praises

- Praise God for clear guidance and vision
- Praise God for a growing number of prayer supporters.
- Praise God for early financial supporters.
- Pray for churches and individuals who are drawn to the vision of GTN.
- Pray for Faith Community Church in the closing days of a 10-year pastorate.

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Global Training Network



This is the Place to Be!

Welcome to our newsletter, "In His Grip." Whenever I read this familiar closing in a letter, I am struck by the phrase. The grip of God is the best place in the world to be.

- When we're in God's grip, we're under his control.
- When we're in God's grip, he uses us as his tools.
- When we're in God's grip, he accomplishes things through us that we could never accomplish on our own.
- When we're in God's grip, we become all that God intends us to be.

God's grip is thrilling. There is great security in knowing

that God is in control. Talk about being in good hands! There is also great excitement in knowing that he has a use for each of our lives. He isn't holding us for nothing. When we're in God's grip we find our lives taking definite direction. We do things that are beyond us, and we make an eternal difference in the world because we are not acting on our own, but as God's instruments.

This newsletter is about God's ministry to international pastors. It's a task for which God has firmly gripped our lives. We will send this to each of you monthly to keep

you up to date so that you can share our excitement and pray for us as we serve. We appreciate your partnership more than words can say. May God be glorified as we serve together.



Second Opinion



Thank you, FCC!

When I was young my dear parents were very careful to tell me that they would release me to do whatever God wanted me to do, and go wherever He wanted me to go. The cost for them has been that they have only rarely seen me or my children as they grew up. I have so much appreciated this very

conscious giving to the Lord that shows where their treasure really is . . . in eternity.

I am thankful for my parents' perspective because I believe God has used their example to help me hold things loosely, to not "put my stakes down too deeply." It says of Abraham (and Sarah) in Hebrews 11, "he made his

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Thank you, FCC (continued)

home in the promised land like a stranger . . . he lived in tents . . . for he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.” There will be a certain “pilgrim-like” quality in constantly traveling to new places as we serve with Global Training Network; and, like Abraham, I desire the freedom that comes with holding lightly to things that are temporary. Now, let’s be honest here. The pilgrim perspective is not a natural thing for me. I love being at home.

I love familiar surroundings. I love having close friends. I love my family. I love feeling secure. So a pilgrim perspective obviously needs to be a work of God in my life.

My thoughts have turned to my parents and their eternal perspective because I have been so blessed in the last few weeks by a similar attitude I have seen in our dear friends at Faith Community Church whether new in Christ or seasoned disciples. I would describe this attitude

as a gentle sorrow over the coming changes, but a firm commitment to have us follow God’s leading. It is so encouraging to me to see that commitment and love for God in each of you. I pray that, as we look to our new and exciting task of ministering around the world, God in His grace will grant all of us more and more of this eternal view. Thank you, Mom & Dad. Thank you, FCC. Your willingness to value eternal matters over the “now” is a blessing to me.



Progress Report

Since resigning from FCC, Eileen and I have been gearing up for the ministry ahead. We have prepared a ministry display and designed literature for use as we present the ministry of Global Training Network. Eileen is preparing a database to help us track our efforts. We have established a new blog, entitled, [Noteofen-](#)

[courage.blogspot.com](#) and have designed a monthly newsletter. We have presented this ministry to our home church and to many individuals. We have also sent out three mailings seeking church meetings and direct support from family and friends. We are currently doing a lot of phone work to

arrange meetings. We have a growing list of prayer supporters, a few pledges of financial support, and several meetings in the works. We are also arranging our first training events. When we officially begin our ministry with GTN on Aug. 1, our prayer is that we will be ready to hit the ground running.

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will be qualified to teach others.

2 Tim 2:2

The Need for Trained Pastors



These are exciting days of evangelism around the world! In India, for example, some 20,000 people come to Christ each day. That may seem an astounding number until you consider that India is home to a billion people. Still, 20,000 new souls per day adds up to 7 million per year. And the rate of growth increases as the number of Christians sharing the good news increases. God is reaping a har-

vest of Souls in India which could easily total more than 100 million new Christians in the next 10 years. But as always, the prayer is for laborers for this harvest field. Who will shepherd these people? This number of new believers will require somewhere between 500,000 and 1,000,000 new **trained** pastors. Is there a need for ministries like Global Training Network? YES THERE IS!



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*