
Weekly Schedule

Thurs, Feb 18th (Lewisville)	Ladies Prayer @ Joseph & Lillykuttly's res. (7 PM)
Thurs, Feb 18th (Mesquite)	Area Prayer @ Babykuttly & Sommie's res (7 PM)
Fri, Feb 19th (Mesquite)	Prayer @ Babykuttly & Sommie's res. (10 AM)
Fri, Feb 19th (Metro)	Impact Meeting @ Metro (7 PM)
Sat, Feb 20th (Metro)	F.T.H. Meeting @ Metro (6:45 PM)

S.T.E.P (Standing Together for Everyone in Praye)r Ministry Sundays at 6:30 - 7:30 AM

No-Cost Conference Telephone Number:712-432-3900, Conference Access Code: 258581

Prayer for the Nations: Zambia (Africa)*

- Zambia, in the heartland of southern Africa, is one of the most urbanised countries on the continent. It is also home to the amazing Victoria Falls – whose African name Musi-o-Tunya means 'The Smoke That Thunders'.
- Heavily dependent on mining copper, when the price of copper fell and the mines started to run out the country went into a tail spin. People were fed up with the corruption of Kaunda's government, which had been their only option for nearly 30 years, and demanded more power to choose someone better.
- Elections in 1991 elected Chiluba as President, but he has failed to deliver the 'democracy' that people want and not addressed the crippling poverty faced by most Zambians.
- Zambia has the highest level of AIDS orphans in the world (over 650,000). Families are overstretched and too poor to look after all of them - 90,000 are left to live on the streets.
- President Chiluba has allowed greater freedom for Christians to share the gospel through the press and on TV.
- The church in Zambia is continuing to grow.
- Chiluba openly dedicated Zambia as a Christian country in 1991 – but many are disillusioned with what he failed to do. Pray that the people and government in Zambia would seek after God's heart and mind.
- Pray that the government can find a way to bring relief from poverty. In real terms most people are worse off now than they were before independence. Pray that any disillusionment and unrest would not escalate further.
- Churches are growing – people are coming to Christ across all different ages and in towns and cities. Pray that effective discipleship can help them know God more each day and understand all the freedom that God has for them.
- As many as 25% of the population have AIDS, rising to 50% for those in prisons. Hospitals and doctors are poorly equipped to deal with the crisis.

* http://operationworld.24-7prayer.com/country.php?country_id=102

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of God



*Celebrating the Presence of God
Demonstrating the Love of God
Communicating the Word of God
Educating the People of God*

February 14, 2010

"For thou, LORD, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands. O LORD, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep." (Ps 92:4,5)

Welcome

Sermon Notes

"Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine...." I Tim 4:16

We live in an age of information overload. According to a statistic* out there, the world has produced more information in 30 years than in the past 5000 years and around 1000 books are published worldwide each day. With all this information exchanging hands through various media outlets such as television, internet, books, etc., it is easy to get lost in the big pile. One way we use to sift through this overloaded amount information and try to find relevance is by looking to experts or using a popularity gauge to see which information is worth pursuing.

I sometimes use Amazon.com ratings to see if a book, electronics or other items are worth buying. Other people look to popular characters such as Oprah to make suggestions. Recently, a brother from church emailed me an interesting piece of information. The email had to do with the popularity of the book "Conversations with God: An Uncommon Dialogue" by Neale Donald Walsch. There is even a teenage version of this book to attract the youth crowd. This book is tremendously popular with a 4 star ratings in amazon.com and has over 1200 ratings recorded. The book may seem like an innocent and simple spiritual book from its title, but it falls under the "New Age" category since there are erroneous doctrinal items discussed in the book.

For the most part, books like this we can avoid or keep an eye on if the word gets out regarding its issues. But what do we do when a popular Christian book comes our way and everyone has high praises for it? I encountered a book like this about a year back. I read some good reviews from both Christian and secular source regarding the book "Blue Like Jazz" by Don Miller. I decided to give the book a try, and read it from cover to cover.

There were some insightful ideas that the author brought out, but for the most part, the book was empty fluff that didn't bring much edification to the reader. The book was well written and entertaining, but the author dealt very little with biblical principles and it seemed the author was trying to bring his viewpoints as he thinks with regards to what God has to say. Some of the author's thoughts were questionable from a biblical perspective. I don't recall if the author quoted anything from the scriptures in his book. It seemed the book was filled with thoughts pulled from the mind versus the scripture.

Sometimes it is easy for us to be distracted and led astray by the various "wind of doctrine" (Eph 4:14). I would encourage everyone, especially our youths to spend time reading and studying the Word of God. When it comes to learning from the Word of God, there is no graduation date but we constantly gain insights and truths to God's word all the days of our lives. Paying careful attention to the preaching of the Word also lays a good foundation to face some of the erroneous things we may encounter outside. Those who have responsibility in the church to instruct or guide others have an obligation to examine the material they teach falls in line with the Word of God. Eph 4:13 states "...become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." We cannot achieve this maturity if we are pursuing ideologies that divert us from the truth. Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in our lives. The Holy Spirit will witness to our spirit regarding the truths revealed in the Word and spoken by others. "But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth..." (Jn 16:13)

In Christ ,
Abie Jacob