

**Standing in the Gap E-News**

*Titus Women*  
a ministry of

**The Francis Asbury Society**

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### Praying Scripture

*Your sun shall no longer go down, nor shall your moon withdraw itself; for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and he days of your mourning shall be ended (Isaiah 60:20).*

### Devotional Meditation – The Call of God: The Predictable and the Unpredictable Part I of III

The whole subject of personal guidance is one that deeply concerns serious-minded Christians today. One professor told me that this was at the top of the list of problem areas for the young people that come to him for counsel. It is unfortunate that the most important thing in a young person's life should be so smothered with uncertainty. Tragically much of this uncertainty and confusion has been created by brash statements of well-meaning missionaries. Instead of throwing light on the search of young people for realities in this mystical area, dogmatists continue to sound off their mutually contradictory opinions. These have smothered the subject under a dense smoke screen, effectively smudging out definitive lines, particularly the part that concerns "the call of God."

Sorry young people, we owe you our apologies!

While I may not be able to clarify what has been confused, I do want to help you discover for yourselves the validity of a category that is being lost. Our lost glory is in the decline of those who can boast as the apostle Paul boasted – "God made me a minister."...

Without a doubt Paul was a God-made missionary. From birth he was separated to fulfill the eternal purpose of God. He was theologically persuaded as to the rightness of his task. And he was directed to a specific people with a significant message.

But how in practical terms, did Paul know that he was called of God and called to the Gentiles? How was he convinced that he was God's chosen man for this particular work, and not Peter or Philip? How did he get the assurance he needed to maintain his direction against strong currents of popular opinion?

As a new convert, Paul – or as he was known then, Saul – was concerned with the life guidance question. "What shall I do, Lord?" was his question. " 'Get up,' the Lord said, 'and go into Damascus. There you will be told all that you have been assigned to do'" (Acts 22:10). So Paul was looking for God's specific answer....

R. Arthur Mathews, *Ready for Battle: 31 Studies in Christian Discipleship*, pgs.5-6.

## Prayer for China

From Voice of the Martyrs [www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com)

Thank you for praying for our persecuted brothers and sisters around the world.

*"Always respond to every impulse to pray. The impulse to pray may come when you are reading or when you are battling with a text. I would make an absolute law of this - always obey such an impulse."* Martyn Lloyd-Jones

### CHINA – Prominent House Church Leader Forced Out of Beijing – China Aid Association

On Jan. 16, more than a dozen Public Security Bureau (PSB) officers forcibly escorted Pastor "Bike" Zhang Mingxuan from another pastor's home in Beijing and forcibly put him on a bus to Henan province. Pastor Bike went to Beijing to Pastor Hua Huiqi's home to see the church leader's father, Hua Zaichen who is dying. But Chinese authorities continue to refuse to allow Pastor Bike and his family to stay in the country's capital city. Government officials broke into the house while Pastor Bike was praying for Hua Zaichen, who is 91. Chinese authorities are also preventing the ailing man's wife, 79-year-old Shuang Shuying who is in prison, from seeing him. Please continue praying for Pastor Hua's family as they go through immense challenges. Ask God to encourage Pastor Bike to continue his ministry despite the Chinese government persecution. Praise God for his resilience and ask him to not lose heart in well-doing.

*For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline (2 Timothy 1:7).*

### CHINA - Deathly Ill Husband Denied Visitation with his Imprisoned Wife – CAA

Chinese government authorities have denied Hua Zaichen, 91, visitation with his imprisoned wife, 79-year-old Shuang Shuying, according to China Aid Association (CAA).

Zaichen, who is deathly ill, requested a final meeting with his wife to say his goodbyes, but officials refused to grant the request. "Authorities say Shuang Shuying is not allowed to leave prison before February 8, 2009, the end of her two-year sentence.... Pray for this family that has endured many hardships for the sake of their faith. Pray for Shuang Shuying to be released. Praise God for their courage!

*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9).*

## Prayer for Those Going Out

Please pray for **Sue Wynn** as she begins **teaching a class on Wednesday, February 11, 2009**, on *Theology According to the Apostle John* at the University of Main Augusta. Please pray for an anointing on Sue as she teaches. Pray that every student who needs to be there will come.

Please pray for **Sharon Ruff** as she hosts **a women's dinner at her church tonight, February 9, 2009**. Laurie Rambo, the president of Delanco Camp Meeting is speaking. Please pray for Laurie as she delivers God's word and her testimony as she is sending two of her children and their families to Uganda in the next year to serve as missionaries with World Gospel Mission. Pray that women will have ears to hear and eyes to see all that God is saying to them.

### Other Prayer Requests

Please keep praying for **Pam Harriman**, wife of FAS evangelist Jim Harriman. She was scheduled to have a kidney procedure done today, but was unable to after a weekend full of fever. Please pray that Pam's fever will go down and for God's perfect timing to reschedule her kidney procedure.

Please keep praying for **Linda Wood**. She was scheduled to begin another round of chemotherapy today pending her CT scan results. Please pray for God's strength, grace, healing, peace and joy to fill Linda's heart, soul and body.

### Praises! God at Work Through Your Prayers

Thank you for praying for **Beth and Al Coppedge as they ministered at Avon Park Camp Meeting in Florida**. God kept Dr. Coppedge strong physically and mentally. We praise Him and thank you for your prayers. God also gave Beth some divine appointments to share what Jesus is doing through Titus Women's Ministry, Come to the Fire, the Lydia Prayer Ministry and discipleship Groups. Thank you for praying for her while she spoke at Warner Southern University. She knew that she said all that God had given her to say. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you for your prayers on this family's behalf. Thank you for being a part of what God did for eternity's sake last week.

Thank you for praying for **Sherman and Dot Reed** and their opportunities to pray and interact at several special meetings in Washington DC.

Thank you for praying for **Sharon Ruff as she started her small group** on Healing for Damaged Emotions. God gave Sharon His wisdom as to how to lead this large group. The presence of the Lord was real as group members' reached out to one another with the truth and love of Christ. Please keep praying for this group, which meets over the next 13 weeks, that God would do the deep healing work He longs to do in each person's life.

### Opportunities to Participate in God's Heart for the World

Dynamic Women in Missions with OMS International is sponsoring a **missions trip to Ecuador March 21-29, 2009**. For more information please contact Susan Brabon at [sgrabon@omsinternational.org](mailto:sgrabon@omsinternational.org).

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