

# Lydia Lifeline

*Seeking God together for revival!*

April 2009

Dear Lydia Lifeline,

Thank you so much for joining us in prayer one month ago, March 16-18, while we brought our nation, our holiness denominations and institutions, Psalm 1 men, women, couples and families, the Come to the Fire Conference, Titus Women Ministries and much more before our God and laid it all on His altar. It was a precious time of prayer. We can't thank you enough for your prayers for us and for our nation and world as we joined together at the feet of Jesus. Some of you may have already received this, but I wanted to share with you Aletha Hinthorn's report of our time together. I think it will give you a glimpse of what you were a part. I am also attaching a beautiful set of notes compiled by Dreama Chapman from our Bible Study together on 2 Timothy led by Beth Coppedge. This was our basis for prayer each day. We hope this will be an encouragement to you personally and a tool for use in your prayer time for revival for our nation and world.

*We always thank God for all of you mentioning you in our prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3).*

With all of our love,  
Stephanie Hogan

Dear Praying Friends,

Thank you to all of you who prayed for our prayer time in Wilmore. It was a time of anointed intercession and specific prayer burdens laid before the Lord. Beth led us through sections of 2 Timothy each morning and afternoon (Monday, Tuesday, and also Wednesday morning). Then each morning and afternoon was given to prayer for a specific need or ministry. Come to the Fire was the special focus on Monday afternoon and prayed for throughout our time together.

Monday morning Beth's daughter, Cricket, who works with Beth's father, Dr. Kinlaw, gave an outstanding devotional. For Lent, she had asked Jesus to make her a global Christian and He had led her to pray through 2 Thessalonians for missionaries. As she

meditated on chapter 2, she saw that the sanctifying work of the Spirit is not a tack-on but God's plan for all Christians so His glory will be revealed through us. Her remarkably clear teaching on holiness was a joy to hear.

I will never forget Tuesday afternoon. We laid on the altar in Hughes Auditorium specific writing projects that Titus ministries and Come to the Fire are involved in. Even my computer was on the altar. Someone representing each project was anointed and prayed over. After what must have been at least two hours, we began a victory march around the auditorium and ended with a glorious time of worship at the altar. Clearly, God had heard us.

Wednesday morning the nine of us divided into groups of 2 or 3 and shared personal concerns. Beth had asked that we bring pictures of family members for this special prayer time.

Thank you for each prayer that you prayed. After our time together I felt that Psalm 5:3 was appropriate: "I lay my requests before you and wait in anticipation."

At this time, we are working to complete the media kits (brochures, posters, and DVDs). My hunger is for the Holy Spirit to linger on each piece, drawing women to the conference. He has given me Zechariah 4:6: "Not by might nor by power, but by the Spirit, says the Lord Almighty." Join with me in praying that from start to finish all will be done through the power of the Spirit.

Our worship leader Melinda Priest and her husband Jason have special needs at this time. He has a ruptured disk. A few years ago he had three repaired and they are likely facing another surgery. This wonderful couple will appreciate your prayers.

God is at work and we will be amazed at all He has planned for us. Our best days are ahead.

In Him and for Him,

Aletha Hinthorn

Director, Come to the Fire

## ***A CALL TO PRAYER***

### **STUDY OF II TIMOTHY**

**BETH COPPEDGE, LEADER**

Following each of the five sessions of study, there was an intensive prayer time that focused on the following specific concerns:

God would send a revival/great spiritual awakening that would spread across this nation and the world.

There would be the proclamation of the message of holiness in our churches, theological seminaries and other religious institutions.

The pastors within our churches would not be timid but would be strong in their faith, preach the truth, and live a Godly life.

God would give us strong spiritual leadership in all of our holiness institutions, denominations and camp meetings.

The need to pray for the leaders not only of this nation but throughout the world.

God would lift up Psalm 1 men, women and couples.

Other intensive prayer times were held for:

The Lydia Prayer Groups

The Titus Women's Ministry

Come to the Fire Conference in November, 2009 and 2010

Susan and John-Mark Brabon, who will be leaving in September for Taiwan to serve as the International Regional Directors of Asia for OMS International, Inc.

Katy Beth and Dan Searls (and their four daughters) who will be leaving in May to return to Hungary for one-on-one discipleship, lifestyle evangelism, leading English Camps and Clubs and starting a church.

Our families

#### **INTRODUCTION OF THE SECOND EPISTLE TO TIMOTHY:**

- These were the last recorded words of the Apostle Paul.
- This letter was written while Paul was in prison and shortly before his execution.
- Paul exhorts, encourages, and provides counsel and instruction to Timothy, his bosom friend and trusted co-worker. In this letter, Paul refers to Timothy as "my dear son." Paul believes this could be the last time he would be able to communicate with Timothy.

- Timothy is expected to take the torch from Paul and carry it to the next generation so Paul is encouraging him to hold fast to what he has in Christ.
- Paul is lonely because most of his friends have forsaken him, including Phygelus and Hermogenes. Luke is the only one remaining with him at the time this letter is written.
- Paul speaks of his suffering and persecution resulting from his ministry.
- Paul gives his testimony in Chapter 4, saying that he has fought a good fight, completed the race, and has preserved/guarded the doctrine. He is confident that a crown of righteousness is reserved for him, which the Lord will award to him on that day.

#### **CHAPTER 1:**

- Paul speaks of his serving, as his forefathers did, with a clear conscience.
- Paul refers to his affection for Timothy and longs to see him.
- Paul reminds Timothy of his spiritual roots to encourage him not to be ashamed of his ministry nor of Paul's imprisonment. He exhorts Timothy to persist in the form and truth of the doctrine that he had learned from his grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice. He assures Timothy that he will be helped by the Holy Spirit who lives within him.
- Paul tells Timothy that God has not given us the spirit of fear, but the spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.
- Paul reminds Timothy that God has saved us and called us to a Holy life, not according to our works, but to his own purpose and grace. He added that this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the world began. He also stated that the appearing of Jesus Christ abolished death and had brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.
- Paul spoke of his being appointed as a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher.
- Paul speaks of his suffering and he is confident in whom he believes and is convinced that the Lord is able to keep that which he has entrusted to Him.
- Paul mentions the desertion of Phygelus and Hermogenes and the goodness of Onesiphorus, who often refreshed him with his letters, counsel and comfort. Also, Onesiphorus was not ashamed of Paul's chains. In return for his kindness, Paul asked the Lord to give mercy to the family/house of Onesiphorus.

#### **CHAPTER 2:**

- Paul exhorts Timothy to:
  - be strong in the grace of Christ Jesus;
  - select trust-worthy people who also could teach others;
  - endure suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus; and
  - follow the Lord's rules for doing His work, comparing it to an athlete who either follows the rules or is disqualified and wins no prize.
- Paul advises Timothy to concentrate on what he (Paul) was saying, for the Lord would give him total understanding in all of these things.
- Paul explains to Timothy that he has endured everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.
- Paul 's letter brings to light that:
  - If we have died with Christ, we shall also live with Him.
  - If we endure suffering, we shall also rule with Him.
  - If we deny Him, He also shall deny us.
  - If we are unfaithful, He shall remain faithful.

- Paul emphasizes the need to present the truth and not to be engaged in quarreling about words, since quarreling is of no value and has the potential to confuse those who listen.
- Paul reminds Timothy that God's solid foundation stands firm and the Lord acknowledges those who belong to Him.
- Paul points out that if a person purges himself and follows that which is good, he can be a vessel unto honor and be useful to the Lord.
- Paul advises Timothy to flee youthful lust and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace.

### **CHAPTER 3:**

- Paul warns Timothy that in the last days perilous times would come. People would be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, without self-control/self-discipline, lovers of pleasure (rather than lovers of God,) etc. He urges Timothy to stay away from those having a form of godliness, but denying the power of God.
- Timothy is reminded by Paul of his doctrine and of how he has lived his life, informing Timothy that the persecution and suffering he had endured at Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra also would come to him. He assured Timothy that if he lives a Godly life the Lord will deliver him as He did Paul.
- Paul tells Timothy that he must remain faithful to the things that he had been taught and to trust those who had taught him the truth.
- Paul acknowledges the importance of the Scriptures, stating that all Scriptures were given by inspiration of God. He reminds Timothy that he had been taught the Holy Scriptures from childhood, which gave him the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. Paul considered the scriptures to be the key for living a Godly life and for equipping/preparing believers for good works.

### **CHAPTER 4:**

- Paul charges Timothy to always preach the Word and sound doctrine; endure hardship; be self-disciplined, patient and provide careful instruction; do the work of an evangelist; and discharge all the duties of his ministry.
- Paul points out that he had fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith and that a crown of righteousness was waiting for him, which the Lord would award to him on that day. He added that all those who have longed for the Lord's appearing also would receive such a crown.
- Paul asks Timothy to come to him without delay and to pick up Mark on the way. He also asks Timothy to bring him his cloak, as well as the scrolls and parchments he had left behind.
- Near the end of this chapter, Paul reflects on the fact that no one was with him the first time he was brought before the judge. Everyone had abandoned him, but the Lord stood with him and gave him strength that he might preach the gospel in all its fullness for all

the Gentiles to hear. He believed that the Lord had saved him from certain death at that time.

- Paul is confident that the Lord will rescue him from every evil attack and will bring him safely to His heavenly kingdom.
- Lastly, Paul gives this praise: **“TO GOD BE THE GLORY FOREVER AND EVER.”**

### **DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS:**

Most of the verses of this Book were read aloud and different translations were reviewed that often enhanced what was being said by Paul.

There was considerable discussion among the group relating to the similarities of that day and our day, especially as they relate to churchgoers, pastors and churches.

There was discussion related to the importance that Paul placed on the Holy Scriptures, noting that the Scriptures are the key to living a Holy life and are useful in teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. The Scriptures serve in equipping/preparing believers for good works.

Paul's exhortation/charge to Timothy included many things that could be applied today to those who have been called to preach the gospel. The following are some examples.

- ❖ Do not be timid or fearful but use the spirit of power, love and self-discipline.
- ❖ Never be ashamed to tell others about the Lord.
- ❖ Hold on to the pattern of right teaching and live in the faith and love that is yours in Christ Jesus.
- ❖ God has saved us and called us to a Holy life.
- ❖ Teach the great truths to trust-worthy people who are able to pass them on to others.
- ❖ Work hard so God can approve you.
- ❖ Avoid godless chatter and don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments.
- ❖ Have nothing to do with people who act as if they are religious, but reject the power that could make them Godly.
- ❖ Remain faithful to the things that you have been taught.
- ❖ Preach the Word of God. Be persistent, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke and encourage people with good teaching.

- ❖ Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Endure hardships. Work at bringing others to Christ. Complete the ministry that God has given you.

Paul's life was discussed. He had no regrets as to how he had lived his life and he was confident as to where he would spend eternity.

When speaking of his persecution and suffering, Paul believed that everyone who wants to live a Godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution, while evil people and imposters will flourish and deceive others, as they are deceived.

As Paul describes to Timothy what the last days will be like, it certainly appears that we are living in those described times, and the Lord will be appearing shortly!!