

THE WATCHMAN

Prayer Newsletter

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THE NEXT GENERATION OF KINGDOM AMBASSADORS?

By David Mahan, ERC Youth Leader

As always, camp was a tremendous blessing; great fellowship, powerful services, good teaching, and rich personal encounters with God... We all got what we were expecting, and as ordinary as that may sound, that's what made this year so different. We were not just expecting camp to be a high powered five days on the lake. We were expecting God to meet us at camp and honor the promise that He made to us back in February. During a Wednesday night service He told us that IF we would be faithful to pressing deeper into Him and allowing Him to cleanse and transform our hearts, then He would "graduate us to the next level" in our walk with Him. He said that IF we would remain faithful, that we would not even recognize ourselves after six months. A couple months later, the leadership team and I were sitting in a meeting going over our ever diminishing events calendar when we realized that youth camp was about six months out from when God gave us that Word. That revelation took us all out of the typical mindset of camp being a time where we go in, beat down, and then after four days of deliverance, leave filled up. The mindset was now one of preparing to go into camp day one, set-free and fill up, so that God could spend the entire time pouring in "New Wine" and equipping us for promotion!



You can't pour New Wine into old wineskins, right??? (Luke 5:33-39).

On the first day, as the ministers and I began to share what the Lord had been laying on our hearts for the week, the theme was clear- Hunger and Graduation. This was confirmed after the very first evening service. Where we would typically see kids on the floor broken and weeping under the weight of their sins, instead they were passionately praising God and being baptized in the Holy Ghost. The second night, while we were all prepared to cast out devils and run healing lines, we ended up just getting out of the way as they shook the gates of Heaven with their praise as if to passionately demand an audience with their King. MAN! It was INSANE!!!!

All of the guest ministers commented that "this is a different group of kids" and several of the kids said that the "first night of this year's camp was as powerful as the last night of previous camps". There seemed to be an acceleration in the usual camp spiritual development process. In other words, the kids did not go into camp just expecting God to save and deliver them. After six months of preparation and growth, they went in HUNGRY and expecting God to graduate them to the "next level" of being used to save and deliver OTHERS.

It was amazing to watch the kids express their craving for more of God all week. There were times of intense praise and crying out, as with every camp experience, but there were also times when they just sat quietly before the Lord and wrote down what their Father spoke to them in the stillness of the moment. They prayed for each other and spoke into each other's lives.

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One night, after several HOURS of testifying, and stepping out in faith by ministering from the platform, the band asked that the kids pray over them “real quick”, and that turned into another amazing hour of them laying on hands and prophesying into their leadership (myself included)!

I believe that God is raising up a generation of young people who are not satisfied with shallow devotion, and short bursts of performance based “power”. What we witnessed in our kids at camp was a deep craving to go higher in God, and new level of spiritual and natural maturity that only comes from sitting at the foot of the Father. I personally will never forget the experience of watching God, in various ways; honor the Word that He gave to His children 6 months earlier. Our God is truly a promise keeper, and that revelation alone may be the most powerful take away from the entire experience. We have a lot to be thankful for Eagle Rock, and your youth team would ask that you continue to pray for us as we partner with you to disciple **the next generation of Kingdom Ambassadors.**



PRAYER POINTS FOR ERC

- Corporate Fast – Month of September
- Deeper relationships with God
- Room additions for the next generation
- Eagle Rock Preparatory Academy
- Kingdom Express
- Miraculous healings

IMMERSION TESTIMONIES

“The one thing that will remain with me always is understanding that I can talk to God and He talks to me. God gave me a vision at camp and I will always remember that. The saddest thing was the last day when we were leaving camp. It was a great experience being there together. It was sad that it ended.”

- Raven Young

“It was one of the most powerful weeks of my life. I felt God move. It was POWERFUL.”

-Tee Willis

“It was fun and inspiring at the same time.”

- David Mahan, Jr.

PARENTS DO YOU KNOW WHO MOLLY IS?

By now you've likely heard about Molly -- the much buzzed about street name for the drug MDMA, which was recently linked to two deaths at the Electric Zoo festival held in New York City over Labor Day weekend.

Molly, which is short for "molecule," is ideally pure MDMA, but is basically the same Ecstasy of the '90s that has been rebranded as a purer, gentler party drug, though its users have no guarantee they are buying unadulterated MDMA.

As the drug seemingly gains popularity, there are those who say it's no coincidence as some of today's biggest artists are dropping references about the drug in their biggest hit. And you have everyone from former Disney darling Miley Cyrus to Kanye West singing about popping a Molly.

Source: Huffington Post Online 9/5/2013

IN THE PROPHETIC

THE POWER OF PROPHETIC ACTS

By Pastor Sheila Bowling

Prophetic people love symbolic acts. Symbolism is a language that we relate to; it is the way we are 'wired' in our spiritual DNA. Prophetic actions are prolific in the Bible. Some Old Testament prophets are renowned for their strange prophetic acts. Isaiah went naked (Isaiah 20), Hosea married a prostitute (Hosea 1:2), and Ezekiel lay on one side for 390 days (Ezek 4:5).

Moses used a rod to part the sea so the children of Israel would be freed from Pharaoh's captivity. It was not the rod that had power but it was obeying the direction of God's word spoken to him. So prophetic acts are acts of obedience to what God is speaking.

Prophetic actions can be seen in the New Testament too. Agabus tied his own hands and feet with the Apostle Paul's belt as the Spirit warned him of his upcoming arrest and imprisonment (Acts 21:10-12).

A prophetic act has significance in a number of Biblical contexts. These include:

- Intercession (1 Kings 18:42-44)
- Healing (2 Kings 5:9-14)
- Warfare (Ex 17:10-13)
- Warning (Ezek 4-5)
- Foretelling (Acts 21:10-12)
- Calling to ministry (1 Kings 19:19)

A prophetic act can hold spiritual power for fulfillment or breakthrough when the Holy Spirit directs it (2 Kings 13: 14-20).

Jesus used symbolic action when He put clay on a blind man's eyes and told him to wash in the pool of Siloam (John 9:6-7). He also taught His disciples the practice of anointing with oil for healing (Mark 6:13), symbolic of the ministry of the Holy Spirit. A prophetic action can be deliberate, or we can be led of the Holy Spirit and only realize the significance later.

Using Prophetic Symbolism Wisely

Since the inception of GWOG (16 yrs), we have done prophetic acts our first night (Seizing the Atmosphere Night). Whatever the Lord speaks to me concerning the season His daughters are in we then do a prophetic act either through a dance or a drama or both. These have always been powerful nights of breakthrough that opens the women up to hear/receive from the Lord during the conference.

Not every church has a culture that encourages prophetic symbolism. Some prophetic or revival churches favor it. Others are more conservative in their approach to prophetic ministry and prefer 'plain speech' to the mystery of symbolism.

At times, we need to use wisdom and submit our own preferred styles, terminology and methods for the greater good of our church. Unless a prophetic culture is overtly embraced, I recommend using 'translation' when it comes to prophetic

ministry. This means speaking and acting in the language our leaders and church family are familiar with.

This does not mean that we are quenching the Holy Spirit; it simply means that we are expressing love—His highest law—and honoring those we serve.

The Chain Reaction

When you do a prophetic act under the instruction given by the Holy Spirit it causes a chain reaction -whatever you proclaim through words and/or actions it will have a chain reaction that cause it to manifest on earth.

Last year for example I prophetically heard the spirit of The Lord tell me there were unprecedented (unheard of unusual) doors His daughters were going to walk through. That He was giving them the key of courage that would be necessary in order for them to unlock that door!!! I gave each woman a key and after a prophetic act that demonstrated how Satan was going to try to stop them from entering through the doors, we then began to make declarations that we have already defeated Satan and now hold the key that will unlock our future!!! So many testimonies now are pouring in that their lives have been ReDefined since that weekend.



HOW TO PROPHETICALLY LAY SIEGE TO A CITY

By Cindy Jacobs

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it" (Ps. 24:1, NIV).

This powerful proclamation points to the lordship of Christ over the entire earth. In the light of Psalm 24:1, the searching question we ask ourselves is, "Has the lordship of Christ been realized in the life of my own city?"

To know the answer, it is necessary to read our city and its culture in the light of God's Word. We need to not only read God's Word, but to view our city in the light of God's world. For some, this may be a new concept. Most of us are more used to studying the Word of God for use in our personal lives—and so we should. However, God's Word extends to the whole world. The earth is the Lord's.

What Has Happened to God's World?

Frankly, as we examine the cities in which we live, many would have to say, "Truthfully, there is a lot about my city that is not godly." As more Christians throughout the world have come to realize the spiritual condition of their cities, the church is experiencing an awakening concerning our responsibility to pray, "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done," not only in the life of the church but in the life of our cities.

What has happened to God's world? The Bible states that Satan has declared himself the "god of this world." Satan has effectively built strongholds around our cities and the people groups of the world. He is holding captive billions of souls who will spend an eternity in hell if we do not learn how to storm the gates of hell on their behalf.

As we minister to leaders across the nations, we find many who are suffering intense discouragement. Often the labor in the harvest fields has been so long that strongholds have been built in their minds concerning their situation and city. They begin to wonder if their city can ever be taken for the kingdom of God. Will they ever see revival come?

Ezekiel 4: A Prophetic Pattern

The army of God is on the move and ready for battle strategy. A new breed of watchmen is emerging across the nations. This breed is ready to lay siege to its cities.

Ezekiel 4 gives a prophetic pattern for establishing the lordship of Christ in your area. Ezekiel was called of God to perform an intercessory act over the city of Jerusalem, much like Joshua when he was called to march around Jericho. Ezekiel's prophetic intercession provides a model—with principles found throughout the Word of God—on how to intercede for a city against spiritual strongholds.

Elijah Lists Prophetic Resources

As you read Ezekiel 4, you will find these principles, which can help you develop a strategy to discover Satan's strongholds in your area:

1. Make a Map

"Now, son of man, take a block of clay, put it in front of you and draw the city of Jerusalem on it" (Ezek. 4:1).



God desires to reveal strongholds to His intercessors concerning their area. Ezekiel was told to make a map. This concept, called "spiritual mapping," has been largely uncovered by recent pioneers in spiritual warfare such as George Otis Jr. Otis says we need to strive to see our cities and our nations as they really are, not as they appear to be.

From historical study, Ezekiel most likely made cylindrical maps, which were placed at the corner of temples depicting not only the geography but the history of the kings and nations. Ezekiel did warfare over the iniquities of the generations using these maps of history. In other words (either by natural knowledge or revelation from God), he researched the strongholds in Jerusalem and mapped them out.

2. Set an Intercessory Strategy

"Then lay siege to it: Erect siege works against it, build a ramp up to it, set up camps against it and put battering rams around it" (v. 2).

The spiritual mapping of a city can be used to develop a strategic plan to tear down the strongholds of the enemy. Ezekiel was instructed in verse 2 to "lay siege walls" against the city. These were movable watchtowers that were placed near the walls or strongholds of the enemy to spy out, research and weaken the besieged stronghold.

Watchmen were placed in these towers to give information for strategy. These watchmen harassed the enemy from a high place that was purposely built for war. The Lord has placed His watchmen throughout the world whom He has anointed to spy out, research and harass the enemy through intercession.

3. Implement the Strategy

God told Ezekiel to build a ramp or earthen mound against the walls. He was also told to build camps and lay battering rams against it (v. 2). Today this is accomplished through unity in prayer with pastors and leaders, prayer in local churches and the formation of "camps" of prayer groups for the city. These groups pray the prayers that are the "battering rams" against the gates of hell in the city.

4. Build a Wall of Protection

"Then take an iron pan, place it as an iron wall between you and the city and turn your face toward it. It will be under siege, and you shall besiege it. This will be a sign to the people of Israel" (v. 3).

Ezekiel was instructed to take an iron pan and place it as a wall. This wall offered protection against the fiery darts of the enemy from the besieged stronghold. We can build a wall by claiming the protection of God in our lives (Ps. 91). To withstand Satan's counterattack, we need to keep these walls in a state of repair through personal holiness and right relationships with God and man.

As we lift up the cross of Christ and tear down Satan's standards, surely the power of the blood of the Lamb will heal our lands and draw all men to His lovely name.

THE MACEDONIAN CALL: WHAT TO DO WHEN GOD DIVERTS YOU FROM A GOOD CAUSE

By Chinwe Okpalaoka

As I study Paul's second missionary journey with Silas, I notice that the Holy Spirit forbids them to preach the word in Asia and Bithynia (Acts 16:6-NKJV) - (Good cause, wrong timing). Instead, the Holy Spirit directs them to Macedonia after Paul sees a vision of a Macedonian man calling to them for help. We are not told that they questioned God about His reasons for redirecting their journey. Instead, we learn in verse 10 that they obeyed and left immediately for Macedonia. We have heard many times that where God calls us, he keeps us, but we are not promised that where the Lord calls us that there will not be trials and tribulations. In fact Jesus assures us that in this world, we will experience trials and tribulations, but that we should take heart because He has deprived the world of the power to harm us (John 16: 33- NIV; AMP). That is what Paul and Silas quickly experienced in Philippi, a capital city of Macedonia. It would have been easy for Paul and Silas to expect a worry-free missionary trip. After all, they were in the will of God; but, they were soon to encounter much trial. How many times have we expected a smooth sailing ride because we are walking in the will of God?



As I keep reading, I realize that there was a purpose for the diversion to Macedonia. It was much more than to fellowship with Lydia and the other women who worshipped God and met regularly for prayer. It was also much more than to deliver the damsel who was possessed of the spirit of divination.

For doing the Lord's work, Paul and Silas were brought to the very place God had ordained for them to be- in the jailhouse. And they did not lose sight of the assurance they had in v. 10 that they were in Macedonia by and in the will of God. Perhaps that was why they could sing in the midnight hour.

They knew that the Lord who had sent them to Macedonia must have a purpose in spite of their trials. In fact, these trials were not new to Paul and Silas. Paul had stated in Acts 14:22 (NIV) that "we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God."

Therefore they were not shaken by their circumstance.

You see, there was a certain jailor who had to witness, firsthand, the delivering power of God. He had to see the manner in which God's power would disrupt the normal routine in the jail. Instead of questioning God, Paul and Silas praised him in the sight of the jailor and other prisoners. And as they praised him for their assured deliverance, God's purpose for their situation became clear.



If Paul and Silas had disobeyed God and gone on to Asia and Bithynia, they would have been doing God's work all right, but they would have been walking in disobedience. They would have missed a God-opportunity to save a young girl, a jailor and his household. The purpose of the divine earthquake in the jail was not to release Paul, Silas and the other prisoners from jail because they were all still there when the earthquake was over. They did not escape at the first opportunity they had. The greater purpose occurred when the jailor asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16: 30-NIV). And Paul responded, "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved, you and your household" (Acts 16:31-NIV). With that simple question, salvation came to the jailor and his household.

I learn from this story that the fact that I am walking in obedience to God's will does not eliminate trials from my path. Instead, if I have the assurance that I am led by the Holy Spirit of the living God, then I will look beyond the trials that come to distract and keep my eyes on the higher purpose of God in every situation, being mindful that "*all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose*" (Rom. 8: 28- NKJV).

LOCAL

FATE UNCLEAR FOR NEW ANTI-ABORTION 'HEARTBEAT BILL'



A bill that would ban abortions in Ohio once a fetal heartbeat is detected is back, but it faces an uncertain fate in a legislature that already has handed the anti-abortion movement major victories this year.

Passed by the House last year but buried by the Senate, the "heartbeat bill" was reintroduced yesterday by Republican state Reps. The bill would outlaw abortion once a heartbeat in a fetus is detected, which can be as early as six weeks into a pregnancy.

Source: Joe Hallett-The Columbus Dispatch Friday August 16, 2013.

MEDICAL STAFF IN OHIO WILL TRAIN TO SPOT SEX TRAFFICKING

Medical personnel, who are often the frontline troops in uncovering sex trafficking of minors, will become part of a state network battling the sex-for-sale business.

Over the next two years, \$523,200 will be allocated to child-advocacy centers across Ohio, including Nationwide Children's Hospital, to train multidisciplinary teams in how to recognize, treat and refer trafficking victims. The money comes from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and will be administered through the Ohio Network of Children's Advocacy Centers.

Photo from the Hallway Project.com

Elizabeth Ranade Janis, state human-trafficking-response coordinator in the Department of Public Safety, said hospital and medical professionals are often "first-line responders" who see sexual assaults resulting from human trafficking while they look for evidence child abuse. The move is part of an overall state plan to integrate human-trafficking awareness on several fronts.

Source: Alan Johnson, *The Columbus Dispatch Online* - 8/7/13

CHILD TRAFFICKING VICTIMS RECOVERED BY THE FBI COULD GO TO JAIL

Some of the children who were recovered in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's huge sex trafficking sting in late July could go to jail if available resources are insufficient to find safe housing for them.



The FBI operation, which was carried out in 76 cities across the country along with the help of nearly 4,000 local, state and federal officers, resulted in the recovery of 105 sexually exploited children, most of whom were between the ages of 13 and 17, though some were as young as 9, reported ThinkProgress.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, which partnered with the FBI to carry out Operation Cross Country, now says some of the recovered children may go to jail, at least temporarily. "If there is nowhere to hold them, and nowhere safe for them to go, law enforcement has no alternative," the organization's director of case analysis, Staca Shehan, told U.S. News and World Report. "If they aren't placed in a juvenile detention facility, the child could run back to the prostitution scenario."

FBI spokeswoman Whitney Malkin confirmed to U.S. News that some of the child victims rescued in the sweep could be detained, but she called such circumstances "rare" and said more children would be placed in safe housing than imprisoned.

"Detaining victims ... falls far short of ideal," Malkin said. "The Infrastructure to support the range of services just isn't there in many places."

Even if the 105 children are placed in safe houses or foster homes by the FBI, many of them live in states where others like them can be arrested for prostitution.

Source: Hunter Stuart- *The Huffington Post*, 08/09/2013

NATIONAL

NJ ATTORNEY GENERAL ANNOUNCES SIX ARRESTS IN INTERNATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASE

In Hunterdon County, New Jersey Acting Attorney General John J. Hoffman announced arrests of a Lakewood man and four male associates on charges of human trafficking for allegedly operating brothels in Lakewood that were part of a network of brothels in New Jersey, New York and other states that trafficked women from Mexico to the United States to work as prostitutes. The alleged ringleader's girlfriend also was arrested for assisting him in operating the brothels.

The charges are the result of an ongoing investigation by the Division of Criminal Justice and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) that began in early 2012 called "Operation No Boundaries."

Source: Posted online on July 22, 2013 in the *Hunterdon County News*