

## FOR OCTOBER 9<sup>th</sup> BULLETIN:

**We're Bookin' It!** At their latest FTF Team meeting, your FTF Servant Team was blessed by Katy Bailey who brought a book review of D. S. Whitney's "Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life" Her review will be available for you to read either in print form or on the church website soon! There was good discussion on J. C. Ryle's article on "Prayer" and Lynn Downing's message, "Call to Repentance" – both Ryle's article & Downing's message can be made available to you if you would like to learn more. Please check with Bobbie Cover for the Ryle article or Randy Steinhoff to access the message, "Call to Repentance."

The Team was also assigned a list of books on prayer to review for recommendations down the road. Here's a snippet from one of those books:

*"One of the tragedies I see as I travel around the country is that many churches today are too anemic to affect their cities because they are paralyzed by fear of the Holy Spirit....They polish their pews, fine-tune their services, send out visitor letters like clockwork, and busy themselves with spaghetti dinners and ice cream socials. But they resist the Holy Spirit because...something different might happen—something that is not in the bulletin!....How sad for a body of believers to be so sealed off in their tidy, religious routines that they miss the new thing God is doing in the world. Revival is here; the Spirit is being poured out...People are being healed, and large numbers of unbelievers are coming to Christ. Your church can either batten down the hatches and teeter along in the same lame and tame or you can throw open the doors and windows and cry, "Come, Holy Spirit! As you did in the book of Acts, do it again!" -Dr. Terry Tekyl in his book, "Acts 29" pp. 12-13*

In other activities, Coach Joe challenged us to watch for "God Sightings" (opportunities to share the Gospel and to bless strangers). Small Group Task Force Coordinator Cathe Prather will be distributing a Questionnaire to the congregation to discern and address our various needs. Finally, the Crisis Planning and Communications Policy Task Forces report they are working diligently to ensure a well planned future as our Lord works in our midst (Is 42:3). Please pray that your FTF Team will be wise in following the Holy Spirit's guidance!

**Watch this space. There's more to come! In the next few weeks** you'll be introduced to some of the prayer material the Team is reviewing along with hints & answers to the question: "What's with all this Armorbearer stuff?"

## FOR OCTOBER 16<sup>th</sup> BULLETIN:

**Booking It!** You may recall that at their recent FTF Team meeting, your FTF Servant Team was assigned a list of books on prayer to review for recommendations down the road. As the team gets acquainted with these books some gems emerge. From "A Simple Way to Pray- The Wisdom of Martin Luther on Prayer" by Dr. Archie Parrish comes this bit of encouragement:

"Through his private struggles in prayer at Worms, Luther received from the Lord that unshakable strength, assurance, and confidence that enabled him to defy a world of enemies. God used this man of prayer to begin a great Reformation, a new era in the history of Christianity.

"...The Reformation focused on correcting doctrine and purifying the church, but these achievements could come only after a reformation of prayer. In contrast to the Roman Church of his day, Luther emphasized the priesthood of *all* believers. This biblical prayer empowered the proclamation of the gospel that could purify the church and transform the world." pp. 26-27

**Don't forget to ...Watch this space. There's more to come in the next few weeks!** As the weeks go by, you'll continue to be introduced to some of the prayer material the Team is reviewing along with answers to the question: "what's with all this Armorbearer stuff?"

## FOR OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> BULLETIN:

**STILL Booking It!** At their October 4 FTF Team meeting with Coach Joe, your Servant Team was assigned a list of books on prayer to review for recommendations down the road. Dean Ridings has published a prayer journal, “the Pray! Prayer Journal” to assist in taking ‘daily steps toward praying God’s heart.’

In the introduction to the Journal, the author reminds his journalists of the experience of Navigators founder, Dawson Trotman, who’s attention was drawn to the promise of God in Jeremiah 33:3, “*Call unto me and I will answer thee, and shew thee great & mighty things which thou knowest not.*” (KJV). Here’s what Ridings tells us what happened next:

*“...Pondering this led to a 42 day prayer meeting in which Dawson and a few others with him got serious about praying for local youth and cities, and then expanded to other cities...and finally the world.*

*“The small band of brothers prayed for two hours every morning—three on Sundays! In six weeks’ time they had spent more than 100 hours in prayer, asking God to use them to win and train individuals for His glory....They didn’t know how, but they claimed Jeremiah 33:3 and trusted God to fill in the details.*

*“ ‘We didn’t even know what we were praying,” Dawson said. “I didn’t realize that within four years, men from every state...would walk into our front room and find the Savior. God answered our prayers abundantly and there was the beginning of our work called today by the name, Navigators’ “*

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## FOR OCTOBER 30<sup>th</sup> BULLETIN:

**We’re About to be Done Booking It!** Wrapping up the month with a list of books on prayer that your FTF has been reviewing comes this gem from Dr. Kenneth Boa in his book, “Face to Face – Volume 1, Praying Scriptures for Intimate Worship.”

In his Introduction, Dr. Boa makes it clear that “*As central as [the] twin disciplines of prayer and Scripture are to our spiritual life, most believers in Jesus Christ are frustrated by hit-or-miss approaches to both...[T]heir time in prayer and the Word can become unsatisfying, routine, and even boring. It is no surprise, then, that most people spend a minimal amount of time in...these disciplines and fail to develop intimacy with the One for whom they were created.*”

To avoid succumbing either to the extreme of all form and no freedom, or the opposite...of all freedom and no form, Boa encourages us to “*Think of this book as a tool that combines the word of the Lord with prayer and guides you through the process of praying Scripture back to God....Because it is based on Scripture you can be assured that these prayers will be pleasing to God. This book will encourage you in your walk with God by enriching and enhancing the quality of your experience of prayer.*”