

THE BELLS PRAYER LETTER

January – February – March 2007

To our supporting churches and friends:

Can you believe that it is the first of March? Where does the time go so quickly? It seemed that when I was just a little lad the days were so long and the years, well one year felt like ten, but things have done a turn around and we just can't seem to get it done as we used to. But, I'm not complaining – it truly is a joy to be alive and witnessing for Jesus.

January, February, and March have been very interesting and filled with much opportunity to be a witness and to spread the Word of God. Mamie and I left our home in Henderson, North Carolina on the fifth of January and began our new year on the road again. We have been in the mountains of Tennessee and North Carolina and then into Florida ministering. When we arrived in Florida, we began helping pastors who had or were coming down with the flu – it just seems like an unusual amount of it this season. Well finally, the flu grabbed hold of us and it has been no small matter, but Mamie and I are better now – not well, yet better. But in spite of sickness everywhere, the opportunities to serve him have been just wonderful.

We were in Lady Lake Florida at the time of the killer tornadoes that made national news. A young lady who was in the Wednesday youth group was taken into eternity by that storm. The good part is, she was a professing Christian. Needless to say, it left its mark on the youth of the church. Pray as they work through their loss. I rode with the pastor as he assessed the effects of this storm upon his congregation and community. There was a great response from so many who wanted to help. Thank God for caring people. There is not enough space to describe the awesome power of tornadoes, but I will say it was a little too close for comfort for us – it was very close. It was our joy while in Florida to help pass out tracts and distribute over 250 Bibles. Thanks go to the Lake Trafford Baptist Church for providing these materials.

I am beginning this prayer letter in Greenwood, South Carolina. We are preaching missions' revival here at the Greenwood Baptist Church. There has been such a sweet spirit in this meeting. We are to be with the Trinity Baptist Tabernacle here in Greenwood on Sunday, then to missions' candidate school in Tennessee and on to Arden, North Carolina. We will also be in Farmville, North Carolina, working with the Damascus Road Baptist Church. This is a struggling work – please pray for them.

There is no way that we could do the work we are doing if it was not for folks like you who support us both financially and prayerfully, and Mamie and I are very grateful for your generosity and love. We have often said that we have the most wonderful pastors and churches standing with us as we try to carry out this ministry of helps, truly endeavoring to be a missionary Evangelist, desiring to be a blessing and never a burden to anyone. I wish we could report more souls being saved but to be honest, I can't.. But, I can testify we are spreading the Word of God. We have seen good response in our mission's revivals, the mission giving increasing so far in every meeting, for which we give God the praise.

Folks everywhere we go want to know how I am doing physically, so I place this note of update in this letter. I'm still able to preach, but not as energetically. I have to rest quite a lot during the day, especially if I preach every night, which is still the case for most weeks, praise the Lord! The last heart test revealed the output (*ejection power*) of my heart has dropped from 48% to 38%. Pray with me that this will not get any lower. Again, I thank the Lord that I'm still able to push forward on this missionary trail. This of course renders the physical side of our helps ministry to an advisory or consultation level. I sure do miss the hands on projects.

Mamie is still doing well and able to do half or more of the driving, for which I praise the Lord, for without her I would have to scale back tremendously. Well, for now we will close and again, we thank you for allowing the Lord to use you in helping folks like us.

In Christian Service,

Brother Russell and Mamie Bell

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

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