

THE BELLS PRAYER LETTER

January – February – March 2008

To our supporting churches and friends:

Years ago, we used to hear a song which said, "Count your blessings, name them one by one. Count your many blessings, see what God has done." All of us should do this more often than we do. As Mamie and I count our blessings, you are at the **top**. God has and is using you to help us do His will in spreading the Gospel of Christ. Thank you for co-laboring with the Bells. Without you, we would be hindered greatly in our labors. Many of you who give so that we might keep going do so sacrificially and one day you will see the fruits of your gifts and love. I would like to share a verse that has come to mean a lot to us: Psalm 119: 105 *"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."* The lamp deals with our present, the light deals with our future; the message is very clear, and at no time does God want us in the dark.

January was a slow but good month for us. We were able to preach on most weekends and Wednesdays and get some much needed time at the house. For about ten years, we have spent 300 days each year on the road and this year it will be around 280 days. When I think about this, I am truly amazed at the grace of God. We praise Him for His goodness and mercy.

Our work has been in North Carolina, Florida, and Delaware for this first quarter of 2008. There have been souls saved and a good move among the Lord's people, for which we are very thankful. It was very exciting to witness a mother and two daughters and two sons call on the Lord in the same meeting.

The Lord has allowed us to write two Gospel tracts. Let me say, it has been quite an experience. It has been quite a while since I have witnessed the interference of our enemy on this scale. But, let me hasten to say our Lord has and is giving victory. I hope to have these very soon so that they will be available if you desire them. One is entitled; ***Man's Quest to Know God***, the other is ***Honoring Our Military***. Please pray that the tracts may be well received and that many will come to Christ as their Saviour.

The first quarter of 2008 has surely reminded me of our finiteness and frailty. Everywhere we go it seems we view more sickness and death. I went to a church meeting desiring to see Pastor Dick Riley and someone said, "Oh no, you have not heard. He went home to be with the Lord in December." My phone rang another day, and I was informed that our preacher friend, Brother Gene Johnson, a great soul winner, just went home to be with Jesus. Now another of my Pastor friends, Brother Hoyt Holbrooks, is battling brain cancer. There are so many of our Lord's servants suffering or going home, that this puts an even greater responsibility upon us to reach the lost. ***Oh, God help us not abandon our position but be like our brethren who have fallen or are falling on the battlefield and cry with the apostle John, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."*** We don't know the hour, but it is enough to know He is coming.

We are being informed on all sides that the public demands political, religious, and moral change. The change that is demanded by the public is not Biblical for the most part, but fleshly. Therefore, let us be reminded of God's Word in Malachi 3:6 "For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed." Hebrews 13:8 says "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day and for ever." We are being told that preaching is outdated. But God says in 1 Cor. 1:18, 21, "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved, it is the power of God. (21) For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, *it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.*"

Thanks again for standing with us in prayer and finances.

In Christian Service,

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.

Brother Russell and Mamie Bell

Pastor, if you desire us to come and report to the church, please call or write us and we will gladly come.

Home phone: 252-492-2735 Cell phone: 704-974-1685 E-mail: pastorbell@worldedge.com