

**LET
GOD
ARISE!**

The Season after Pentecost: A Season of Christ's Harvest
8.12.12 - 9.15.12



The Just Shall Live by Faith: David and Goliath
Hebrews 11.32; 1 Samuel 17 • Rev. Dr. Don L. Davis

David Rejoiced in God His Strength

Isaac Watts, 1719

David rejoiced in God his strength,
Raised to the throne by special grace;
But Christ the Son appears at length,
Fulfills the triumph and the praise.

How great is the Messiah's joy
In the salvation of Thy hand!
Lord, Thou hast raised His kingdom high,
And giv'n the world to His command.

Thy goodness grants whate'er He will,
Nor doth the least request withhold;
Blessings of love prevent Him still,
And crowns of glory, not of gold.

Honor and majesty divine
Around His sacred temples shine;
Blessed with the favor of Thy face,
And length of everlasting days.

Thine hand shall find out all His foes;
And as a fiery oven glows
With raging heat and living coals,
So shall Thy wrath devour their souls.

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Pray for:

**Gateway Cities of
the 10/40 Window**
... see page 10

**Inner Cities
of America**
... see page 13

**World Impact's
Ministries**
... see page 14

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The Just Shall Live by Faith: David and Goliath

When it comes to doing the work of God, we have to overcome the tendency to be intimidated by evil.

Of all the things that the devil does (and does well) it is undoubtedly his ability to intimidate, to make us seem small, to make victory over evil an impossible dream. I can remember as a kid looking at the Disney *Sleeping Beauty* film, and the little prince fighting the huge black dragon, who blew out of his mouth and nostrils streams of deadly fire and destruction. The prince looked so little, so vulnerable. I doubted seriously if he could muster the will and strength to defeat such an awesome foe.

Correspondingly, when we look at the harvest of the world's inner-city lost, we can, too be easily overwhelmed. The numbers of lost individuals and families is vast, literally millions of neighborhoods without any light of the Savior present, in neighborhoods riddled with despair, violence, poverty, neglect, and doubt. If we look at the urban poor through the natural eye, we can easily give up, be completely overwhelmed, even frozen with fear and intimidation. How can we, you, our church, our ministry, our missions effort, our street ministry, our TUMI satellite possibly affect a community a thousand times larger than anything we could cover in a decade?

Be honest with yourself. How can we, so little, frail, and, at least at first sight, so vulnerable, possibly be used to win a neighborhood, convert an entire gang, clean up a project, bring revival to a community, or see an entire city, even a nation won to Christ? Aren't we kidding ourselves? Should we simply, as someone once commented to me, "get real" and set goals more in sync with our resources, our abilities, our opportunities?

If God were going to use a hero, find an apostle, raise up a prophet, a preacher, or an army, aren't we the least likely folk to pull that off?



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Shouldn't we try to be realistic and simply seek goals more in keeping with our ability and strengths and person?

Let me repeat: Of all the things that the devil does (and does well) it is undoubtedly his ability to intimidate, to make us seem small, to make victory over evil an impossible dream.

Our thesis for the upcoming Let God Arise! season is this: in spite of those people, things, and situations that call our motives, competencies, and usefulness into question, we can still win the battle because we belong to and represent the Lord God.

Of all the stories in Scripture where this principle is boldly portrayed, the confrontation between David, youngest son of Jesse, and Goliath, the champion of the Philistines, represents the best.

You remember the story. It begins with the challenge Goliath, God's defiant enemy, gave to the people of Israel. The Philistines gathered their armies for battle at Socoh, which belonged to Judah. Saul and the men of Israel were gathered, and encamped in the Valley of Elah, and drew up in line of battle against the Philistines.

Goliath was an intimidating figure. A champion of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span, or as some say, close to nine feet tall. He had a helmet of bronze on his head, he was armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. He had bronze armor on his legs and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron, and his shield-bearer went before him.

Standing before Saul and his troops, Goliath shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and



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are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us. I defy the ranks of Israel this day. Give me a man, that we may fight together.”

The Bible says that when Saul and all Israel heard these words, they were “dismayed and greatly afraid.” For forty days the Philistine came forward and took his stand, morning and evening. Twice a day, for forty days, the Philistine thundered his threats and intimidation against Saul and his army, and no one came forward to challenge him or defy his blasphemies.

Over against this imposing figure enters little David, the son of Jesse, an Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah, who had eight sons. David’s three oldest brothers had followed Saul to the battle, and David was the youngest, who fed his father’s sheep at Bethlehem.

Jesse gave David some parched grain, ten loaves and ten cheeses for the commander of his brothers, “to see if your brothers are well, and bring some token from them.”

The Scriptures say that David rose early in the morning and left the sheep with a keeper and took the provisions and went, as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the encampment as the host was going out to the battle line, shouting the war cry. Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army.

Once David arrived, he left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage, ran to the ranks, and greeted his brothers. As he talked with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him.



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All the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were much afraid. And the men of Israel said, “Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel. And the king will enrich the man who kills him with great riches and will give him his daughter and make his father's house free in Israel.” And David said to the men who stood by him, “What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?”

This is where we see vividly the work of Satan through lying intimidation, and its sickening enchantments on all of Israel. For instance, David's inquiry about what will happen to the person who defeats Goliath is met with skepticism and anger by his oldest brother Eliab, who said to him “Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your presumption and the evil of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle.”

Even when David volunteered to fight, Saul and his generals said he was too young, too inexperienced, unfit to take on a challenge as formidable and awesome as Goliath. But David answered Saul, with stories of his valor when a lion, or a bear, came and took a lamb from the flock, that he went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. David assured Saul that even when a wild predator arose against him, that he caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him.

In the logic of a bold young warrior, David then told Saul that “Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God.” He comforted Saul and said, “The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.”



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Saul agreed at David's lack of intimidation saying, "Go, and the Lord be with you!" and even offered David his own personal armor, putting a helmet of bronze on his head and clothing him with a coat of mail. David strapped Saul's sword over his armor, and he refused them since he hadn't tested them. He put them off and rather took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones from the brook and put them in his shepherd's pouch.

David had his sling in his hand when he approached the Philistine. Goliath moved forward and came near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. And when Goliath looked and saw David, he held him in contempt, he disdained him, because David was "a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance." He taunted David saying, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" Goliath cursed David by his gods, and then said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field."

In the face of his oldest brother's rejection, Saul and his generals' reservations, and Goliath's cursing and taunts, David has a word for Goliath. He said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head. And I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hand."

In a dramatic act of valor, as Goliath arose and came and drew near to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. And David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone and slung it and struck



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the Philistine on his forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the ground.

Little rejected David, who refused to be intimidated or bullied or ignored, whom nobody believed was capable of winning, this unlikely hero prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. And the Bible provides final commentary: “There was no sword in the hand of David.”

This great story of courage and valor has real implications for us today as we seek the transformation, revival, and healing of the cities of America and the world.

1. God’s enemies of the city, at least as they appear on the surface, are intimidating and formidable, and appear impossible to defeat (even to those who should know better!).
2. Lying intimidation is the foremost weapon of the enemy on those who face the challenge of engaging the enemy in the city.
3. God’s best champions may seem the most unlikely people to overcome in his name: often they are overlooked, put down, and must fight their way into the fight.
4. God’s weapons of warfare are effective: they operate on an entirely different plane in sync with different paradigms, principles, and perspectives.
5. No enemy can withstand the aggressive warfare of God’s anointed representative.



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6. The entire battle often turns on the confidence of a single warrior who is willing to stand in the face of impossible odds, friendly fire, and open opposition from God's enemy.

Dear friends, the enemy intends to weaken you at the knees, to intimidate and taunt you, to make you and your team seem small, useless, outgunned, and overmatched in your work. Perhaps you are worn out, sick, living in the shadow of bad prognosis, scary neighbors, failed ministries, and petty squabbles.

Maybe you are out of money, out of ideas, out of support, and truly don't know how you will go on. We pray during these seasons for God's intervention and resources. His strength is made perfect in weakness, and he has said that no weapon fashioned against us will stand. Even in the face of the Goliaths of our ministries and lives, we can trust that God will eventually win, for he is Lord, and the battle belongs to him alone. As David said, there is a God in Israel, and we know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear. The battle is the Lord's, and he will win the day.

Therefore, in this season after Pentecost, let us pray to the Lord of the harvest. He has won the victory, the dragon is defeated, and the battle has been won at the Cross. It matters not how things have been going, what your bank account reads, or how many people you have with you. God is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think by the power that is at work within us.

Remember, of all the things that the devil does (and does well) it is undoubtedly his ability to intimidate, to make us seem small, to make victory over evil an impossible dream. Those who walk by faith will always win the day.



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In God, we shall do valiantly, and nothing the enemy says can stop that. Let God arise, and may his enemies be scattered, in order that thousands of men and women, boys and girls, may enter into the Kingdom of God in the cities where you live. Prophesy deliverance, stand still, and see what God can do as we wait for God to arise!



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Global Strategic Vision

Pray fervently and in faith for the following *Gateway Cities in the 10/40 Window*. Ask the Lord of the harvest for laborers, increased vision, and manifestations of the Holy Spirit's revelation and power.

- Northern Africa: *Bamako*
- Middle East: *Tel Aviv*
- Central Asia: *Almaty* and *Karachi*
- Eastern Asia: *Chengdu*, and *Xian*, *Tianjin* and *Hohhot*

Pray fervently for these great cities, for spiritual wisdom and revelation for their populations, for insight into the truth of Jesus, that the Holy Spirit might illumine them, that the Gospel of Christ might take hold in the communities of these great cities, that churches may be planted, and that authentic missions might be spawned throughout each of these societies of influential Gateway cities. Let us entreat the Lord on behalf of these key cities, believing God for his intervention:

- Pray for Northern Africa and for the great city of *Bamako*. Pray for workers to evangelize the city and its suburbs, especially the Bambara people around Bamako. Pray that those involved in corruption and thievery would be overcome by the Gospel of Christ. Pray also that the audience of Christian programming on radio and television will expand and bear much fruit, and the literature ministry would flourish.
- Pray for an outpouring of God's Holy Spirit within *Tel Aviv*, this great Middle Eastern city. Pray for peace and unity among the local leadership and between the Arab and Jewish believers, and that the God of peace would reveal himself in the midst of the ongoing struggles there. Pray for strategic outreach centers to be established in the heart of this city and for teachers and evangelists—pray for



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boldness for all the believers, and for the youth searching for spiritual reality to find Jesus. Pray against judgment and criticism within the body of Christ, and that those involved in drugs, hedonism and immorality would see its full futility and turn to Christ.

- Pray for *Almaty* and *Karachi*, powerful Central Asian cities. Pray for *Almaty*, that the communist forces of atheism would be completely eliminated, and pray that this ideological vacuum will not be filled with Islam or some other cult. Pray that the Gospel of Jesus would not be restricted and that Almaty would be a hub where visiting Kazakh leaders, students, and businessmen would find the Lord and then spread his light throughout Kazakhstan. Pray for the complete translation of the Bible into Kazakh. Pray also for this nation as it moves its capital – hopefully keeping it from civil war. In *Karachi*, pray that the church would be healed of divisions and delivered of Hindu superstitions and occultic practices. Pray for the strengthening of the pastors and that the few Pushtu speaking believers would boldly declare the gospel to the 2 million Pukhtun people in the city. Pray for the evangelization of the Mahajirs, Ismaili Muslims, Afghan refugees, and the salvation of 1 million Balochs in the city. Pray also for effective ministry to the 1 million drug addicts in the city, and that the inter-ethnic conflicts, kidnappings, and violent crimes will cause people to look to Jesus for answers.
- Pray for *Chengdu* and *Xian, Tianjin* and *Hobhot* in Eastern Asia. Pray for the safety of the small fellowships in *Chengdu* and that they would be strengthened and multiply. Pray for the missionaries and tentmakers as they battle loneliness, depression and frustration. Pray for a release from demonic oppression. Pray for an effective witness to Chengdu's migrant workers and the students interested in books about Christianity. Pray that the Christians will be unified in their presentation of the Gospel.



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- Pray for God's blessing on the unofficial house churches in and around *Xian* which are training hundreds of evangelists and leaders. Pray that the pioneer church planting efforts of these evangelists throughout central China would be successful. Pray that the city's Muslim quarter might be reached with the Gospel and that TSPM members would know Christ as Savior and the Bible as God's Word, and that the true Prince of Peace would be known.
- Pray that the believers in *Tianjin* would grow in boldness and faith, and that believers holding political positions would have wisdom and an effective witness. Pray that evangelization resources and workers would be called to Tianjin, and the city might become a gateway to the Kingdom of heaven in that region. Pray that the response to Christian radio broadcasts and the Jesus film would greatly increase and that Christian literature would become more accessible. Finally pray that disillusionment with communism and ancient practices would be replaced with hope in Jesus.
- Pray for the Gospel to be planted and bear fruit in *Hohhot* among the Mongols, and that their nationalistic aspirations might be realized in the coming of the Kingdom of God to their people. Pray for the production of a Mongolian-script New Testament and that radio ministry directed to the Mongols might have an increased harvest. Pray for increased understanding of God's Word among illiterate Han Chinese believers and for teachers to help raise the literacy level of the residents.



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National Strategic Window

Intercede on behalf of eight of the inner cities of America, (*Baton Rouge, LA; Jersey City, NJ; Visalia-Tulare-Porterville, CA; Knoxville, TN; Stockton-Lodi, CA; Youngstown-Warren, OH; Syracuse, NY; Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY; Jackson, MS*) that the Christian communities within these cities might rediscover the risen Christ in such a way that revival would occur in them, and the regions around them. Pray that the Holy Spirit might ignite fresh movements of vital spirituality and missions outreach in the churches present within these cities, and that the Lord would initiate new thrusts of laborers among the unreached in them.

- Pray that *the risen Christ would be recognized and worshiped in the communities called by his name in these cities*, and that they would *renounce worldliness and pettiness* in order to seek first God's Kingdom and his righteousness.
- Pray for *revival among God's people who live in these cities*, that they would *renounce all fleshly power and glory*, that pastors and Christians within them will rediscover the filling and power of the Holy Spirit, and that they will blossom with a new passion to win the lost around them and feel the burden of being custodians of God's true Word.
- Above all this month, pray for *an outpouring and visitation of the Holy Spirit that will result in thousands of new decisions for Christ, and the establishment of new Christ-centered, Bible-based churches in these cities*. Pray that God would grant the churches in these cities deep grace to see what is at stake in the telling of the Good News, and that all believers in them would sense the need to share the powerful riches of the truth of God within their particular circles of influence. Pray for a new awareness of God's mandate to make disciples in these cities, and for fresh, vigorous efforts to plant churches among the poor in these cities.



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Regional, Local, and Inter-Ministry Strategic Focus

Let us claim together the power of the Word of God on each ministry area listed below, trusting the Holy Spirit to manifest his wisdom and presence within each area, filling the members who serve within them, and empowering a new generation of believers through them to spark fresh revival and a new awakening among the unreached urban poor within Wichita, and throughout our entire geographic region.

Wichita

- Pray for our fall kids ministry that will start in September. Pray for a building in the N. Estelle neighborhood where we can host club to make it more accessible for kids. Pray for a good church planting strategy to emerge this fall with the families of the kids clubs participants.
- Pray for a new mobile coordinator. Miles Kennedy took another job leaving a need for someone to direct our mobile ministry which is currently going to two of our Urban Church Association churches (Lighthouse and Restored).
- Pray for David McCloud as he now is managing both thrift stores. Pray for more volunteers to come fill the holes from our summer staff going back to school. Pray for wisdom as we come up on our three-year lease next Feb. 2013 at our Waco store and decide whether to renew the lease or look for another location (preferably where we own the building).
- Pray for our board as we resume our meetings this fall. Pray they would continue to be a strategic and effective part of guiding our ministry (esp. in major decision making, funding, and finding resources that can save us money)
- Pray for Daren and Tina as they welcome their 2nd son in early September (and adjust to 2 boys)!!
- Pray for our Wichita missionary retreat in September at MSR. Terry Cornett will be our speaker.



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Planted Churches in Wichita

Please pray for our church plants, for their growth and impact on their respective communities, for the glory of God.

- Lighthouse Community Church in Oaklawn: At Lighthouse we are in need of life-changing Christianity. Only the Holy Spirit and willing hearts can make us like Jesus. Please pray that we won't be stagnant, but return to our first love.
- Christ the Victor

TUMI

Satellites, Hope School, and Growth

- Praise God with us for the continuous, steady growth of the number of TUMI satellites in America and across the world (116 satellites, with 10 satellites in countries outside the US [Ethiopia, Ghana, Mexico {4}, Canada {2}, Kenya, Romania, Guatemala, and Honduras), with approximately 1200 students being equipped for ministry and mission through them.
- Pray for the entire TUMI satellite network, i.e., the site coordinators, mentors, and students, applications in process, and new sites recently accepted into our family. Pray for their vision, commitment, resourcefulness, and protection as they lead their students into the Word of God more fully.
- Pray for Andrew and Adria Medlen (and their son, Judah) our new transfers from World Impact St. Louis, as they begin a new season for ministry at TUMI, and transition here in Wichita.
- Pray for new support and full-time staff here at National, (Bobby Gilmer [Distribution Center], Daniel Davis [son of Dr. Davis] and for their efficient and helpful transition into our work flow, and their contribution to our projects and work.
- Pray for local Wichita TUMI satellites, soon to be four in the metro area, for their funding, leadership, and potential students. Pray for the new TUMI satellites starting in Wichita, especially the satellite beginning at Tabernacle Bible Church this fall.



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- Pray for the siding repair of our building, and for the construction of our Curriculum Distribution Center, for the architectural and construction ideas, and for God's grace to bring the vendors with the time to complete this facility by September.

New Initiatives and Potential Partners

- Thank God for the ongoing rollout schedule to support our Prison Fellowship expansion. Pray for PF's organization and planning, their workers and the prisons they serve, for smooth operation of our new storage and inventory systems, and our organization processes to continue to meet the goals of the expansion this year.
- Continue to pray for Cathy Allsman's role as Prison Administrator, for her and Don's ordering challenges, for the PF administrators rolling out the expansion, and for the leaders of both World Impact and PF as they sketch out the specific steps of the California prison outreach, and new possibilities in Florida, Colorado, and Ohio.
- Pray for COGIC denomination, who are starting new TUMI satellites in Louisiana this month, and for our partnership with the Evangelical Training Association, who will integrate TUMI training into their respective training regimen.
- Pray for the spade- and groundwork starting to occur for our 2013 TUMI Satellite Summit, for the logistics, speakers, planning, and vision for the time to support our Site Coordinators.
- Pray for our beginning design of The SIAFU Network (pronounced see-AH-foo), an effort to jump-start small group support ministry in local urban churches across the country.
- Pray for the creative work of Streetlights, the Chicago-based rap music ministry, and for their efforts to develop resources we hope to integrate within our TUMI curriculum.
- Pray for Fernando and Telma Argumedo's future in Las Vegas as they complete their support at TUMI National, and move next month to equip leaders and support their parents there.



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- Pray for God's leading for a new Dean of Hispanic Ministries, someone to fill Fernando's space, and oversee the expansion of TUMI satellites among Spanish-speaking countries around the world.
- Pray for our WI Associates program, for the leaders we are befriending and supporting, and for the funding, contacts, and openings they are employing to plant new churches and set up TUMI sites.
- Pray for the continued development of TUMI satellites and the AWANA Malachi Dads program, for the Lord's timing and leading in how these satellites are formed, and for AWANA's vision and effort to make these happen over the next months.
- Pray for God's leading as we pursue translating Capstone into French and Portuguese, and concerning inquiries of starting satellites in Zambia, Haiti, Brazil, Mexico, Costa Rica; pray for timing, contacts, and clear direction as we pursue new relationships.
- Pray our connections to empower church plant movements in Los Angeles, Guadalajara, Denver, Colorado Springs, India, and other places considering creating TUMI sites.

Staff and Personal Requests

- Continue to pray for God's healing for Don's nephew, Robert James, recently diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, and for Norma Bridgewater, who continues to recover from various physical and mental health issues.
- Pray for TUMI marriages and families, for their strength, refreshment, protection, and leading as they serve the satellite clientele.
- Pray for Cathy Allsman's physical health and strength.
- Keep praying for Don Allsman's mother, and her ongoing struggle to defeat cancer; pray for her complete restoration to health.



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- Pray for Don's upcoming speaking engagements—for inspiration, clarity, and impact.
- Pray for the efforts and planning in constructing our Curriculum Distribution Center, which will enable us to support the Prison Fellowship expansion in California; pray for Joe Graham, our team leader in overseeing the building's construction, and all others who will be contributing to its creation in the coming months.
- Pray for our financial support, and wisdom as we oversee our various projects.
- Pray for our TUMI staff family members who need God's care:
 - Lorna's brother, Odrey, and his complete healing of Lou Gehrig's disease
 - Dan's mother's health, and her upcoming hip surgery
 - Carolyn's sister-in-law, Nancy, and healing from recurring cancer
 - Beth's mother, Kathlyn, in her nineties in a nursing home
 - Don's family members (Robbie, Alicia, Norma, and the children of deceased Veronica) and all his family members

TUMI Satellites

Please pray that we can open TUMI sites in the 24 California counties where 90% of former inmates will be paroled. Of the 24, we already have TUMI sites in eight of these counties, so we need to be in the other 16. These include San Bernardino, Orange, Sacramento, Santa Clara, and San Joaquin counties.

St. Louis

- Praise for new missionary staff and interns.
- Pray for new missionary staff as they adjust to life and ministry in the city.
- Pray for church planting efforts, especially two indigenous leaders who are partnering with us.



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- Praise for new family relationships developed this summer through our children's outreach and prayer for continued open doors into these families.

San Francisco Bay Area

Please pray for our West Oakland ministry to the formally incarcerated. We also solicit prayers for the members as they serve their neighbors in need.

Los Angeles

LA Health Ministry

- Please be in prayer for a healthy transition with the new staff in the Watts clinic. Virginia is transitioning out and Johnesha Dupree and Joe Kennedy are stepping onto staff. Johnesha will be serving as the office manager and Joe will be helping with the janitorial work.
- Please be in prayer for the preparation for the upcoming health conference at Fuller Seminary (Sep. 28th-29th). Please pray for unity, joy and good communication among the leadership team. As the conference is being built around the "health and shalom" book project, please pray for clarity of thought for the authors as they write and present their material (see www.healthcaremissions.org).

Watts Christian School

- Pray for the beginning of our school year. School starts Aug 30th.
- Pray for Andria McMillen and Laura Joslin who will be teaching.
- Pray for our school families to remain faithful in church attendance.

LA Church Plants

- Family Camps for the churches in the Urban Church Association will take place 3 separate weekends at THE OAKS Christian Camp and Conference Center – August 17-19, September 1-3, and September 7-9. We are expecting over 1,000 people represented by approximately 250 urban families. Please join us praying for times of refreshment from the Holy Spirit for these families, the churches



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and the pastors; families would come closer together during this time; the churches they attend will be strengthened; for the financial resources needed to be raised.

- Two new church planters are being considered to join us as World Impact Associates. Yetem Geta from Ethiopia has a vision to reach Ethiopians for Jesus that will lead to new churches being established and a movement taking place to reach American Ethiopians who do not know Jesus. Eric Flores has a vision to reach the homeless, drug addicts, poor, and all peoples in the Venice Beach community. Please pray for wisdom and abundant fruit for the Kingdom as we seek to affirm, release and resource these two church planters.
- The Urban Ministry Institute continues to explode in the prisons and jails here in California. We are just now beginning to see a “trickle” of men being released who have either graduated or have taken classes from TUMI. Pray: 1) that our Urban Churches are ready to receive these men into their church communities, 2) housing and jobs can be provided for these TUMI graduates and students, 3) that many will be called to plant and pastor new churches.

The Oaks

Pray for:

- Alisha Lorson – for healing, she injured her left hand
- Matt Horner – numbness in finger of left hand and wrist pain, may be carpal tunnel
- Heather – relief from frequent headaches, hypothyroid, fatigue
- Paul C. – as he seeks God’s replacement for Matt as registrar.
- Matt and Lisa – move to Colorado, needed support, to be used by God at Deer Creek
- Jeanne Littman– encouragement as she works as caregiver to an invalid mother and two teenaged sons.
- Ruth (Jeanne’s mother) – that she would experience fellowship with the Lord in the twilight of life.



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- Steve Littman– encouragement and strength and wisdom to be an encourager to his family
- Gene Taylor – health needs: diabetes, arthritis, heart.
- Camp safety – rattlesnakes, adventure activities, swimming pool, poisonous plants and other pests.
- Ben – for encouragement through life's struggles.

Friends and Partners

God's continued leading and direction through our WI national and local Board members, God's blessing, protection, and wisdom for Dr. Phillips and the executive team, for all the Directors of WI ministries nationwide, for all our supporters and volunteers; pray for our partnership churches, here in Wichita and throughout the nation, that God would bless them, empowering them to grow, mature, and multiply so that the Gospel of Christ would spread in their own communities, and from them across the country and world.

Continue to pray for our elderly parents, and for those who have recently lost their parents and other loved ones.

Lift up all those who have recently lost loved ones. Pray that the Lord will comfort all of our family (and their families) during this time of loss and that the Lord will use this time of sorrow to direct the attention of any in their circles who do not know the Lord to our Savior.

Please continue to pray for the health of our ailing parents. Please pray also for all of the parents of staff who are aging and beginning to experience health concerns.

Please pray for our staff children across the country. Pray for their encouragement, safety, strength, and growth as they serve with their families in the city. Pray that each will follow the Lord's leading in their lives and that all will be radical disciples of Jesus.



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For the National Office Ministry

Pray for wisdom for the leadership and an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our entire staff. Pray for health, nurture and joy along with vision and encouragement among our staff. Pray for their provision and refreshment as they serve us all!

Pray fervently for God's great favor and leading upon Dr. Phillips, and for strength and anointing as he travels and speaks. Continue to pray for his family, and for all the members of our excellent National Board, and all the ministries, staff, and friends of World Impact.

For World Impact

Please pray for more laborers for the harvest in partnership with World Impact. Pray that we would have more applicants to join World Impact staff.

Pray for God's blessing on our urban church plants around the country, for church plant team leaders and members, for outreaches in new neighborhoods, and prospects of new teams.

Pray for a new level of power and spiritual passion for our workers on the field, for their health and stamina, and for a new vision of how God wants to use them to make disciples of Jesus, both in their own communities and around the world.

Pray for God's financial blessing upon our local and national ministry, that we would gain the resources to do effectively and excellently what God is calling us to do.



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Chengdu (*chung-doo*) Day 25

Meaning: "perfect city"
Country: China, Sichuan Province *
Population: 3,528,000
Poverty: Rich in agricultural products
Religious Breakdown:
59.0% Nonreligious/Atheist
30.0% Buddhist/Taoist
6.0% Christian
1.8% Evangelical

Status of the church: TSPM 55,000 members, 2 churches (see [Jinan](#) for TSPM explanation)

Major Religious Sites:
Baoguan Monastery,
Wenshu Monastery,
Marquis Wu Temple,
Qingyang Gong Temple (Taoist)

City Significance/History:
Jade and pearls are not the real riches of China—rice, wheat, soybeans, and silk bring the most wealth. Chengdu is the capital of the most populous province, Sichuan, which produces more rice and other grains than any other province. The fertile soil allows for agriculture to play a major role in its livelihood and, of course, silk brought in further wealth.

Du Fu, a bright student, studies to take his college entrance exam. If he makes it into university, he will have a secure future. One of his friends failed the test, not so much because of lack of knowledge, but because of the extreme pressure that rides on this one test.

Du Fu leaves his parent's apartment on the third floor and walks down the poorly lit stairs. Mounting his bike, he heads for Wenshu Monastery. Wenshu is the god of wisdom, and it would be foolish not to offer incense before him. Fighting with other bikes for the right of way, Du Fu makes the left turn leading to Wenshu. He passes the fortune-teller, stopping only briefly to buy incense, then parks his bike.

Finally, before the statue of Buddha that came from Tibet at some earlier date, he lights three sticks of incense and bows gracefully at the waist. The exam grips his mind as he petitions for wisdom.

- Prayer Points**
1. Many mission agencies are represented here, and each agency has its own view on sharing the gospel. Pray for unity and cooperation between Christians.
 2. Pray for the safety of house church believers who face substantial repression from the Religious Affairs Bureau, the TSPM, and police.
 3. Pray for an effective witness to Chengdu's "floating population" of migrant laborers from the surrounding villages.
 4. Pray for openness among the students interested in books about Christianity.
 5. The Marquis Wu Temple holds the history of three gods with one still influencing most Chinese today. Pray that this influence binding the people would be broken.
 6. Missionaries and tentmakers here battle loneliness, depression and frustration. Pray for a release from all demonic oppression.



Xian (*shee-ahn*) Day 25

Meaning: "western peace"
Country: China, Shaanxi Province*
Population: 3,417,000
Poverty: Communism has provided basic needs
Religious Breakdown:
59.1% Nonreligious/Atheist
30.1% Chinese Religions
1.4% Muslim
6.1% Christian
5.0% Evangelical

Status of the church: TSPM 113,000 members (see [Jinan](#) for TSPM explanation)

Major Religious Sites:
Temple of Great Maternal Grace,
Jianfu Temple,
Ba Xian An,
Big Wild Goose Pagoda,
Great Mosque

City Significance/History:
Today cities like Beijing and Shanghai are well known to most people. Three thousand years ago Xian was the Rome of the East. Traders came along the Silk Road from Rome, Persia, or Central Asia to do business in this great city. Merchants, artists, and soldiers walked the streets. Priests and emperors were honored and worshipped. The city was the capital for 13 ancient dynasties; as one would fall another would rise. The Silk Road also facilitated the eastward expansion of Buddhism into China.

In the 8th century, 2 million people might have lived in the metro area of Xian. But weakness in the Tang Dynasty permitted Turkish and Tibetan invaders to break up the taxation and wealth base of the dynasty. China was split into independent political states once again. The city declined quickly and never rose to be the national capital again.

The communist government, in its effort to decentralize industry from the eastern mega-cities, has developed Xian into an industrial center. This has resulted in tremendous population growth in the last 50 years, passing its growth in the 8th century. The government has also constructed many grey buildings, turned temples into factories or stores, and greatly improved the railways and roads.

- Prayer Points**
1. The Nestorian Tablet, the record of Christianity's introduction to China in the 7th century, is housed at the provincial museum. Pray that this stone would speak prophetically to the people regarding their Christian heritage.
 2. Pray that in this city of peace the true Prince of Peace might be known.
 3. Pray for God's blessing on the unofficial house churches in and around Xian which are training hundreds of evangelists and leaders.
 4. Pray that the pioneer church planting efforts of these evangelists throughout central China would be successful.
 5. Pray that the city's Muslim quarter might be reached with the gospel.
 6. Pray that TSPM members would know Christ as Savior and the Bible as God's Word.



Bamako

(*bam-uh-koh*)

Day 2

Meaning: "crocodile pool"
Country: Mali*
Population: 680,000
Poverty: Drought and famine have caused an increase in poverty
Religious Breakdown:
86.3% Muslim
9.2% Traditional Religions
3.7% Christian
0.7% Evangelical

Status of the church: 30 small churches

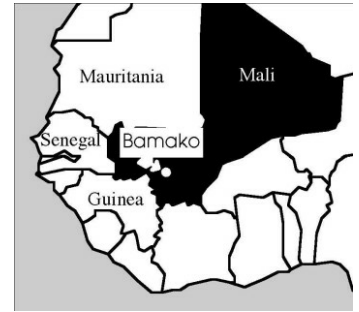
Major Religious Sites:
Great Mosque
Hamdallaye Islamic Center
Sorcery and Fetish Bazaar

City Significance/History:
Five hundred years ago Bamako was a Muslim trading center in the ancient Mali empire. When the French arrived in 1880, this metropolis had dwindled to approximately 1000 people. Situated on the fertile Niger River, the city again has a growing population.

Musa and his 13-year-old younger brother, Mamadou, live in a small farming village some 300 kilometers from Bamako. This year they will find a ride on a truck going to the big city. This will cost money, but the amount they will receive for their fruits and vegetables will be at least double in the city. Musa tells his brother that last year he was able to sell the majority of what they had grown. He had learned from a Brazilian Christian man about new seeds that produce a greater harvest. He bought only a few because they were expensive. This year he will buy more. The man's words about these seeds were true and worth the extra money.

This annual migration of about 100,000 people takes place for many young farmers as they leave their villages with goods grown during the rainy season, and seek to sell them during the dry season. Many would like to stay in the city, but cannot because jobs are very hard to find.

- Prayer Points**
1. Pray for more workers to evangelize the city and start outreaches in the suburbs.
 2. Pray that Radio Bamako will expand its audience, that Christian programming on national TV will bear fruit, and that the literature ministry will flourish.
 3. Pray that the Bambara people around Bamako may be evangelized and discipled.
 4. Pray that the Hamdallaye imam (religious leader) would no longer resist Christian activities, particularly public crusades, and stop calling for an Islamic state.
 5. Koulouba Hill overlooking the city is noted both as a hiding place for thieves and as the site of the presidential palace. Pray that corruption and thievery, which is undermining the nation, would cease and that all who are leading from atop this hill would be overcome by the gospel of Christ.



Tianjin (*tiyen-jeen*) Day 23

Meaning: "ford of heaven"
Country: China
Population: 10,995,000
Poverty: Communism has provided basic needs
Religious Breakdown:
59.1% Nonreligious/Atheist
30.1% Chinese Religions
1.4% Muslim
6.1% Christian
5.0% Evangelical

Status of the church: TSPM 78,000 members (see [Jinan](#) for TSPM explanation)

Major Religious Sites:
Grand Mosque,
Dabeyuan Monastery,
Confucius Temple,
Tianhou Temple

City Significance/History:
Dating back to the 3rd century bc, when China's history was known as the Warring States period, Tianjin has had a militant reputation. Many saw this fortified city as strategic because it was ideal as a trade port and the main link with Beijing. France, Britain, Belgium, Germany, Russia, Japan, Italy, and the USA ruled Tianjin because of their interest in Far East trade. For periods, some of these countries had a significant military and diplomatic presence in the city at the same time.

Missionaries, who arrived with the business community, saw the city as an open place to minister.

The foreign invaders all left their mark on the city. Different buildings have French, German, or Italian features. Japan, during World War II, helped the city move forward as an industrial giant.

The Hai River allowed for ships to travel to the city, but heavy silt moved the main port downstream. The Japanese started dredging and expanding the port with the work finally being finished by the Communists. Now Tianjin handles a great number of goods, making it one of the busiest areas in China. It is the country's third largest city and busiest shopping center, with Commercial Street servicing almost 700,000 shoppers daily.

- Prayer Points**
1. Pray that the Christians will grow in boldness and faith, and that believers holding political positions would have wisdom and an effective witness.
 2. Pray that evangelization resources and workers from within and without the country will be called to Tianjin, and that the city might truly become a gateway to the Kingdom of heaven in that region of China.
 3. Pray that the response to Christian radio broadcasts and the *Jesus* film would greatly increase and that Christian literature would become more accessible.
 4. Pray that disillusionment with communism and ancient practices would be replaced with hope in Jesus Christ.
 5. Pray that the Christians working among the oil rig workers in the Bohai Sea would have an opportunity to evangelize their coworkers.

