

Elijah Ministries Prayer & Praise

MARCH 11, 2009

BE DEVOTED TO PRAYER

NORM WAKEFIELD



Family Ministry



H.O.M.E Homeschool Organization

Rejoice in God's Great Love

Ministry to Families

I must admit that I often forget to include in our prayer invitations the important ministry to the families with whom I stay or minister. Almost 20 years ago, while a pastor in Huntington Beach, CA, God gave a special relationship with a pediatrician and his family. He graciously took care of the physical health of this young pastor's family while I had the privilege of ministering to his families' spiritual health. We have reminders of our friendship every week when we do laundry in the washer and dryer they gave us (Yes, they are still working!).

This weekend, I had the privilege of reconnecting with this family and again ministering to their spiritual needs. God was so good to give just what they needed to be encouraged to refocus on the gospel

and the grace available to us in a relationship with God through fellowship with the Holy Spirit.

The hosts minister to me also. Such was the case with the families who lead the homeschool organization at which I spoke last Monday evening. What an encouragement it was to see God's faithfulness and love expressed through them to this visiting servant as they fed me, prayed for me, and shared the life of Christ with me. Additionally, they gave to support the ministry exceedingly beyond what was deserved or requested. Thank You, Father, for blessing us through the intercession of Your Son, Jesus, in many ways for which we fail to pray.

Sunday morning, my heart was also blessed as I witnessed the love, worship, and expression of the life of Christ. I met with a home church with which I have developed a relationship for almost ten

years. Although I trust God encouraged their hearts through my teaching, I give glory to the Lord for how God made His love and presence known to me through them.

Monday evening some mothers from the homeschool group encouraged my heart with testimonies of how the Equipped to Love video had impacted their lives. They had recently watched it in their new mother's group. Again God encouraged me with His kindness and faithfulness to them.

I spoke on the power of hope last night. As I preached about the hope of the gospel, *my heart* was blessed by the wonderful, powerful hope revealed in God's Word. I returned home spiritually refreshed, amazed at God's grace, and loved by His body. Thank you for praying and sharing with me in ministry this past week.



Building the local church by equipping men and their families.



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