

McCLAIN MINISTRIES

Since 2000 A Monthly Christian Newsletter Publication

June 2009



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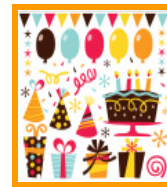
WORDS FROM PRESIDENT OBAMA

Visit us online at:

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Life Events

**Happy Birthday!
Wishing You Love, Joy and Happiness**



**Hattie Ranson
Betty Bryant
Shelia McDouglas**

**Father's We Honor You
June 21**



**Flag Day
June 14
Democracy and Freedom**



MELVA'S CORNER

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE

GOD'S PLAN FOR YOU IS PERFECT PART V



"It's just lousy!"

Pretty much everywhere I turn, that's the prevailing sentiment. The economy is in the tank. Retirement accounts are beyond depressing. Layoffs and bad news still dribble out of a seemingly endless pipeline of discouraging news.

Now folks are worried about the swine flu pandemic to go along with global warming, droughts and floods and who knows what else.

Then we go through the check-out line at the grocery store and see only bad news screaming from every magazine cover. The world is going to end because this celebrity is breaking up with that celebrity. Some disaster is going to befall Hollywood because some superstar has hair in her comb, blood on his toothbrush, or a wrinkle on his brow. Oh, and then there is the scandalous rumor that so and so has an eating problem and has gained a few pounds — or wait, could it be a baby bump?

ENOUGH!

Yes, there are some very hard things happening to people right now. Some who read this are in the middle of very hard times. Yet we have been a culture that has

been trained like Pavlov's dogs to see, hear, and think only about the negative. The news media floods our house with nothing but crisis, conflict, and catastrophe. The more we hear, the more we salivate in expectation of more juicy and negative sound bytes.

We've become like the old Peanuts cartoon strip character Pigpen. Only in our case, it is not a cloud of dust that follows us everywhere we go, but an oppressive cloud of negativism and cynicism. So when we come together, we can find plenty of reasons to complain and to criticize.

So I will say it again: **ENOUGH!**

Somewhere along the way, we have lost our sense of divine partnership with the Father. We don't celebrate what God has done through us (Acts 14:26-28). We don't rejoice that God is present in us to **"will and to work for His good pleasure"** (Philippians 2:13). We forget that we are His salt and His light in this world of decay and darkness (Matthew 5:13-16). God is at work in us and through us to bless the world, to work things out for good, and to use those who love Him for His purposes (Romans 8:28-29).

When we lose this "God-perspective," this sense of divine partnership, we begin a downward and destructive spiral:

- We worry that we have to fix things or we are a failure.
- We feel stressed and rushed to accomplish all our tasks at hand.
- We lose any sense of genuine thankfulness, and focus only on what is wrong or what we don't have or how we are flawed.
- We don't look for God's presence in our lives.

- We ultimately divide the world in sacred and secular, limiting God to a box and a set time each week.

We must remember: God is at work in us, both in bad times and good times. God is looking to partner with us in His work of redemption, forgiveness, compassion, and holy living. There is more going on in our lives than simply trudging through another day. God is present in us and with us and through us. He is longing to partner with us on a daily basis.

How do I know?

The Father has promised it! He longs to join with us in this divine partnership and catch us up in His story of grace!

Paul could say of his ministry partners, "**We are God's co-workers**" (I Corinthians 3:9 NASB) and speak of Timothy as God's co-worker, as well (I Thessalonians 3:1-2).

He told new believers, ". . . for it is **God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose**" (Philippians 2:13 TNIV).

He proclaimed these words of comfort and good hope to those facing trial:

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

No wonder the first team sent out in the name of Jesus came back from their journey and "**gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them . . .**" (Acts 14:29 TNIV). They recognized that they were in a divine partnership with God!

So let's take a little more time to give thanks for what God is doing among us. Let's learn to celebrate the good things that our Father is doing through us, not for our glory, but for His. When we live for His purpose, we bring Him great pleasure, and

in the process we discover His power in a fresh way for our day (Romans 8:28)! 📖

Higer Mountains...Higher Praises

Reported by Melva McClain
Thru Email

Prayer request: April 28th I received a call from our sister **Mary Jordan Smith** yesterday. Her father **Reverend C. F. Jordan** has been admitted to the Saint Dominic's Hospital in Jackson, Mississippi and diagnosed with Pneumonia caused by a Bronchial infection. A feeding tube was inserted yesterday and he is resting comfortably. Mary is requesting our prayers for a speedy recovery and release from the hospital.

Mary also mentioned an issue she's experiencing with her right leg. She will be seeing a doctor on Thursday. Recently it collapsed on her - causing her to fall. When she bends to pick up an object it causes her pain. Her leg is also swollen from the knee down.

Praise report: May 19th I'm pleased to report that **Rev. Jordan** has been released from the hospital and recovering well at home. His appetite is good and his family would like to thank you for your prayers. They ask us to continue with our prayers until he experiences a full recovery.

Prayer Request: May 19th I received a call this morning from our sister **Lauren McDonald**. **Lauren's sister Shay**, was taken to the emergency room this morning in Charlotte, NC. Test revealed kidney and liver issues (they seemed to be trying to shut down). The first thought was a possible allergic reaction because of the distortion of her body (swollen eye and arm with a badly bruised stomach area). Shay is in the Intensive Care Unit at this posting.

Lauren, is asking for complete deliverance of Shay from an abusive relationship as well as a spiritual awakening in her sister's life. She is also requesting prayer for her mother, who is distraught regarding her daughter's condition.

This prayer request comes from our sister **Carolyn Cooper**. Her uncle, **Herbert Coleman**, was recently diagnosed with a Stroke. Prior to this recent diagnosis, he was diagnosed with Cancer and Dementia. Carolyn says he is home from the hospital now but needs in-home care.

Updates: May 20th An update concerning **Shay's progress** and God's miraculous intervention. Last night an MRI was conducted on Shay and the results identified a serious infection had set up in her right arm. It was so serious that there was some initial discussion regarding the possibility of having to remove her arm. Doctors decided to perform a surgical procedure to drain the infection - there was no guarantee that the procedure would be successful.

Lauren called me this morning to advise the procedure was a success and Shay's vital signs are normal. Divine Intervention at Work!

Shay is still in the Intensive Care Unit and needs our continued prayers.

I also spoke with Carolyn concerning her uncle, **Herbert Coleman**. The family's discussing options regarding his long term care. God is working it all out!

Update: May 28th **Shay's** arm and hand required skin grafting and the procedure went well.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark your calendars for the month of **June 2009**. Please join us and take the next step in your walk with God.

Home Bible Workshop Schedule



June 6 and June 20
Home Bible Workshop
5:00 P.M. CST

The Message....
"God's Plan For You Is Perfect"

1050 Ridgeside Drive
Brandon, MS
(601-824-7498 - Melva)

GAS PRICES ARE STARTING TO GO



LETS STAY VIGILANT



Have you contacted your representative yet?
<https://forms.house.gov/wyr/welcome.shtml>

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS



Give thanks and praise to God for the dedication and service of our military troops.

WEBSITE OFFERING

www.mcclainministries.com

DO YOU NEED A STRESS TEST?



A state university in New York conducted an experiment in which sheep were given electric shocks to see what levels of fear and pain they could tolerate. As the sheep began to anticipate upcoming shocks, they became anxious — and many actually died as their systems became devastated by fear.

Anxiety, fear, or worry is one of the most destructive forces that can enter our lives. To help us with this, Paul's counsel to the Philippian believers proves helpful. Paul tells them in **Philippians 4:6-7**, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God which passes all comprehension will guard your hearts and minds to Christ Jesus."

Today you may be feeling anxious about life, studies, work, family situations, money, or a number of other things. Take courage and talk with God, openly, honestly, reverently with faith and also with thanksgiving. Realize that God also given you His family, the Church, to have friends with whom you can share your concerns. Don't let anxiety grip you by remaining silent. Talk with your Father; share your burden with a brother or sister. Then trust that His peace can take hold in your life. Trust Him with your burdens, knowing that your requests are

not burdensome to Him. Remind yourself of His blessings and grace as you thank God for all that He has done, is doing, and will do — not only for you, but in the great history of His salvation.

Anxiety can be overwhelming. But our God is greater still. He has led His people, and He is leading you, to a far greater glory than what we now can imagine.

So do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own (Matthew 6:31-34 TNIV)

If stress is the body's response to any demand for change, then short of having absolute and complete control of your life and the lives of those around you, stress is inescapable. Stuff will happen to you that you hadn't planned for. Stuff will happen to you that you might have planned for, but sooner than you planned. Stuff will happen to you that you planned for and you'll find that your plans don't cover it. Or if it's not you this week, it will be someone you love and that person's stress will cause you stress.

We might as well stop being surprised when unexpected things happen. We might as well recognize the stress we feel for what it is: a biological reaction to the upsetting of our apple carts. Be it a lane closure or a foreclosure, the birth of a baby or the death of a parent, starting a new job or getting fired, marriage problems or dating problems. Something happens that demands change, or adaptation, or fight, or flight and our bodies amp up the energy level and take stock of options.

I think a lot of what we call stress is really worry and what we usually worry about are the things we can't do much else about. Its funny how we are, really; we worry most about what we can do the least about. Somehow, though, we seem to be under the impression that by obsessing over it and fretting about it, lying awake all night turning it over in our heads and driving everyone we know crazy endlessly retelling and rehashing it, we can somehow solve it.

That's why we don't like it that Jesus seems dismissive of the things that stress us. "Don't worry," he says, and being wired the way we are it's little wonder that our knee-jerk response is something along the lines of, "Yeah, right." But don't tune Him out, because what He suggests is that worry is a theological problem. We worry, He claims, because the God we believe in isn't powerful enough or loving enough or concerned enough to watch over us. Thankfully, He reminds us that the God we're supposed to believe in is our "Heavenly Father" and that He cares for us.

Jesus suggests that we learn some life lessons from the birds and the grass. Neither are strong in the area of strategic, long-range planning. Yet, by and large, God cares for them. The birds seem to have all they need to eat. The grass is clothed in flowers as bright as the finery of a king. They go about their business, they do what they do and live their lives and God cares for them. "Are you not much more valuable to God?" Jesus asks us – who are made in His image, shaped by His hands, animated by His breath. "Don't you think your Father in heaven will care for you at least that well?"

Worry, Jesus says, is the response of pagans to a world that's out of their control. The response of believers is faith in a God who knows exactly what we need

and is happy to provide it. The response of believers is prayer: to give thanks for His care.

Instead of worry, Jesus suggests that we focus our energies on seeking God: His reign over our hearts and lives, His righteousness lived out in what we do and say. **It's kind of a nice way, I think, of telling us to just try to do what God says and be the people He made us to be, and leave the planning to Him.** That's scary, for some of us. For all of us, to an extent. Then again, there's something attractive about it, too. To live with joy and expectation and trust, instead of anxiety, worry, and gloom?

We can. We have every reason to live that way. Leave worry to those who don't know our Father. That's not for us. The God we know cares for the birds and the grass and loves us even more. Trust His power and love, seek His presence and His will above everything else and you'll be ready to deal with any kind of stress life may have in store for you. 📖

THE GOD EFFECT OF PRAYER

6:00 P.M. Hour of Prayer



SPEND TIME PRAYING FOR OTHERS

Use this wonderful supernatural tool the Lord has blessed us with the **6 o'clock hour of power**. This is the time to intercede for the needs of others, the concerns of the ministry, and to pray for the leadership within our community, our nation, and our world.

Hearts throbbing as one, prayers ascending to heaven multiplied by those praying in **one accord**. Sharing burdens, joys, and petitions to bear. Lay all your cares at the foot of the cross and encourage others to do the same. Lives are being changed. Breakthroughs are happening.

The Power of Partnership

I am so thankful our paths have crossed. In fact, I believe it was a divine appointment. Over twenty - five years ago, an encounter with God changed my life forever, and I believe He'll do the same for you. I consider it a privilege to have the opportunity to share the truth of His life-changing power and grace with you.

God called me to teach the truth of the Gospel to the body of Christ with special emphasis on God's unconditional love and the balance between grace and faith.

At McClain Ministries we are working diligently to fulfill that call by training others and by developing ministry materials designed to help you in your relationship with the Lord.

Your interest in partnership is evidence of the fact that not only has this ministry affected your life, but you also have a desire to help someone else and believe this message can provide that help. Together, through partnership, you and I can reach thousands of people with the good news of the Gospel.

I believe the message the Lord has entrusted me to deliver will change the way the body of Christ perceives God. However, it doesn't matter how important the message is or how well I deliver it, until the message is sent, no one will hear. Partnership makes the delivery possible.

The Apostle Paul understood his role as the messenger, but he also understood that partnership was not only about what he received but what the partners received as well. **In *Philippians 4:19* he wrote, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."** This was written by Paul to his partners.

The Philippians were the only ones who

supported him after leaving town. In fact, they wanted to give more but didn't have the opportunity. Paul was saying that there is a special provision for those who recognize the power in partnership.

For me, it has never been about "you" supporting "my" ministry. If you're a partner, then consider this our ministry, and together we will accomplish God's will. In fact, I'm an extension of you and your obedience to God. Like Paul, I'm just the messenger that God has called for a specific purpose. If I fulfill that call, the fruit will be evident to everyone, and if I don't, then God will find another messenger and direct your support to that person.

Although I am committed to doing my part to bring revival to America, we have an awesome opportunity to make a big difference in people's lives around the world. Our current projects must be funded by those of us who are more blessed.

Do you remember when you first began to partake of the message from this ministry and how it affected your life?

There are thousands just like you all over the world, waiting to hear the truth that will set them free. Will you help us? Together, we can do it.

You may never realize what your gifts accomplish during your life on earth, but I can promise that in eternity, people from all over the world will thank you for your investment in their lives. I want to thank you in advance for your consideration and response.

Please make your gifts payable to, **"McClain Ministries."** All funds given for Community Outreach projects will be used for that purpose exclusively until the projects are fully funded. Any surplus will then be applied to the McClain Ministries general account.

PRAY FOR PRESIDENT OBAMA



Continue To Pray

On May 18, Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel visited the White House; on May 26, President Mubarak of Egypt came and on May 28, President Abbas of the Palestinian Authority journeyed to Washington. Pray that the discussions with each of them will strengthen our partnerships and possible steps to peace between Israelis and Palestinians, between Israel and the Arab states.

Pray for President Obama, his military advisors and members of Congress as they consider how best to work with the nation of Pakistan, as their military battles the Taliban. Parts of the nation are in crisis and Secretary of State Clinton has announced the U.S. pledge of more than \$100M in humanitarian support. Pray for peace and calm in the region, and for no further escalation of the situation.

As President Obama has announced new federal auto emissions standards, pray for those who will now implement these standards, that they will be empowered to creatively design vehicles that are efficient and effective in limiting fuel use. Pray for a wise and godly approach to this issue, that America may be able to lose its dependence on foreign oil while wisely stewarding God's beautiful creation.

Pray for former President Bill Clinton as he has been named by President Obama to be special envoy to the troubled and impoverished nation of Haiti, asking God to guide him with His wisdom and grace to wisely represent America's concerns in that nation.

The H1N1 "swine flu" virus continues to sicken citizens in parts of our country. Pray for its complete containment and end. Pray that Americans will diligently practice safe hygiene habits and pray for those who have lost loved ones to this ailment.

Pray for President Obama to have godly wisdom regarding the administration's handling of the military prison at Guantanamo Bay. Congress voted in May against funding for closing the facility.

Pray also for President Obama and his advisors as they have now narrowed the search for a new Supreme Court Justice. Pray for the ongoing process of vetting and interviewing the possible candidates, asking God to bring to the bench the justice of His choosing.

As layoffs continue to impact many Americans, pray for those who are facing economic hardship and difficulty, asking God to provide and to rally communities and churches to help and care for those in need. Pray also for the efforts of our government to bring about recovery, that God's will is done to help our economy recover in His time.



These soldiers patrol the village of Jambur, Kirkuk, Iraq, seeking to clear the area of security concerns. Pray for our troops as they continue to serve the security needs of the people and nation of Iraq.

[Photo courtesy of the U.S. Army]

**The priests and the Levites stood to bless the people, and God heard them, for their prayer reached heaven, His holy dwelling place.
II Chronicles 30:27 (NIV)**

By day the Lord directs His love, at night His song is with me--a prayer to the God of my life. Psalm 42:8 (NIV)

WORDS FROM PRESIDENT OBAMA



THANKS FROM PRESIDENT OBAMA FOR PEACE OFFICERS

Every day, peace officers put on their uniforms and go to work to safeguard America's communities and uphold the freedoms we hold dear. This week we honor their contributions and sacrifice.

Law enforcement officers routinely place themselves in harm's way to protect people they do not and will not know. They serve willingly and devotedly, and their commitment is essential for us to maintain a healthy quality of life, a strong economy, the safety of our families, and a robust national security system.

My Administration is working to keep Americans safe and to strengthen the Federal partnership with America's peace officers. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which I recently signed, makes \$4 billion available for State and local law enforcement. This provision will save or create thousands of law enforcement jobs across the country through the revitalized Community Oriented Policing Services Hiring Recovery Program. The Recovery Act also provides \$2 billion through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program. These measures will put more officers on the street and help those already serving to perform their jobs more effectively.

The benefits that peace officers provide come with great sacrifice. Every year, many give their lives in the performance of their duties. Their contributions live on in the communities they strengthened, and their service will never be forgotten.

The President has been requested to designate May 15 of each year as Peace Officers Memorial Day in honor of all Federal, State, and local officers killed or disabled in the line of

duty, and to designate that week as Police Week in recognition of their service given to the
United States
(36 U.S.C. 136-37).

INSPIRATIONAL REFERENCES FOR THE MONTH

For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with You.

Psalm 139:13-18 (NIV)

Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who makes the storm clouds. He gives showers of rain to men, and plants of the field to everyone.

Zechariah 10:1 (NIV)



McClain Ministries E-List Registration Form

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Signature _____ Date _____

McClain Ministries
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Brandon, Ms 39042
601-824-7498
melvamccclain@att.net
www.mcclainministries.org



McCLAIN MINISTRIES

Deuteronomy 16:17: Every man shall give as he is able according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which he hath given thee.

This Ministry has been such a blessing to me I want to share in reaching others with a **monthly gift** of:

\$30 \$40 \$50 \$100 Other \$_____

Enclosed is my ministry **additional financial donation** of: \$_____

Total Enclosed: \$_____

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Please send to:

**McClain Ministries
1050 Ridgeside Drive
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