

McCLAIN MINISTRIES

Since 2000 A Christian Newsletter Publication

May 2007

**A BOUQUET OF
LOVE TO ALL
MOTHERS**



THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

SCHOOL COLORS OF VTECH
UNIVERSITY
(McClain Ministries' Tribute)

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Life Events

Happy Birthday



Wish These Friends "Happy Birthday"

Allyson Roberts
Mary Hill
AnnMarie Martin
Lena Williams



M-O-T-H-E-R

"M" is for the million things she gave me,
"O" means only that she's growing old,
"T" is for the tears she shed to save me,
"H" is for her heart of purest gold;
"E" is for her eyes, with love-light shining,
"R" means right, and right she'll always be

Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER,"
A word that means the world to me.

Howard Johnson...(c.1915)

Melva's Corner

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Bible Text: II Corinthians 10:4, 5

Central Truth: Intercessory prayer is the highest expression of love. It is impossible to be selfish when interceding, because intercessory prayer is always for another person's benefit.

As you know I rarely repeat articles but we, as a ministry, are about to enter a serious level of intercession. With this in mind, I thought it would be strategically important to repeat our article on Intercessory Prayer.

Intercession is a form of prayer that brings change. Praying the prayer of intercession is doing spiritual warfare. The Bible says that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. (II Corinthians 10:4, 5)

Intercession prepares the hearts of people to receive the Gospel because it tears down the strongholds of deception that Satan has brought them. Revivals have never been the results of just good preaching. The preaching of the Gospel with power is the result of prayer. It takes the anointing of the Holy Spirit to cause change in the hearts of people. Intercession is the tool that activates that anointing.

Satan has no defense against this form of prayer. It brings his works to naught. How does it accomplish this? Through **"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."** Ephesians 6:18. It is through intercessory prayer that we wrestle against the evil of the enemy and win!

The inherent power, of the intercessory tool, is the fact that anyone can use it.

No matter who you are in the body of Christ,

minister or lay person, you can have an eternal effect on the lives of other through your intercession. All it takes is a decision to start praying specifically for a person, family, city, state, nation or church. Do not wait for a burden or a feeling to motivate you to pray. Jesus acted because God told Him to act!

Intercessory prayer is the highest expression of love. It is impossible to be selfish when interceding, because intercessory prayer is always for another person's benefit. It is putting a halt to the influence of satan in their life so that they can walk in the fullness of the redemption that God has provided. As you make yourself available to the Holy Spirit as an intercessor, praying for all men, you will begin to see the power of God working through you to get others saved and free from satan's power.

It takes perseverance to be a successful intercessor. You do not need to persevere trying to persuade God to do something when you are praying for someone else. God has already provided salvation, healing, abundance, and deliverance through Calvary. It takes perseverance against the forces of darkness that are trying to maintain their hold on the person for whom you are praying. When those strongholds are destroyed, the spiritual blinders are removed, they will be able to see clearly and receive their deliverance.

Intercession is putting spiritual pressure on demonic forces. It is also puts a demand on the Word of God to come on the scene and bring God's power to deliver.

It does not matter what you're standing against. It may look dark and hopeless, but intercession works. You are snatching that person right out of the clutches of satan. If you will just stick with it, keep applying that pressure, you will see them come out of the snare of the enemy. Your prayers can bring the very presence of God to people in any part of the world.

There is no distance in the spirit. It is your persistence that will make the difference.

Paul told Timothy to stir up the gift that was within him. You can stir up that gift by making the decision to stand in the gap for the lost, the sick and the oppressed. It is the will of God that they be delivered from the evil in this world. The Holy Spirit, dwelling in you wants to see them free. He needs you as a vessel through which He can accomplish His will. As you decide to yield yourself to Him, you become an extension of Jesus' ministry, making the redemption He provided available to those you pray for.

Once you've made the decision, keep your faith on the line and keep the pressure on satan. You have joined forces with God to change situations. Lay hold of it and stay there until it changes! Intercession is the key that unlocks the inheritance of the kingdom of God in the lives of others.

Scriptural References:

"The weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds." (II Corinthians 10:4, 5) 📖

POWER TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

Bible Text: Romans 8:28

Central Truth: You have available to you the power that's necessary to solve the real problems of life. He is Jesus Christ. And once you have the Savior, you also have the Holy Spirit.

When Peter delivered the opening sermon on the Day of Pentecost, he promised the **"gift of the Spirit" to all who would "repent and be baptized" (Acts 2:38)**. The Apostle Paul also wrote to the Romans and said, **"But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him" (Romans 8:9)**.

What fruit do we look for in true Christians?" Jesus gave a very clear way to determine whether the influence in a person's life was good or bad. He said, **"For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit" (Luke 6:43)**. So there you are, fruit is the thing one looks for in this matter.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law." (Galatians 5:22-23)

Do you want to know if a life is truly filled with the Spirit? Then use the yardstick of the Spirit's own words. If you do not see love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control in the life, then you are not seeing a life producing the fruit of the Spirit.

Words will not prove the test! A tree can easily be called "apple" but if it does not produce apples, it is one of two things. Either it is an apple tree that fails, and Jesus tells us it will be "cut down and thrown into the fire," or it is not an apple tree and calling it one won't change it.

Paul builds on this thought with these powerful words: **"Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another" (Galatians 5:24-26)**.

One of the wonderful things about the Holy Spirit is that He brings light into our lives.

Many of us have experienced an evening devotional with young people where one person lights a candle and passes it to others while singing, "It only takes a spark to get a fire going and soon all those around will warm up to its glowing."

Images of light permeate Scripture. If we look closely we see a mirror image of light in the Old and New Testament. God is light (Psalm 27:1; 43:3) and calls His people to be a light to the nations (Isaiah 42:6-7; 49:6; 60:1-3). Jesus declares Himself the light of the world (John 8:12) and Paul instructs the church to live as children of light (Ephesians 5: 8-10).

What would happen if we took this charge seriously and decided to truly bare the fruit of the Spirit and live in the light? What would it look like for us to be agents of light in a world which is full of darkness?

Several things come to mind:

1. The workplace would be illuminated. In today's climate we often find workers who are competitive, suspicious, and fearful. With cutbacks and layoffs common, gender and civil rights issues at the forefront of concern and technology changing the work climate, it is no wonder that workers often are less productive, more critical and unable to support one another adequately.

As Christians, we can bring light into this difficult situation. We can pray for our co-workers, offer words of encouragement, listen to their troubles and concerns, help in times of stress. These simple acts can brighten the office, schoolroom, or marketplace in significant ways.

2. Our homes would be warm and glowing. In a period of history when many husbands and wives are estranged, when children are frequently caring for themselves, when even the best of families are stressed and strained. Christian homes should be radiant examples.

Instead of always bringing our worst selves home at the end of the day depleted and short-tempered, Christians should hold in reserve a measure of light for those we love most - our own families.

Even when exhausted, the Christian has the illuminating presence of God's Holy Spirit to revive and to comfort. We should take time to listen, to express love and concern, to laugh and enjoy life, to rest and be restored, to pray and experience God's love.

3. Our own lives would be more brilliant. Many will be tempted to think in terms of success when speaking of personal brilliance, but for the Christian it carries a different meaning. It signifies a life which is wholly surrendered to the Lord.

Believers realize that they must be dependent on the true source of light. This means time spent with God, reading His word, pouring out one's heart to Him, reflecting on His character and praising Him for being God.

4. We would be a lamp unto the world. Just as the covenant people of old were called to be the light of God to the nations, so are His people today. If we lived as children of light all those with whom we come in contact would see the illuminating power of God in us. They will recognize the fruit that we bare.

The Christian practices being light to others at the grocery store by simply smiling, being courteous, or paying attention to the cashier or carryout attendant. At the gas station, the dry cleaners, the movie theater and the next-door neighbor. We must be conscious that we may be the only reflection of God that people see in their lives that day.


We may be selected by God to deliver His words of life to any of these individuals when the time is right. We are God's agents of light in relation to those around us.

You have available to you the power that's necessary to solve the real problems of life. He is Jesus Christ. And once you have the Savior, you also have the Holy Spirit.

He will come inside you to help you; not simply to cry with you over how strong the temptation is but to empower you to overcome it. You can do all things through Him who keeps on pouring His power into you. Even if you have never done it in your life, you can begin a life of power today. There's no checklist. There's no probation period. There's no long list of responsibilities that you must fulfill before God will give you the power.

If you've never met the Savior, power begins at the cross, where Christ paid the penalty for sin. Receive Him now! And with Him the empowering force of the Holy Spirit. Welcome to the first day of your new life.

Scriptural References:

"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them" (Romans 8:28 NLT). 



33

People awoke April 16th and did not know their time had arrived.

Love is patient and kind;
love does not envy or boast;
it is not arrogant or rude.
It does not insist on its own way;
it is not irritable or resentful;
it does not rejoice in wrongdoing.
Love bears all things, hopes all things,
endures all things...
So now faith, hope and love abide,
these three;
but the greatest of these is love.
I Corinthians 13:4-7

Our prayers are with the families and friends of the Virginia Tech Community

Higher Mountains... Higher Praises

THE GREAT PHYSICIAN

Betty Hardy

On 3/24/07, my husband, Jesse, underwent his ultrasound. It included his liver, pancreas, gallbladder and kidneys. The doctor called and scheduled an appointment to discuss the results on Tuesday, March 27 @ 10:30 am. He has become very calm. In the beginning, his anxiety level was high. Thanks for continuing to lift him up in pray. I will reply on Tuesday.

3/27/07 Hi Saints! The ultrasound of Jesse's Liver was normal. Praise God! He is going to have another blood test of his liver enzymes on Thursday morning at 6:30 am. We are confident his liver enzymes will be normal. Praise God! "With his stripes we are healed." To God be the glory. Thanks for your prayers.

ANNIVERSARY

Frances Hall

I'd like to thank everyone for their support this past year. 'It's A Woman's Thang' cable show has reached the 1st year anniversary mark. McClain Ministries and all of you have made it a successful one. We look forward to newer, bigger and better things for the New Year as we take our show to the next level in August.

We look forward to continued growth for all of you, and as always, our show will remain an open door for those wanting to network and market their talents.

Much love to all.

In to it entertainment
Always responsive to your needs

BLOOD COVENANT PRAISE REPORT

Melva McClain

One of my Blood Covenant Requests is to reach the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit is really empowering us to reach this exciting goal. As you know the earth is being exponentially filled with the knowledge of God right now and we have an enormous opportunity, with today's technology, to be on the cutting edge of receiving that knowledge. The Holy Spirit has made available the following ministry tools to take advantage of this Spiritual Informational Explosion:

**Scheduled Home Bible Workshops - Video
& Audio Conferencing
Impromptu Special Meetings - Video &
Audio Conferencing
Quarterly Teleconferences
Study Material
Newsletters
Website
Blogger Site
Internet Radio Station-Coming in June**

Our Broadcasting Equipment for the New Internet Radio Station arrived today (April 18) . . . now the real work of programming begins. We will devote the remainder of April and much of May doing just that - programming. I will be calling on some of you for assistance. Our goal is to be 'live' and filling the air waves by June 1st with Spiritual messages and music . . . together with live interviews from members of our Entrepreneur's list.

I am so grateful that God is allowing us to be a part of this great airways phenomenon. I awake each morning with the anticipation of ever increasing opportunity to serve His people. Yes, service continues to be our credo. Praise His Holy Name!

**"Great Minds Discuss Ideas . . . Average
Minds Discuss Events . . . Small Minds
Discuss People"**

OUR GOD IS SO GOOD!!!

Lena Williams

My daughter Kim had to develop her mothering skills last week. Her husband Lawrence had to chaperone the senior trip to Orlando. Kim was not sure she could handle everything by herself with both kids. I told her "this is where true motherhood kicks in . . . so get used to it" . . . especially when you have a newborn and a 2 1/2 year old. So I told her we would just pray the prayer of agreement . . . all would be well and everything would work out perfectly. We did that. Everything was going well . . . with the help of Mr. and Mrs. Myers and her sister-in-law Terri taking Mikel to school, picking him up and bringing him home. On the second day she was becoming concerned because her newborn, Jordan, was sleeping a lot. Jordan would wake up for his feeding and just go right back to sleep . . . which was unusual. She kept saying I hope there is nothing wrong with Jordan. I told her Jordan was fine. When I got off the phone with Kim . . . I said to myself hmmm . . . why is Jordan sleeping so much? Later that day . . . I was reminded and I sent this email to Kim. See below:

Hey Kim,
The Holy Spirit spoke to my heart to tell you that . . . I prayed for Jordan to rest good and that's why he is sleeping a lot so that you can rest, get more done and also spend more time with Mikel. He will also be happier when he gets . . . more attention . . . He misses his dad . . . wonders where he is and when he is coming home. The Holy Spirit says do not worry about Jordan . . . all is well with him. His angel is with him, Mikel's angel is with him and your angels are with you and Lawrence.

Kim, when you say your prayers be sure to thank your Heavenly Father. He is always looking for ways to bless you. All during the day just say thank you Father God. On Sunday . . . Jordan was staying up longer . . . smiling and playing again.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Home Bible Workshop Schedule and Synergy Meetings



Mark your calendars for the month of May 2007. Please join us and take the next step in your walk with God.

May 5

National Bulletin Board Synergy Meeting (Entrepreneur Training Session)

5:00 – 7:00 PM CDT
1050 Ridgeside Drive
Brandon, MS
(601-824-7498 - Melva)



May 19

Home Bible Workshop
5:00 P.M. CDT
(God's Power Promises)
Includes Nationwide Video Conferencing



FUTURE DATES

June 2

National Bulletin Board Synergy Meeting (Entrepreneur Training Session)

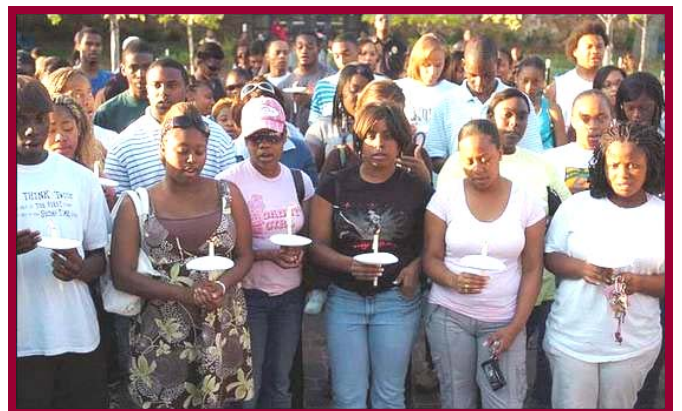
5:00 – 7:00 PM CDT
1050 Ridgeside Drive
Brandon, MS
(601-824-7498 - Melva)



June 16

Home Bible Workshop
5:00 P.M. CDT
(God's Power Promises)
Includes Nationwide Video Conferencing

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY CANDLELIGHT VIGIL FOR VIRGINIA TECH UNIVERSITY



A gathering of Jackson State students and faculty as the names of the Virginia Tech slain are read

New Website Offerings

www.mcclainministries.org

MINI-MESSAGE



The Language Of Our Time (A Lesson from the Don Imus Incident)

Luke 6:45

Central Truth: Our speech both betrays and steers our hearts. So let's make a commitment to God with our speech.

So often today, the polite and courteous edges of our everyday speech are falling away. While the use of crude language, profane speech, off color humor, and sexist slang are all often considered by some as necessary and 'streetwise' mainstream . . . we are also finding this kind of speech is filtering into the business and political world as well. In the everyday world of give and take, even simple words of courtesy like "Please," and "Thank you," are forgotten. Sarcastic "put downs" and "smart mouth" jabs are admired rather than reprimanded.



What are we, as Christians, supposed to make of this? Do we run the risk of being labeled as irrelevant duds, party poopers, and self-righteous prudes? Do we behave differently than the masses that choose the language of the gutter over gracious speech?

Why not run a little test for a month? With a new month just around the corner, why not take the month of May and intentionally work on our speech? Here are a few suggestions to help you with the challenge:

1. Make a commitment to read through the book of Proverbs each week and highlight every passage on the use of our speech; then try to intentionally put these principles into practice. (Try different translations for each passage. You will find an amazing amount of practical, clear teaching on your speech in Proverbs!)
2. Consciously speak kindly and courteously, especially to folks that serve you. Don't let status or social conventions deter you from treating those whom society places beneath you on the social ladder and those who are paid to serve with kindness, respect, and dignity.
3. Refuse to return undignified and ungodly speech, especially when it is targeted at you.
4. Refuse to participate in gossip. This doesn't mean to put down folks who are; just simply walk away politely when someone is engaged in it and don't pass any gossip on to other people.

At the end of the month, see if you can notice how people respond to you. I truly believe you will be surprised at how many people notice and respond favorably. While a few folks will try to take advantage of you, many will noticeably appreciate it because so few folks practice God's principles of godly and respectful speech.

In the United States we have lived through the awful extremes of the race issue. We've shared the joy of the 60th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's emergence to break the race barrier in baseball. We've shared the embarrassment of Don Imus' incredibly racially barbaric slur.



Let's not let these walls divide us in the Lord's family, but instead, let's be examples of the true community of Jesus — without barrier, without division, and without prejudice.

Why do you think it has been so hard for many churches to lead the way on issues related to breaking barriers to fellowship like racial prejudice and access for people with physical challenges?

I can still remember a good friend nearly 15 years ago talked to me about the moral melt down in his office. He said he could trace it to the time when he and other Christians began to let their language slip. It was the first and biggest step down a long road of moral decay.

Our speech both betrays and steers our hearts. So let's make a commitment to God with our speech.

Scriptural References:

"A good person produces good deeds from a good heart, and an evil person produces evil deeds from an evil heart. Whatever is in your heart determines what you say." (Luke 6:45)

JACKIE ROBINSON

60TH ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE



On April 15, 2007, the 60th anniversary of Robinson's major league debut, Major League Baseball invited players to wear the number 42 just for that day to commemorate Robinson. The gesture was the idea of Cincinnati Reds outfielder Ken Griffen, Jr., who first sought Rachel Robinson's permission, and, after receiving it, asked Commissioner Bud Sleigh for permission. Sleigh extended the invitation to all major league teams. Ultimately, more than 200 players wore number 42, including the entire rosters of the Los Angeles Dodgers, Houston Actors, Philadelphia Phyllis, St. Louis Cardinals, Milwaukee Brewers, and Pittsburgh Pirates. Considering that the Phyllis and the Cardinals had probably inflicted the most abuse on Robinson when he came up to the major leagues, it was considered quite a tribute that their entire teams chose to wear his number to honor him.

Jack Roosevelt "Jackie" Robinson (January 31, 1919 – October 24, 1972) **became the first African-American Major League Baseball player of the modern era in 1947.** The Baseball Hall of Fame inducted Robinson in 1962 and he was a member of six World Series teams. He earned six consecutive All-Star Game nominations and won several awards during his career. In 1947, Robinson won The Sporting News Rookie of the Year Award and the first MLB Rookie of the Year Award. Two years later, he was awarded his first National League MVP Award.

In addition to his accomplishments on the field, Jackie Robinson was also a forerunner of the Civil Rights Movement. He was a key figure in the establishment and growth of the Freedom Bank, an African-American owned and controlled entity, in the 1960s. He also wrote a syndicated newspaper column for a number of years, in which he was an outspoken supporter of Martin Luther King Jr. and, to a lesser degree, Malcolm X.

In recognition of his accomplishments, Robinson was posthumously awarded a Congressional Gold Medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

In 1973, Rachel Robinson established the Jackie Robinson Foundation to carry on Jackie's immutable quest for equal opportunity and excellence.

The founding vision was simple, but noble: all deserving and talented students, regardless of their financial background, deserve a chance to fulfill their dreams by pursuing a college education. It provides four-year college scholarships to minority students who demonstrate academic achievement, civic engagement, leadership capacity and financial need.

Transcending financial assistance, the Foundation equips its scholarship recipients with a comprehensive set of support services including mentoring, career guidance and practical life skills, resulting in a 97 percent graduation rate, more than twice the national average for minority students.

The more than 1,100 JRF alumni are both leaders in their professional fields and consummate ambassadors of Jackie's legacy of community service.

VIRGINIA TECH

WE REMEMBER



Ross Abdallah
Alameddine, 20,
Saugus, MA



Jamie Bishop, 35,
Pine Mountain, GA



Brian Bluhm, 25,
Cedar Rapids, IA



Ryan Clark, 22,
Martinez, GA



Austin Cloyd, 18,
Blacksburg, VA



Jocelyn Couture-
Nowak, 49,
Montreal, Canada



Daniel Perez
Cueva, 21, Lima,
Peru



Kevin Granata,
46, Toledo, OH



Matthew G.
Gwaltney, 24,
Chester, VA



Caitlin Hammaren,
19, Westtown, NY



Jeremy Michael
Herbstritt, 27,
Bellefonte, PA



Rachel Hill, 18,
Glen Allen, VA



Emily Hilscher,
19, Woodville,
VA



Jarrett Lee Lane,
22, Narrows, VA



Matt La Porte, 20,
Dumont, NJ



Henry Lee, 20,
Roanoke, VA



Liviu Librescu,
76, Ploiesti,
Romania



G.V.
Loganathan, 51,
Chennai, India



Partahi
Lumbantoruan,
34, Indonesia



Lauren Ashley
McCain, 20,
Hampton, VA



Daniel O'Neil,
22, Lincoln, RI



Juan Ortiz, 26,
Bayamón,
Puerto Rico



Minal Panchal,
26, Mumbai,
India



Erin Peterson, 18,
Chantilly, VA



Michael Pohle,
23, Flemington,
NJ



Julia Pryde,
23, Middletown,
NJ



Mary Read, 19,
Annandale, VA



Reema Samaha,
18, Centreville,
VA



Waleed Shaalan,
32, Egypt



Leslie Sherman,
20, Springfield,
VA



Maxine Turner,
22, Vienna, VA



Nicole White, 20,
Carrollton, VA



Seung-Hui Cho,
23, South Korea

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: \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Home Number _____

Work Number _____

Fax Number _____

Email _____

Please send to:

**McClain Ministries
1050 Ridgeside Drive
Brandon, Ms 39042**

GLOBAL OUTREACH MAILING LIST

Fill in the information below and mail using the self addressed envelope enclosed.

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1050 Ridgeside Drive
Brandon, MS 39042**