

McCLAIN MINISTRIES

Since 2000 A Monthly Christian Newsletter Publication

September 2006



ARE YOU BEARING GOOD FRUIT?

Melva's Corner

IT'S JUST NICE TO BE NICE

Bible Text: Galatians 5:22-23

Central Truth: God, who is able to do more than we could ever ask or imagine by His power at work within us. Ephesians 3:20-21

I recall my grandmother saying, "It's just nice to be nice." Have you noticed that when you speak to people about others that often their first comment is that the person is nice or not so nice?

That made me think. Christians should always be nice. When we meet someone, I doubt that the person we met will later say, "They sure had sound theology." I doubt that they will comment on the deep level of our Bible knowledge. People's first and lasting impression will probably be whether or not we were nice — whether they felt valued and appreciated by this person and whether or not the person was courteous and considerate. If we were to tell them about the atonement or redemption or Jesus being our advocate, they might not understand us. They will, however, remember if we were nice or not.

Life Events Happy Birthday!



Jasmine Washington
LaRue Tisone
Helen McCollum
Mary Sanders
Anitra Williams

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

The
Henesseys' & Smiths'




So they are no longer one but two,
therefore, what God has joined together let
man not separate

The apostle Paul describes the fruit of the Spirit as love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self - control. [Galatians 5:22-23](#) Do we demonstrate the Spirit's fruit in our lives?

Jesus reminds us, "A good tree produces only good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. You can tell what a tree is like by the fruit it produces." [Matthew 12:33 \(CEV\)](#) If we call ourselves "Christians," the fruit of the Spirit must be seen in our lives.

The older I get, the more I appreciate a person who is nice and kind. With all the stress and adversity in life, a person can refresh our spirit just by being "nice." I especially love it when people are nice under pressure. Even when things get difficult or pressure-filled, these people are still nice. Their life is a wonderful and powerful Christian witness. The love of Jesus Christ is shining brightly through them.

So, are you nice? When people meet you, you want them to walk away from the experience saying, "They surely are nice!" When your family and co-workers think about you, you want them to say, "Wow, he/she is really nice!"

As we consider all the things we need to share with others in our Christian witness, let's remember that most of it begins with others knowing that we are "nice." 

Memory Text:

["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 \(NLT\)](#)

["I myself have gained much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because your kindness has so often refreshed the hearts of God's people."](#) [Philemon 1:7 \(NLT\)](#)

CHANGE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE UNSETTLING!

Bible Text: Hebrews 13:8-9

Central Truth: We can approach life as an adventure!

As school terms swing into high gear this fall, there are more and more reports of colleges — and even some high schools — including laptop computers in the cost of the semester's tuition. Now it seems, every educated person must be computer literate. Research is done online rather than with printed texts for the simple reason that physical books cannot be kept up to date. By the time certain materials can be typeset, edited, printed, and bound, they are no longer the latest findings.

One university distributed iPods to every incoming freshman. The small electronic devices allow easy review of lectures and will be invaluable for the study of languages. There will be the additional benefit (or distraction) of music via the same device. Blackberrys, cell phones, technologies galore — all these electronic breakthroughs have changed the face of education.

I'm not so sure that makes education different from any other part of life on Planet Earth. There has been abundant change in the past century. This is not the world of your grandparents. It's not even the world of your parents. Hey, it's not the world you remember from high school or college several years ago!

Most of us, however, seem to prefer a life with minimal change. We don't like to be disturbed. So we carve out routines.

Of course you know that dull man or woman, who hasn't entertained a new thought in a decade, don't you? She is critical of practically all for the simple reason that things are not as they used to

be. He doesn't just reminisce but positively pines for the past. No, he lets his memory make the past far more glamorous than it ever was and lets it be known that he resents that things have changed.

It may be as trivial as technology or as monumental as the nature of morality. When people long for the "good old days" of their youth, I sometimes ask — depending on their generation — if they would really prefer life before penicillin or power steering, telephones or computers, air conditioning or air travel. More seriously, I may ask if they truly want to return to a time when women couldn't vote, segregation kept all schools and churches monolithic, and children had precious few legal protections against abuse.

Change is always a challenge and can be positively unsettling. But, it is also opportunity. It offers the chance to learn new things. It introduces us to new people. It forces us to make decisions and choices at a conscious level.

Whether individuals or families, corporations or churches, **people who set their feet (or minds) in concrete are hiding from reality.** They are even being untrue to their divine calling. God calls us to live in confidence and hope, not fear. He asks us to believe — as did Abraham and Sarah, Moses and the Israelites, Paul and Barnabas — that He is already present in the places that are new and untested for us. He is faithful to His people. We are on a journey with God.

You get an unwelcome diagnosis. The company transfers you. Some key person to your life dies. Someone disappoints you terribly. The temporary and passing nature of reality confronts you directly.

Imagine you are in camp with Moses. The call to strike the tents has been given.

It is time to move ahead with joy that God is already where you are going.

He wants us to experience genuine spiritual transformation. **(II Corinthians 3:18)** This transformation takes place because of His grace and power that are at work within us. **(Ephesians 3:20-21)** He is busy growing and maturing us. We respond to His power and grace by intentionally surrendering our will to His will and passionately pursuing His upward call in our lives. **(Philippians 3:7-15)** His work in us takes shapes in noticeable and glorious ways. **(Ephesians 2:10)**

Our world seems to stay the same ol' way of change.

Most of us see this as difficult because it often involves unwanted and unexpected things—illness, job transfers, financial downturns, marital complexities, unexpected accidents, job demands, difficult coworkers, our own aging. These issues make life stressful and change feared and unwanted. Add in the incredible rapid rate of technological advancement and our changing world can be overwhelming and intimidating.

As believers, however, we have great advantages as we face these changes. With Christ to help us, we can face them with curiosity rather than fear! We can approach life as an adventure, becoming partners with the Lord in His work of transformation in our lives.

You see, when we were baptized into Christ, we were filled with the Holy Spirit **(Acts 2:38)**. Ever since, the Spirit has been at work transforming us to be more like Jesus **(II Corinthians 3:18)**. Through the Spirit, God uses the changes in our lives to draw us closer to Him as we seek to understand them through prayer, Scripture, and the wise counsel of those who have faced similar challenges before us.

Higher Mountain... Higher Praises

A KODAK MOMENT

Lena Williams

Yesterday on my way to work I passed a house and three young children were out in the blazing sun in their driveway. A little girl about 9 had a cardboard sign holding it up in the air and it read: "WATERMELONS FOR SALE." There was also another little girl around 5 or 6 and a little boy who looked around 11 years old. They even had security - a big dog was just inside the fence waiting for anyone who would try to mess with them!

They immediately got my attention as they were advertising their sale and had their products (the watermelons) displayed in a little red wagon (the kind we used to have years ago) and more under the tree. I wanted to stop, but I was hurrying along and I waved to them. I got down to the railroad track I heard a voice say go ahead redeem the time. I turned around and said to myself no matter what I have left today I am buying a watermelon!


You should have seen the look on their face when I stopped and got of the car . . . I cannot describe how happy they were . . . their little eyes just lit up. I asked them how much they were asking for the watermelons they said "\$3.00." "They said "Mama we don't have any change." I said "I know . . . I am giving you the whole \$5.00. You should have seen their faces. They thanked me and asked me to choose the one I wanted. And the little boy put it in my car.

Saints . . . this was a Kodak moment for sure. These 3 little kids represent the Kingdom building entrepreneur qualities that is in them all. The Holy Spirit had a message for me . . . I cannot share it all here now . . . but I am sure you get the picture . . . I just wish I had a

Through change, God is at work in us to help us want to do His will ([Philippians 2:12](#)) and to work for our best good ([Romans 8:28](#)). We can approach change with confidence, knowing God will work His will in our lives through these changes, even if Satan has brought them to harm us. In faith, we can then approach these changes as adventures in faith, rather than merely submitting to them like victims of some cruel fate.

Change will ultimately lead us to victory in Jesus. We will ultimately be like Him ([I John 3:1-3](#)) and triumph with Him ([Colossians 3:1-4](#)). Jesus has the last word on the final and ultimate change in our lives, so we can rest secure that no matter how bad things might be, our last change will be our best one ([I Corinthians 15](#)).

We will all face difficult changes in our lives. We will have little control over many of them. But we do decide how we will react to them and how we will perceive them. We can offer every change to God to be redeemed into a tool to conform us to His will and bring us into His blessings. This kind of change is transformational and incarnationational — it changes us dramatically for the better and helps bring Jesus to life in our lives.

As people of faith, we know our destination is glory and change is just another season in life's great adventure on our way home. So the more things are the crazy hectic same, the more we can not only "stay the course" but we learn to also "stay the change!" 



Memory Text:

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. ([Hebrews 13:8](#))

camera or phone to capture the moment. Just seeing them out there in the heat doing something so positive was such a blessing to me indeed.

**“AND MORE PRAISE”
"STAY CALM"**

My daughter Kenesha (Kim) was given a time shift at work that she was not going to be able to work . . . when my grandson, Mikel starts daycare next month, 10:00 to 6:30.

Kim called to let me know about it and I immediately told her to calm down . . . (She said she was not upset but I can tell when she is.) Her manager had emailed her that she and another new hire both would have to work the late shift.

I told her no you won't . . . not if we ask the Father for better hours . . . we will just pray about it in agreement . . . don't be upset with your manager. And by no means don't worry or be bitter. The Lord will work it out for you.

A couple of weeks later her manager told her he was giving her the 9:00 am to 5:30 shift. All I can say is " GOD Is so GOOD."

The secret place for the answer is called:

**“MORE PRAISE
From Lena Williams”**

During my early Morning Prayer time . . . I was blessed to receive a beautiful revelation from The Holy Spirit of how to enter a place and receive answered prayers. It will be outlined in my book: "A Place Called THERE." Look for it by November 1, 2006.

“AND MORE PRAISE CONTINUES”

Saturday at Bible Study Workshop, we experienced an awesome time. The Holy Spirit showed up and healing took place at Melva's house.

Mary Simpson was immediately healed of a pain in her arm. Sylvia was healed of a pain in her arm. Arbra felt the presence of the Lord and I was immediately lifted from a heaviness that had been attacking my spirit all week long. In early Saturday morning prayer I prayed for help and an answer. I received my help and answer during communion. I felt the heaviness lift and shift off of me . . . as the Holy Spirit ministered love to each one of us and our immediate needs. We felt so much joy and it was such a blessing to see the joy of the Lord expressed by Mary Simpson as she was relieved of the pain in her arm. We jumped for joy! That's the power of the Holy Ghost! He moved through that room and we knew victory had come. I also know this without a doubt.

I want to share with you and the whole world . . . that Holy Communion is not just a church thing rooted in traditions . . . but it is a spiritual weapon of warfare to be used by each member of the body of Christ and we must take proper advantage of it and it is to be taken very seriously. Just as you would explain to someone how to use dynamite we have to discern the Lord's body and handle it with care and understanding by teaching everyone its true purpose . . . that they are not just eating and drinking a ritual or something but there is an individual responsibility of love and proper care to take . . . by examining ourselves and repenting of any sin in our life before we partake of the bread and the cup . . . then we can stand before God with right standing and let the bread and the cup testify of what the blood of Jesus has done for us. When the enemy knows that you know who you are in Christ and that you know how to remind him that he is already defeated . . . he will flee 7 ways before you.

We cannot just wait until we get to church to do this, "I have to say this (we may be

dead by then), He whom the son has set free . . . is free indeed". . . we have to not only go to church . . . but we have to start being bold enough to do what the Lord has said and start BEING the church. In the church; at home; in the grocery store; at the post office and anywhere we are needed. It is written "except you eat my body and drink my blood there is no life in you". When I read this I believed what He said. I decided then-that I cannot wait just once a month for someone to give me permission to have life in me. I need it everyday.

There is no better way than to demonstrate our love for Jesus and the fact that He was made to be sin for us so we could be made the righteousness of God in Him.

Saints this was such a glorious experience!

Carolyn Cooper of Little Rock, suggested to Melva, that Saturday we take Holy Communion . . . I am so thankful to the Holy Spirit for moving upon Carolyn and Melva prior to Bible study to do this. Not only did we take communion . . . Melva ministered to us and our sisters and family in Christ from Little Rock, AR via web from I Corinthians 12:23-30 the truth concerning the purpose of Holy Communion, the Who, When and How "IT" should be administered. The truth is Holy Communion is an atmosphere we create as we remember the Love that was poured out at Calvary when we have a personal desire to be in the presence of the Lord either personally or collectively. It is a testimony of the celebration of victory in the new covenant of the blood of Jesus. The enemy cannot stay in the presence of this atmosphere . . . He has to go . . . cancer has to go . . . sickness has to flee . . . trouble has to go . . . lack has to flee and the promises of God will manifest themselves according to your faith.

No matter where you are today . . . as you

read this message I pray that it will lift your spirits and minister healing and hope that All God's promises are yes and Amen!

Please make it a point to learn more about Holy Communion by reading "With This Cup" on the McClain Ministry website you will be glad you did. This is the day the Lord has made . . . I am rejoicing and I am glad in it.

GOD IS ABLE – ONLY BELIEVE
Melva McClain

Greetings Saints, I just received a phone call from my next door neighbor who informed that after 29 days of migraine headaches she awoke this morning pain free. Tasha also received the final test of her spinal fluid yesterday which indicates no MS.

I requested members of the Bible Workshop to pray for Tasha as they were leaving on Saturday. August 5th. The prior week I anointed her house. However, I went back on August 7th and anointed her head and ministered to her that she must believe.

This morning needless to say she was excited about her healing. She says she has not felt this good in a month. Praise God!

PRAISE GOD -THERE'S POWER IN THE BLOOD!
Melva McClain

I received a call from our sister Carolyn Cooper on Tuesday August 15th regarding her daughter Sherri. It seemed that Sherri awoke with excruciating pain in the middle of her stomach that radiated to the middle of her back.

Carolyn rushed Sherri to the emergency room and doctors proceeded to run test.

After extensive testing they could not make a definitive diagnosis and released Sherri with prescriptions for upset stomach and pain. Sherri refused to have the pain prescription filled and was back at work the very next day. She thanks us for our prayers. Carolyn and I had a long discussion regarding the attack on Sherri and Carolyn believes it was due to the fact that Sherri has recently started to take daily communion and the enemy is mad. Sherri proclaims that she will continue to take communion no matter what the enemy does. Praise God there is power in the blood!

On Tuesday, August 22nd I followed up with Carolyn who reports that Sherri remains pain free and walking in victory.

**ENTERPEURERSHIP CREATES
PARTNERSHIP
Denise Jones**

Praise The Lord Saints. I bring you greetings from "ETERNAL CREATIONS" - Denise Jones (CATERING, FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS & DECORATIONS) and CAKE DECORATIONS from C.M. DESIGNERS - Carolyn Michaels



IN HIS PRESENCE

Praying for You



AT THE 6:00 P.M. HOUR OF PRAYER

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.

Bring all of your cares and burdens to the altar and encourage others to do the same. Lives are being changed. Break-throughs are happening.



**4th QUARTER
TELECONFERENCE**



**Saturday, October 28th
8:00 A M. CST**

**8:00 A M. CST
Toll Free Dial-In Number
1-888-422-7124
Participant Code: 730940**

Home Bible Workshop Schedule



Mark your calendars for the **September 2006** dates. Please join us and take the next step in your walk with God.

September 2nd, 16th & 30th

**The Message...
“God’s Power Principles”**

✉ 1050 Ridgeside Drive
Brandon, MS 39042

☎ Phone: 601-824-7498



WEBSITE OFFERINGS

(Article Excerpts)
www.mcclainministries.org

CALLING ALL PREACHERS!

Yes, that means you! Ask God to give you opportunities to share the Gospel and I have no doubt that you will have them. And when you do, swallow your anxiety and tell people why you love Jesus. Talk about what you know best – your experience with Him. That’s what the church does for each other – we help each other deliver the message. Let’s pray for opportunities for each other and let’s pray for wisdom and words to communicate it well.

SEEKING THE LOST

Have you ever been hopelessly lost before. It’s an unpleasant sensation, isn’t it, when you realize that you don’t recognize anything around you and that you have no idea which way to turn to get to your destination? Maybe asking directions helps, but it depends on who you ask, doesn’t it? Maybe looking at a map will get you headed in the right direction, but only if you read it correctly. When you’re lost, the best way of getting where you want to go is to have someone who knows the way take you.

It would, I think, revolutionize the church if we somehow managed to regain our compassion for lost people. Think about it. Wouldn’t we be more willing to come alongside struggling people and share the gospel with them? Wouldn’t we do it more lovingly and gently? Wouldn’t we be more likely to invest our energy and resources in helping people deal with the consequences of their lost-ness? Wouldn’t we be more sensitive to the ways in which we obscure the gospel? Instead of keeping it simple.

Want to know my opinion? It comes down to identifying with lost people. It comes down to remembering a time in your life when you were lost and needed direction, a time when you were estranged from God and had no clue which way to go. It comes down to admitting to ourselves how easy it still is for us to get turned around and headed in the wrong direction and how thankful and joyful we feel when Jesus reaches out through the hand or voice of another person to turn us back in the right direction.

STOP MAKING FRIENDS WITH YOUR FEARS

There are reasonable fears that everyone has, but we address them. We move on

with things that must be done. We integrate our lives with other people for the sake of mutual support. We take the risk of forming relationships.

Human beings are created in the image of God and the God of Christian Scripture is a social being. Father, Son and Holy Spirit have existed from eternity past in a perfect community. The triune deity has created us with the innate drive to produce, share and live in a community as well. While times of solitude are often helpful to creativity, loneliness is both unhealthy and painful.

For the shy and isolated, it must be horrifying to reach out. To take the risk of rejection. To put themselves in social contexts that make them feel insecure. But it is a risk worth taking!

And those of us who find it easier and more natural to be outgoing certainly have the responsibility of making space in our lives for others. Compassionate with their awkwardness. Sensitive to their fears.

Our hidden fear is that if we lost all of the trappings of life — if we were no longer a librarian, or stock broker, or electrical engineer, or an interior decorator, or that successful person living with our fine families in neatly ordered lives — that we would still be loved. If we are afraid of that, it is because we are under-practiced in our exercise of openness. Our unadorned self is an amazing gift. Friends treasure such a gift and give it back in return. All masks can be removed.

WE'RE HARD TO IMPRESS

Keep gratitude as your default setting by cultivating the habit of praise. That's what it is, habit: habitually seeing the kindness and grace and love of God where others cannot.

Make sure your prayers are loaded with

thankfulness. Develop the habit of praising God in your conversations. Train your spirit to feel God's breath in the kiss of your spouse, hear His voice in the kind words of a friend, see His fingerprints in a brand-new summer day, sense His protective presence in a long journey. Even in dark valleys, when you can't see Him or hear Him or feel Him, you know He's there, right? Thank Him for being with you even when your senses are too limited to recognize Him.

GOING THE DISTANCE

Life can be many things, but quite often it can be down right hard! We describe those times as “an uphill climb.” We have to exert so much energy just to stay put, we forget about making progress. Before long, we become so discouraged with how far we have to go, that we settle in and try to just stay put by walking in place. We can't begin to think about making the necessary effort to continue our advance on the upward call of God.

What we so often fail to realize is that staying put requires a lot more effort over the long haul than advancing forward. The Christian life is all about movement, either toward to God (Philippians 3:13-14 RSV) or slipping away from the life he wants for us (Hebrews 2:1 NLT). The principle of spiritual inertia is even more dramatic than the physical one. It takes more effort to hold our position without sliding back than it does to continue our growth in the Lord. God designed us to continue our growth in the Lord.

Going forward, moving more to be like Christ, is the “natural” spiritual process God designed for us as the Holy Spirit works to transform us to be evermore like Jesus (II Corinthians 3:18).

When our growth stagnates — when we become complacent, when we are willing

to settle for where we are — we reject the work of the Holy Spirit and begin the slow and futile fight of just trying to stay put in our walk in the Lord. The gravity of Satan and sin suddenly has a much stronger pull on our lives. Rather than living in the momentum of grace and the upward call of God, we find ourselves struggling harder to stay where we are than we ever did moving in the direction of Christ and His character.

ENTREPRENEURS- USING EXPERIENTIAL MARKETING

Seeing is believing. Get customers to buy your products by giving them a first-hand experience.

Are you looking for the best way to increase sales for your product? There's a great marketing tactic that's proven to profoundly influence customers' buying decisions. It's called "experiential marketing" -- using events to bring customers into contact with your product to create memorable experiences and it's increasingly popular with entrepreneurs looking for a high return on investment.

After all, which would be more likely to influence your intention to buy something--reading about it in an ad or trying it out first hand? If you're like most people, personal experience shapes your opinions and buying preferences more strongly than information you get through advertising or even via word of mouth from friends or colleagues. In a 2005 Experiential Marketing Survey by Jack Morton Worldwide, nearly three-quarters of consumers said that participating in a live marketing experience would increase their "purchase consideration," and close to 60 percent said it would result in a quicker purchase.

For certain target audiences, experiential marketing exerts an even greater influence on sales. Nearly 80 percent of teens surveyed by Jack Morton said experiential

marketing would increase their consideration of a purchase, and 60 percent of women said it would be more likely to lead them to actually purchase a product than would TV or the internet. What's more, 80 percent of Latino women indicated that participating in a live marketing event would make them more receptive to future advertising.

Any number of venues will work for your experiential marketing events, including malls, fairs, retail stores, restaurants and urban street corners. The key is to choose a venue that supports the theme of your event and fosters interaction.



Interested Entrepreneurs...

You are invited to our National Bulletin Board Party

Saturday, October 7, 2006

6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

88 Keys

Metro Center Mall

(1315 Metro Center Drive)

Jackson, MS

<http://www.88jazz.com>

Our intention is to be a liaison for those who have needs for services and those who provide services. Obviously we will not be able to meet every need in every area – initially. The goal, however, is to build a nationwide database that will eventually match every need with every service.

All interested Youth Entrepreneurs

Ages 12 and over

Are also invited to attend

ENTREPRENEURS

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MOREHOUSE

COLLEGE



Commencement & Reunion

May 12 - May 14, 2006

Commencement at Morehouse College is a time of tradition and celebration - but perhaps more so this year. Amid lamentations about the death of black men in higher education, Morehouse graduated its largest class ever - nearly 600 educated African American men. No other institution in the world can match this impressive number.



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

McCLAIN MINISTRIES



Partnership Commitment

God has blessed this ministry to reach thousands of people around the world. We've been providing positive resources for daily Christian living for over 6 years. And we want not only to continue this mission but to expand it.

We need your help to make it happen! Twice a year, we take time to very directly ask for your help in this ministry. Now is the perfect time to give a tax-deductible donation that will help keep this ministry working for God's Glory in 2006. Will you join us in this mission?

We are specifically and prayerfully asking for 100 new pledges of \$30 per month. Will you be one of the 100? Of course, there are those, of you, who are able to donate much more than \$30 a month on a consistent basis. And consistency is what we need.

We are still seeking to start mass production of our resource material. This initiative will require an initial investment of \$5080.00. That investment together with the remaining yearly budget of \$8924.78 brings our total outreach need of \$14,091.78 for the rest of 2006. That's really not a lot when you consider the number of captives that are being set free through the work of this ministry. Have you been blessed by our efforts. If so, why not take a few minutes and commit to a first time pledge or increase your existing pledge. Please do not assume that someone else will give if you do not. Listen to your heart and allow the Holy Spirit to guide your decision.

While you may not always be able to donate or to volunteer your skills-your greatest contribution to McClain Ministries is through the power of prayer. Prayer helps remove barriers, increase vision, and offer protection.

Thank you for your prayerful support!

