



*"From the Neighborhoods to the Nations
and From the Workplaces to the World –
Transforming Our Cities for Christ through United Prayer"*

"Notes and Quotes"

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SUMMER 2009

ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD

A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE – "Remember, and don't give up."

Many Christians are now facing financial woes, and many are wondering what they could be facing financially in their lives, whether it be personal, business, ministry or church. It seems lately that the Lord is giving a word to many, including myself, **"Don't give up."** Luke 18:1 in the NIV version says *"Men should always pray and not give up."* A word that I reflect on often that the Lord gave me years ago through hearing Sammy Tippit speak, is **"Remember."** Sammy is our speaker for the WPI celebration dinner on September 18th. *I know that you will be blessed by attending our dinner and hearing that story and the amazing insights that the Lord has given to Sammy, and the experiences God has taken him through to minister and encourage the body of Christ.*

Sometimes I have to make myself take a walk down memory lane, counting my blessings, one by one. God seems to give me the tenacity and perseverance to live by faith, not by sight. I have to remember the past trials, tests, and **victories** and find myself saying *"Many, O Lord my God, are Your wonderful works which You have done..."* (Psalm 40:5) As Hudson Taylor has said "God's work done God's way will never lack God's support."

Through the years, God has brought me personally and WPI through financial difficulties. We have received unexpected donations and much more as He created divine opportunities for me as the President of WPI. Over the years, in the midst of my grief in the passing of my sister, Sondra in October 2002, at 60 years of age, and my late husband, Jerry being at death's door on a respirator twice in a four year period before his home-going to be with the Lord in February 2007, somehow there was a vision for WPI that could not be quenched. *Through your prayers, and through your love gifts, both monetary and active participation, God moved WPI into cities beyond San Antonio, first into White Plains, NY, using Sandi Matthews, who is now in Hot Springs Village, Arkansas.* The international vision came to pass when our first international group was birthed in Tokyo, Japan through Christa Watanabe in the White Plains, NY group. *In 2007, Women's Neighborhood Prayer and Women's Marketplace Prayer became Women's Prayer International (WPI).* The fact that we are now in the 12th year of ministry, and that God is expanding our territory, there is no doubt that His hand is on us through your faithful giving. God's mercies are new every morning and great is His faithfulness!

It is a wonderful thought to know that my heavenly Father has always known the exact soul mate and best friend whom I would need at this time to complete me, both personally and as the President of WPI. God is true to this word when He says that "His ways are higher than our ways, His thoughts higher than our thoughts." On January 10th of this year at Wayside Chapel, I married LC Courtney in front of our family and friends. We were blessed to have Pastor Roger Poupart, the current Pastor at Wayside give us a prayer blessing, and Pastor Steve Troxel, the former Pastor at Wayside and a long standing WPI Advisor to perform the ceremony. LC and I are blessed to now have a blended family and are looking forward to the days ahead! ☺

My prayer for you is that you will daily experience a joy-filled life in God's presence (Psalm 16:11), and that you will "never give up" on yourself, or on any dream or vision God has given to you. Please take the time to "remember" God's faithfulness to you by taking a walk down memory lane. God has plans for you for good and not evil (Jeremiah 29:11, and He promises in His word that He is working all things together for your good and His glory (Romans 8:28). *Please let me know how I can pray for you and please come to the WPI dinner to bear what God is doing and will continue to do in the life of WPI.*

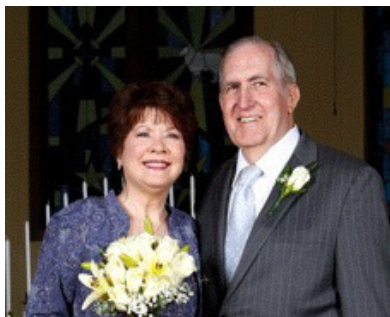
Joan Courtney

JUST THINK

You're here not by chance,
But by God's choosing.
His hand formed you and
Made you the person you are.

He compares you to no one else –
You are one of a kind.

You lack nothing
That His grace can't give you.
He has allowed you to be here
At this time in history
To fulfill His special purpose
For this generation.
(Author unknown)



Joan and LC Courtney
(Sgt. Major U.S. Army, Retired)
Married January 10, 2009

DON'T QUIT

"When things go wrong
As they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit –
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Success is failure turned inside out,
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you can never tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems afar.
So, stick to the fight when you're hardest hit
It's when things go wrong that you mustn't quit."
(Author unknown)

**UNITY AS ONE VOICE, ONE BODY OF CHRIST
THROUGH
THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND GLOBAL DAY OF PRAYER**

As believers, one way in which we can please God most is to love the brethren and unite our hearts in unity as one voice and one Body of Christ. For that reason, the Lord has led the ministry of WPI to cooperate and assist by networking in the work of many ministries in many outreaches and events throughout San Antonio; networking for the glory of the Lord to accomplish His purposes here in San Antonio and around the World. The month of May provides great opportunity for WPI to do just that. We call it the month of prayer.

First, the National Day of Prayer is a rich experience right on the Steps of City Hall as hundreds worship the Lord openly and boldly in the public arena, exalting our Lord above all. Each year WPI assists in the National Day of Prayer Steps of City Hall by providing greeters who distribute programs, assist the speakers as they arrive, and by providing women who are led to pray specifically with laymen and others who come early to provide prayer covering, or for personal prayer requests.

Later in May, we experienced the Global Day of Prayer which was a special blessing this year, and a heartfelt time of prayer for those who attended, as Christ was lifted as King of Kings throughout the entire world. WPI was honored as our office was used by the GDOP steering committee. The continuation of the GDOP was called the 90 Days of Blessing. WPI collected donations of clothing, and other household items for the free garage sale GDOP outreach. You won't want to miss next year's NDP and GDOP activities to further God's kingdom in your city and nation.

WPI GREETERS AT THE STEPS OF S.A. CITY HALL

(Picture unavailable) CINDI BLOMSTROM, SUZIE BUCK, JOAN COURTNEY, MARGIE HARRIS; MARY LIECK; LOLA MCGANN; KRIS MARTIN; VERDA MAYER; SYLVIA RODRIQUEZ; SHERRY SCHOENFELDT; BARBARA SCHRAMEK; CHRISSIE SMITH; PAMELA STEWART; ALMA TREVINO; MARY ANN TURNER; HERMELINDA VARELA; AND PAULETTE WELGE



MEMBERS OF THE SAN ANTONIO GDOP COMMITTEE:
Pictured: Joan Courtney; Suzanne Dollar, WPI Advisor and Co-Coord. NDP, SA; Sandra Fechner, Co-Coord. GDOP, SA; Mary Mize Hellums, Coord., Women's Citywide Prayer, San Antonio, TX

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren (and sisters) to dwell together in unity." Psalm 133:1

WPI Board of Directors

**February 2009 – February 2011
San Antonio, Texas**

*A work of faith
A labor of love
A service of joy*

President: Joan Bond-Courtney - Wayside Chapel
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*"Unless the Lord builds the house,
they labor in vain who build it." Psalm 127:1*

***"To serve God is the deliberate love gift of a nature who has heard the call of God." My Utmost for His Highest
by Oswald Chambers***

WPI Advisory Board Members

**February 2009 – February 2011
San Antonio, Texas**

*"Praise to our Lord for these
mighty servants of God!"*

Chairman: Rabbi Randy Shapiro – Beth Simcha Messianic
Pastor John Cannon – Harvest Fellowship
Mrs. Judy Dalrymple – Realtor, Phyllis Browning Co.
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Father Chip Harper – All Saints Anglican
Mr. Jason Roberts – Jason Roberts and Associates
Pastor Ken Schoenfeldt - The Country Church, Marion, TX
Pastor Steve Troxel – Pastor At Large, Wayside Chapel
Evangelical Free

"Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established." Proverbs 15:22

"Prayer is an essential link in the chain of causes that lead to a revival, as much as truth is. Some have zealously used truth to convert men, and laid very little stress on prayer. They have preached, and talked, and distributed tracts with great zeal, and then wondered that they had so little success. They overlooked the fact that truth, by itself, will never produce the effect, without the spirit of God, and that the Spirit is given in answer to prayer." Revival Lectures by Charles Finney

"OPERATION OUTCRY" REACHING "ONE MILLION VOICES"

The Justice Foundation's ministry "Operation Outcry" touches hearts, changes lives, and restores justice through the testimonies of women and men harmed by abortion. The heartfelt testimonies humanize the pro-life message and reach out to others who are suffering in silence. Operation Outcry refers post-abortive women and men to hope and healing through Christ-centered abortion recovery programs. Finally, Operation Outcry gathers these stories as legally admissible evidence documenting the pain of abortion.

This evidence has proven to be effective in showing U.S. courts and legislatures the harm caused by abortion.

You can help The Justice Foundation's ministry "Operation Outcry" reach "One Million Voices" by praying and requesting an electronic version be sent to you by request from info@txjf.org or accessed online at <http://www.operationoutcry.org/pages.asp?pageid=77860> Also, please keep praying for Allan Parker, Clayton Trotter and The Justice Foundation Staff as they endeavor to be God's messengers for the unborn, that they may live!



WELCOME MARY RUTH LAWLER – FORT WORTH, TX. Mary Ruth started her WPI group 3 months ago in her neighborhood in the Fossil Creek area after hearing about Women's Prayer International when visiting her daughter, Rhonda Norville, who is a Prayer Member in San Antonio. Mary Ruth has always been active in Christian service and now that she is in her senior years and widowed she is still active serving the Lord. WPI sounded like something needful for her neighborhood to pray for their city and nation, and knew she could do it. Mary Ruth loves the Lord, knows the power of prayer, and enjoys using her gifts of hospitality to encourage others.

FEATURED WPI NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

It has been our privilege to be a part of Women's Prayer International since our first meeting on **December 15, 1998**, when it was known as Women's Neighborhood Prayer. We knew from the beginning that it was God's will to join with other sisters in Christ, to pray regularly for God's work. The Lord has been faithful in keeping us together through the years with few changes in membership. We have always tried to maintain a commitment to the mission of this organization: to transform our city, nation, and world for Christ through united prayer. *We have been blessed to have a diverse group; we are multi-cultural, multi-denominational, and multi-generational!* God has allowed us to have a spiritual bond that enables us to encourage and uplift each other through times of sorrow and to celebrate with each other in times of joy. *Thanks be to God for His power working through us, and we pray that He will continue to use us in this ministry.*

Your praying sisters-in-Christ,

From left to right: Top: Alice Thomas, Sheila Folschinsky, Board Member; Irene Kroger, Barbara Schramek, Prayer Guide; Faye Cooper, Prayer Hostess.

Bottom: Cruz Bermudez & Hermelinda Varela



WPI's motivation to unite to pray each month is the belief that:

- God alone is the one who motivates hearts to move toward reconciliation and oneness with Him.
- the time is short, and it is the heart of God to fulfill Jesus' prayer in John 17:20-26 before Jesus returns for His Bride, the Church.
- when God looks on a city He sees one Church, His Body.
- when we, the Church, unite in passionate prayer, the crippling walls of division will come down.
- as we bombard the heavens with united prayer Satan will be paralyzed, captives will be set free, and millions will come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ before He comes again!

THE PURPOSE OF PRAYER From PRAYER by O. Hallesby, 1931

"Nothing makes us as bold in prayer as when we can look into the eye of God and say to Him, 'Thou knowest that I am not praying for personal advantage nor to avoid hardship, nor that my own will in any way should be done; but only for this, that Thy name might be glorified ...' We have to leave it to Him to decide what will best serve to glorify His name."

“From the Neighborhoods to the Nations and From the Workplace to the World – Transforming Our Cities for Christ through United Prayer” - WPI is a non-profit 501(c)(3) servant prayer ministry – encouraging and equipping Christian women to unite to pray in *their* neighborhoods or places of work for the transformation of *their* city and nation for Christ, not forsaking their own assembly. **PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR ANNUAL CELEBRATION DINNER ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th. INVITE OTHERS! BUY A TABLE FOR EIGHT FOR \$230.00.** Please send your check or the enclosed credit card slip with names of attendees in the enclosed envelope by Thursday, September 3rd. Get your checks in early. Seating is limited. You won't want to miss it!

YOUR LOVE GIFTS ARE NEEDED AND APPRECIATED! FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS NOW HAVE THE CONVENIENCE TO SEED INTO WPI THROUGH MASTERCARD, VISA, AND DISCOVER AT WWW.WOMENSPRAYERINTL.ORG.



Members of America's National Prayer Committee uniting for the bi-annual meeting in Austin, TX this January. Pictured left to right: WPI's Joan Bond Courtney; NPC Chairman, Dave Butts; and National Day of Prayer National Area Leader, Sarah Lowe

WOMEN'S PRAYER INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL BENEFIT DINNER

Inviting men and women to **CELEBRATE GOD'S GOODNESS AND FAITHFULNESS** to and through WPI

Guest Speaker: Evangelist, Sammy Tippit

Friday, September 18, 2009 • 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM
Registration opens at 6:15 PM

Wayside Chapel • 1705 NW Loop 410 • San Antonio, Texas 78213

Business or After Five Attire

\$30.00 per person
Reserved table for eight for \$230.00

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