



Forever Grateful for Freedom

It was my privilege this past weekend to be part of the "send off" of an American patriot and dear friend to his year long deployment in Iraq. As I prayed for God's hand of protection on Major Chris Hill, I was once again reminded that the sacrifice of a few affords freedom to many. It is the sacrifice of men like Chris that enables me to stand, freely, in a pulpit each week and declare the liberating gospel of Jesus Christ. As we approach the July 4th holiday, may we never forget the past and present sacrifices that allow us to enjoy all that is ours in the United States.

It was also our privilege to meet with our HOPE staff this past weekend for a blessed time of fellowship and planning for upcoming events. Almost all of our staff were present at our home to enjoy some delicious bar-b-que and reflect on the good hand of God on this past year's ministry as well as to pray for God's power on the many opportunities available to us in the coming years. In addition to meetings now scheduled into 2010, we have more crusade opportunities opening up than ever before. We desire your earnest prayers for crusade invitations to the Caribbean, West Virginia, New York, Kentucky, Georgia, Wisconsin and Washington DC. In the weeks ahead, I'll be sharing some extremely exciting (and very "outside the box") evangelistic endeavors into which the Lord is leading us.

If you are scheduled to be in the Hickory area, we would love to see you at one, or both of two upcoming events. On July 4th, HOPE Ministries will be doing the music for the Fourth Celebration in Valdese, NC. That event begins at 5:30 pm and will be held at the Trail of Faith in Valdese. Retired Pentagon Chaplain, Colonel Ralph Benson will be the speaker for that event. The Daybreak Quartet will be singing as will Jose Young and our family. On Wednesday afternoon, July 5th, we will participate in "Patriotism in the Park" hosted by Tabernacle Baptist Church in Hickory. Things will begin at 4:30pm and last until about 9:30pm. For more information regarding either of these events, you may call us at 828-302-2060.

As is always the case, we count on your partnership in prayer for God's power on the ministry of the word. May the joy of Christ be your strength and shield in these unprecedented days of opportunity.

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We appreciate your input, but please understand that due to the volume of email that we receive, we are unable to personally respond to each email.