

Siloam Ministries

Al & Marilyn Schubert

P.O. Box 2143 Fort Davis, TX 79734

Email: siloam2001@gmail.com

Phone: 432-426-3190

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Dear Friends,

Greetings in the mighty name of Jesus!! May He bless your New Year abundantly!!

We've just returned home from our trip to the West Coast. What a blessing it was to fellowship and pray with many friends, including two couples we hadn't seen for about 20 years! Many of these friends, as well as many of you we didn't get to see, are experiencing more of God's presence through praise, thanksgiving, and personal repentance, as we are. As you know, we're also working, as the Lord leads, to develop more corporate repentance and prayer for revival in this nation and around the world.

The message God has been giving us is a message of faith, hope, and freedom. It has to do with allowing our wonderful God and Savior to bring our lives into alignment with Him for His glory and the extension of His kingdom! God has been revealing to us the reasons why so many of us seldom or never see the promises God has given us come to pass. Even though He has given His dreams, hope, vision, and words to build faith and expectation for what He will

Al sharing with a fellow believer on Portland outreach.



do, many of us do not see their fulfillment. This can produce frustration and even discouragement that God will ever do what we thought He had promised. Many lose hope that God will come through. Some abandon altogether seeking God for more.

As all of us know, the problem isn't on God's end, but on ours! In this newsletter, **I'll begin to share what He has been showing me about how to break the cycle which keeps us on the merry-go-round of not seeing God's promises come to pass.** We have besetting sins which we have confessed hundreds of times, repenting of them. But then we fall once more. We wonder, "What's happening? Where's the power of God to set me free?" There is good news—there's enough power in the Holy Spirit to break every chain, every besetting sin. What I'll share today is how to begin to get free. I'll share more in future issues.

The problem is that we have fallow ground that we haven't known how to break up. Hosea 10:12 says, ". . . **break up your fallow ground, for it is time to seek the LORD until He comes to rain righteousness on you.**" The fallow ground isn't in the life of an unbeliever. It's in the person who knows the LORD, who seeks His face, but who has areas in

Marilyn giving out gospel tracts in Portland.



his life that need to be softened up by the Holy Spirit—just as cultivated ground that has been lying fallow needs to be softened up to be planted.

To be able to plow up our fallow ground, we have to be completely honest with ourselves. David wrote in Psalm 51:6, *“You desire truth in the innermost being.”* **It isn’t lying to someone else that I have a problem with, it’s lying to myself—not recognizing what I am really thinking, feeling, or understanding deep within myself.** Thus I really can’t bring it up to God for Him to heal or break any strongholds. What you aren’t aware of, you can’t get help with. **So I have to ask God to show me my blind spots and allow Him to peel off layers of wrong thinking so that He can deal with the root cause of the sin.**

Part of plowing up our fallow ground is destroying fortresses and taking every thought captive, according to II Cor. 10:4,5: *“For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.”*

For the last five years, we (Al and Marilyn) have been using seven steps which we believe God showed us need to be used in “taking every thought captive.” We call it:

THE CLEANSING PROCESS

- 1) **Confess.** Agree with God that what you have done, thought, or felt is sin. (I John 1:9)
- 2) **Repent.** Turn and go in the opposite direction. (Rev. 3:2,3)
- 3) **Renounce.** Give up, cast off, repudiate the sin. (II Cor. 4:2)
- 4) **Ask that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanse your whole spirit, soul, and body.** (II Cor. 7:1; I John 1:7)
- 5) **Break every agreement you have made with the enemy.** (II Cor. 6:16)
- 6) **Command the thought, feeling, and/or spirit that brings the thought or feeling to leave.** (Matt. 16:23)
- 7) **Ask God to replace the sinful thought, feeling, or action with the opposite thought, feeling, or action that is good.** (Gal. 5:19-23) Give praise and thanks to our wonderful God!

We ask God frequently to give us a reminder when we’re not obeying Him. **When we recognize some wrong action or attitude, we immediately go through the Cleansing Process.** We’ve found that when you practice this

consistently, **it will actually change your personality**, with areas of spiritual weakness changing to areas of spiritual strength! Praise God!

Intercessors in Uganda tapping into the power of God!



We’ve found that in order to break the power of besetting sins, **we need to pay attention not only to what is happening in the present, but also to what has happened in the past.** Let us give some examples.

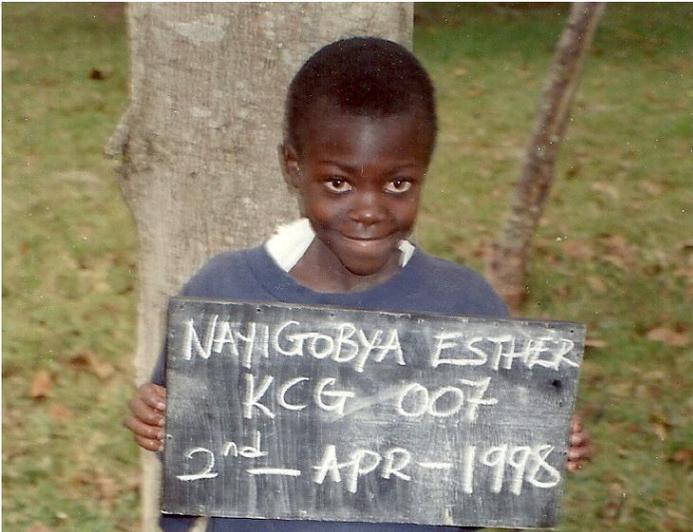
I (Al) during my prayer time one day, had the Lord bring to my mind a situation that happened about 40 years ago. I was a youth minister in Willows, CA, and my senior pastor asked me to do something. I said I would do it, walked out of his office, and never did it. The Lord had me do the Cleansing Process for breaking my promise and also for being rebellious, since I had not submitted to my leader.

In my Bible reading, I frequently come across some idea that triggers in me a need for repentance. The other day I was reading in Proverbs 24:1 how the lips of evil men talk of trouble. I asked myself, “Do I ever talk of trouble?” The answer was “Yes”, and God had me go through the Cleansing Process. **Each time I repent and thank God and praise Him, it helps me become a little more like Jesus.**

I (Marilyn) have had since I was very young a bad habit of silently criticizing other people. I worked at trying to get rid of it, but I didn’t make much progress until I started using the Cleansing Process every time I felt critical. **For Step 7, I try always to pray blessing on the person I’ve been starting to criticize.** Now when church service is about to begin, instead of noticing people’s clothing or thinking of something negative, I start at the front of the church and, naming each person, ask that God’s love would flow to them. In this way, I go all the way around the church.

HIGHLIGHTS OF AFRICAN MINISTRY—2014

CHALLENGES MET AT OSANIDDE. Some Osanidde youth have now completed high school. The plan is for them to work at teaching, nursing, and/or tailoring for two years, at which time they will be commissioned to live on their own, doing what God calls them to do. Depending on their aptitude, some go into vocational training following graduation from P7 (equivalent to our junior high). I thought it'd be fun to show a picture of one of the Siloam House girls when Osanidde began in 2006, along with a recent picture of her.



Above: **Esther at age 8.** Below: **Esther at 15.** She is in training to become a seamstress.

New recreation is being provided for the children, including volleyball and table tennis. New children are being taken in as older ones leave (some to live with relatives). Outreaches to the nearby islands continue. Food continues to be a challenge. We thank God and thank you for all that is being done at Osanidde!!

DECISIONS FOR CHRIST IN TOGO. On September 27, **Brother Soule** sent this email: ". . . *In the church work we have registered **468 decisions for Christ**. Many of the other religion have been exposed to the gospel. Some received; others didn't receive. But we thank the Lord that His Word has been preached to them. . . .*" (edited)

GROWTH IN THE MIDST OF GREAT SUFFERING. **Brother Jean Paulin** from **Central African Republic (CAR)** sends greetings for a HAPPY NEW YEAR 2015 along with his year-end report. There were **more than 240 decisions for Christ** during 15 evangelistic campaigns. He personally conducted **3 baptismal services**. He was asked to hold a **seminar for 300 young people** in December. He says, "*These young people are actually doing extraordinary things. Five of them have become heads of churches.*"

During the year Jean Paulin made regular circuits of the churches he oversees. "*They were on the verge of collapse with the passage of Seleka committing damage. God helped and supported us during these journeys.*" There was also a rise of false prophets, which kept Jean Paulin going from one church to another despite damaged roads and broken bridges.

Both Brother Jean Paulin and Brother Anatole work with Pygmies (different groups). **When the Seleka first took over the country in March 2013, the Pygmies were forced to flee into the forest. Many died, both adults and children.** Some villages were burned. Jean Paulin has restarted the school he supervises. **Both groups of Pygmies need funds for school supplies and medicine.**

Jean Paulin says they are currently living in Acts. Every Tuesday there is a prayer cell, with 40 to 60 people. Every Friday night 100 to 150 people come to pray from 10:30 pm to 4:00 am. **On Sunday afternoon almost 100 children come to seek healing and listen to the gospel.**

The missionary training center in Bangui was opened in 2005 under Jean Paulin's leadership. So far, 213 students have attended. In peace time there are 13 classes offered. Right now, there are 4 classes, with 50 students attending. **Please pray for funds for their travel expenses and training manuals.**

Jean Paulin feels led to start 3 projects to help the ministry become self-supporting: raise 10 acres of crops to sell, buy 2 large canoes to rent out, and grow chickens to sell. He asks for **prayer for the success of these projects.**

How thankful we are for this wise, courageous brother!

STRENGTH NEEDED TO GO THROUGH OPEN DOORS.

Brother Anatole in CAR wrote on December 11, "*He [God] has recently opened the prison doors to us, and we have recorded a number of conversions of those of the other religion, some of whom have been baptized. The prison governor got in touch and asked us to take care of those of them who are about to be released. Pray for the protection of these converts, as they are often rejected by their families. Caring for them is quite a sensitive issue, given the current situation in the country, but we cannot abandon them. May God give us wisdom.*"

Though Anatole is physically weak (with infection in his feet and other problems), he is in the midst of holding several seminars in Bangui to build believers' faith and bring healing from trauma. **Please pray for Anatole's health.**

On December 23, Anatole wrote, "*In January, dialogues will be organized in towns in the interior of the country, as a*

prelude to the Bangui Forum planned for February (with the aim of reuniting the country and putting an end to lawlessness [note by translator]). Please pray for this war-torn country and its faithful servants of God.

WHERE WE ARE IN OUR TRANSITION. Several of you have asked where we are in the transition that will allow us to be on the road more, encouraging repentance and prayer for revival in different communities. By October, enough of our property had sold to allow us to buy a larger truck and fifth wheel, which we used on the last trip. Though there have been (and still are) bugs to work out, it's a very livable situation. Praise God! Our house still has not sold, and, unless God has some other plan, it seems that it would be very helpful to have it sell. Whatever happens, we have it so much easier than our brothers and sisters in CAR!

WE LOVE AND APPRECIATE YOU!!

Al & Marilyn