



# FOCUSED LIVING PRAYER

September-October 2011

As a kid, I (Perry) was very proud of my dad who was an officer in the US Navy. One of my goals in life was to meet the Captain of the USS Saratoga on which my dad was stationed. One day, Dad took me to the pier where the CVA 60 was docked. This super carrier was a jaw dropping, massive, floating steel fortress with 90 fighter jets, 8 missile launchers and a crew of 4,000. I thought to myself, *"there's no way they're going to let me (a scrawny, 8 year old, freckled faced kid) aboard this powerful weapon of war, let alone meet the Captain!"* Impulsively I reached for my dad's hand as we stepped onto the ramp guarded by a heavily armed square jawed MP. As the sailor glared at me, my dad ordered, *"He's with me!"* to which the sailor snapped a sharp salute and welcomed us both aboard. The unthinkable had happened! That day

I was introduced to the Captain on the bridge, saw the engine room and stood on the flight deck. All with the simple password, ***"I'm with him!"*** I could experience such an honor ONLY because I had a relationship with someone with authority who had an "in" with the Captain.

We are surrounded by men who need to realize that they cannot 'board' heaven, nor even approach the 'Captain', on their own apart from Someone with authority. They can't earn, buy, talk or muscle their way into the presence of the Lord. They can't experience the peace of His bridge, purpose of His flight deck or power of His engine room. They desperately need to know Christ, Who will graciously stand by their side before our majestic Holy Creator God and simply say, *"He's with Me! I love this man and gave My life for his sin. By faith he has received My grace and now holds My hand as we walk together through each day."* Thanks for praying in this vital message to the men of Columbia and beyond.

**"This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time."** I Timothy 2:3-6

**"Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen."** Jude 23-24

## ***Prayer Requests:***

**MEN'S FORUMS** We've launched the Fall forum season. Pray for many new faces in each of the forums and teachable hearts as we continue to explore the Hi-Def life Jesus describes in the Sermon on the Mount.

**SALT** This fall in Columbia we'll have over 125 pairings of men walking through some version of FLM's SALT discipleship. Please pray for spiritual vitality as these men purpose to grow in Christ. The content of FLM's Thursday night version is based on the Life of David.

**OUTREACH** Please pray for the round tables Q&A's on the calendar this October as well as the men's wired events in the works.

**DAYBREAK CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER** Continue to pray with us for full monthly calendar coverage of male counselors. Pray also that the **Oct 20<sup>th</sup>** banquet broadly casts the vision for life through this city.

Note: We have made some adjustments technology wise. In the process, Perry discontinued his [perrybowers@earthlink.net](mailto:perrybowers@earthlink.net) email. David discontinued his [dcandes@mindspring.com](mailto:dcandes@mindspring.com) email.

**Our current emails are:**

[Perry@focusedliving.com](mailto:Perry@focusedliving.com)

[David@focusedliving.com](mailto:David@focusedliving.com)

(Personal Prayer Items on Next Page)

## BOWERS FAMILY

**Perry**-- prayer together as a couple emphasizing grateful hearts for God's goodness and blessings as He stretches us. Greater dependence on Christ-- too much "Perry".

**Janet**—journaling quiet times as I switch roles as wife, care-giver, daughter, mother and friend. Emphasize thankful spirit for God's goodness continually as He carries me along the way.

**Joy & Eddie**—strength and wisdom in parenting Lulu in kindergarten in a public magnet school and Ezra as a preschooler in parents-morning out. Greater awareness of teachable moments with Lulu, Ezra, and Zeq. Prayer together for the children and opportunities to live the gospel in front of them and our neighbors. Wisdom and energy to love well in Latino and outreach ministry. Greater dependence on Christ

**Megan & Marc**—Wisdom in ministry responsibility shifts for Marc. Time management for Megan as wife, mom and teacher. Desire for God to guide and bless the growth of their family in His timing. Parental wisdom in praying for and nurturing Hannah Caroline as a toddler. Greater dependence on Christ.

## ANDES FAMILY

**David** – Recognizing that Jesus invested His ministry life primarily into 12 men, please pray with me as I sense God's lead concerning discipleship relationships in this season of my life. Also, pray that I would be a doer of the Word and not simply a learner and teacher.

**Katherine** – Continual awareness of our Great God as I go throughout the day at work and at home.

**Austin (13)** – I am thankful for my school and I love being a 7<sup>th</sup> grader. Pray that I will have some friends to hang out with. I'm excited about being in my first play this January. We practice every Saturday.

**Cameron's (8)** – I am thankful for my school and teacher but third grade is a big change. Pray that I will do my best in school and soccer and Awanas.

## SALTER FAMILY

Praise God for His grace as he has taught us many new things over the last couple of months. Our trip to Costa Rica was amazing because God was at work in many hearts. Also, God has been doing a new work in our lives concerning discipleship. Pray that we will be faithful to seek His guidance and presence over the next days and weeks.