



## Go!

*Praying beyond our walls*

“When Your people go out to battle against their enemy, wherever You send them, and when they pray to the LORD . . . then hear in heaven their prayer . . . and maintain their cause” (1 Kings 8:44–45)

December 2004

## Please pray for our missionaries

### Connect

Every Sunday, 9:30am & 5:30pm – Pre-service prayer (Wedge Room)

3rd Sunday of each month, 9:15–10:15am—Pray for Central Asia (upstairs classroom)

Every Monday, 1:00pm – Prayer for the Atlanta Vineyard (Wedge Room)

Every Tuesday, 7:00am – Father’s Heart men’s prayer (Café)

Every Wednesday, 9:00pm – Pray with Frank & Sandra (Duluth)

1st Wednesday of each month, 6:00–8:00pm – Pray at Norcross Co-op

1st & 3rd Friday of each month, 7:30pm – Unveiled (Auditorium)

### Joy to the world, the Lord is come

“Let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you. For surely, O LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.” (Psalm 5: 11, 12)

### Website

Visit us on the web at [www.atlantavineyard.com/prayer](http://www.atlantavineyard.com/prayer)

- We’ve got missionaries in Indonesia and several Vineyards in India that the Marietta Vineyard is closely connected with, as well as other Vineyards throughout Asia that need our prayers following this week’s devastating earthquake and tsunamis.
- The Clemence Family (Ufa Vineyard, Ufa, Russia)—They will be returning to Russia the first of the year. Please pray for safe and smooth travel.
- The Frecka Family-Youth With A Mission (YWAM Perm, Perm, Russia)—We would also appreciate your prayers for our health. We have all had colds for a couple of weeks now. We now have the Discipleship Training School here in Perm. The students will soon be going on outreach to St. Petersburg and then onto Murmansk and the nation of Georgia. Please keep these future Russian missionaries in your prayers! Rachel and I will be teaching in this school during December.
- Steve & Liz Iliff (YWAM Northwoods, Wisconsin)—It’s that time of year! No, not Christmas, DTS outreach time! We will be splitting up the class into two groups. They will be gone for January and February. This class has really been a great group. Pray for them as they go and do the stuff that God has worked in their hearts the past three months. Please pray with us:
  - For confirmation and direction for short-term outreaches.
  - For the provision, safety, health, and God’s fruit for the DTS outreaches.
  - Pray for Steve’s dad who underwent double knee replacement surgery early this month. Pray for quick healing and speedy recuperation. Pray for Steve’s mom for strength as she helps his dad through this.
  - We really want a digital camera! We spend so much money on film and developing and here we are with a computer that has a built in media player that will do great digital pictures. We can put them right into our newsletters!

## Missions-focused prayer groups

**Pray for Central Asia:** Come pray with for our adopted un-reached people group in Central Asia on the 3rd Sunday of each month, 9:15–10:15am, in the upstairs classroom on the left. Contact Mary Hoyt for more info: [marychoyt@yahoo.com](mailto:marychoyt@yahoo.com), 770-265-1597

**Pray with Frank & Sandra:** Come pray with Frank & Sandra Teixeira in Duluth every Wednesday night (9:00pm)! We pray for many things, including Brazil and general prayer requests for the AVC, starting at 9:00pm in our home. 2006 Howell Walk, Duluth 30096. 678-957-1519, 678-887-8759 (cell), [grettex2000@bellsouth.net](mailto:grettex2000@bellsouth.net)

## from Luane Thomson

As the mission director of the Atlanta Vineyard, one of the best things I get to do is to attend the yearly Mission Partnerships meeting. Each year pastors and mission leaders meet together to find out what is happening in missions through Vineyard churches world wide, to be taught by some of the world's best mission speakers and to relationally connect so that we can truly partner together for the glory of God. There are currently about 600 Vineyard churches in the US as well as another 600 around the world. Some pretty amazing things have been occurring and I am convinced that one of the reasons why is our current leadership under Bert Waggoner, the National Director and President of The Vineyard, USA. The following message was given by Bert at the Mission Partnerships meeting in October. His heart for the Kingdom of God, missions and community are sure to encourage you.

## The Kingdom of God and Missions

*by Bert Waggoner, National Director of Vineyard USA*

### The Primary Purpose Work of the Kingdom of God Is To Build The Church

- God's highest priorities according to the Lords Prayer are: He wants his name glorified; He wants to reveal his kingdom - it is hidden to the world.
- His method for achieving these priorities is to build a people- his community: He is glorified in a community of love - in his church; The kingdom is revealed in and through this community.
- So what the Spirit is doing as the power of the Kingdom of God is building the church: The church does not build or extend the kingdom, it receives it; When we go out in mission we join the power of the Kingdom of God, not to build the kingdom (there is never a reference to building the kingdom of God), but to build God's temple, the church.

A. The verbs *to build* and *to extend* are not found in the New Testament's grammar for the reign of God. The announcement of God's reign nowhere includes an invitation to go out and build it, nor to extend it. These are not New Testament ways of speaking about the reign of God. (Van Gilder)

B. The words most often used evoke quite a different spirit and, therefore, a very different missional identity and engagement. The New Testament employs the words receive and enter. They come at times intertwined in the text. "*Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a child will never enter it.*" (Luke 18:17). In that same context Jesus notes how hard it is for those who have riches to enter the reign of God (vv. 24-25), and he assures the disciples that there is no one who has left mother or father, houses or land, for the gospel's sake, who will not receive one hundredfold (vv. 29-30). (Guder)

- The primary evidence of the presence of the Kingdom of God is authentic Christian community: The Christian community is the primary sign of the presence of the Kingdom of God; This is why love governs over all activities - edification.

### The Primary Mission of the Church Is To Represent the Kingdom of God as Its Sign and Foretaste

- It is a Sign and foretaste of the Kingdom. Sign of the presence of the Kingdom of God. Foretaste of the coming community.
- The church represents the kingdom of God in a number of ways: The Church represents the reign of God as the community of the Kingdom. The mission of Jesus was to live under God's reign. We are the people who are made and shaped by the powers of the kingdom that is at work among us. This reality and experience of the Kingdom is what makes us unique. Before the church is called to do or say anything, it is called and sent to be the unique community of those who live under the reign of God. The church displays the first fruits of the forgiven and forgiving people of God who are brought together across the rubble of dividing walls that have crumbled under the weight of the cross. It is the harbinger of the new humanity that lives in genuine community, a form of companionship and wholeness that humanity craves. (Guder)
- The Church represents the reign of God by being the servants of the Kingdom. The church is a people under authority. The authority we have flows out of our servant hood. The true church does not endeavor to control but to be a willing servant. It only wants to bring others into the kingdom. It represents the kingdom by being the messenger through which the kingdom speaks. (Preaching = the nature of the event) It represents the kingdom by joining the experience of the coming kingdom in worship: Worship; Baptism as an eschatological event; Lord's Supper as sign. It represents the kingdom by doing the works of Jesus: Caring for the poor; Healing the sick. It represents the kingdom by building authentic community.

### Our Mission in Going Is To Join With the Movement of the Kingdom of God in the Nations Which Is Already There Building His Church

- We look to see what the Father is doing.
- We join up with his work.
- To fail to do this is to fail to be the church.