



GOD Is Just a Prayer Away

50,000 Watt Stations Every Sunday

WLW	6:30 AM	700 Dial	Cincinnati, OH
WLW	8:00 AM	700 Dial	Cincinnati, OH
KXEL	10:30 PM	1540 Dial	Waterloo, IA
WRVA	7:04 AM	1140 Dial	Richmond, VA
WRVA	9:30 PM	1140 Dial	Richmond, VA
WIBC	7:30 AM	93.1 Dial	Indianapolis, IN
WHAS	7:30 AM	840 Dial	Louisville, KY
KAAY	9:30 PM	1090 Dial	Little Rock, AR
WDOC	7:45 AM	1310 Dial	Prestonburg, KY
WWVA	9:30 PM	1170 Dial	Wheeling, WV

Short Wave Radio

AFRICA:

Monday 7:00 PM
(1800 UTC) 7190 kHz on Dial

BEACON of HOPE N. AFRICA:

Sunday 8:30 PM
(1930 UTC) 6020 kHz on Dial

BIBLE VOICE EUROPE:

Sunday 8:00 AM
(0700 UTC) 5945 kHz on Dial

SRI LANKA INDIA:

Sunday 8:30 AM
(0800 UTC) 9770 kHz on Dial

BIBLE VOICE RUSSIA:

Sunday 8:00 PM
(2000 UTC) 6010 on kHz Dial

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR MINISTRY ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

February 2011

Address all Mail: Ed Bousman, P.O. Box 511, Lynchburg, Ohio 45142-0511

Issue 2

SIXTY-EIGHT YEARS ON THE FIRING LINE

Here is a sketch of the past sixty-eight years I have spent in the Lord's service.

GENNTOWN, OHIO

On February 14th, Valentine's Day, 1943 I got off the bus at Genntown, Ohio, a village outside of Lebanon, Ohio. I was to preach a trial sermon for the Church there. Actually it was a congregational building, but some Church of Christ people were using it.

It was a cold day and the snow was deep. When I walked into the building about two hours early, one of the elders was there building a fire in the potbellied stove. He looked up with a rather dour look and I could tell he wasn't expecting much and he wasn't going to get much.

The Sunday school teacher was sick that day; I was appointed to teach. The lesson was from John chapter 9. My professor at Cincinnati Bible Seminary had taught all week on liberalism of the world and I used his words as I taught the Sunday school class and they thought it was great.

The sermon I had was going to last about ten minutes. People like short sermons, but not that short. I had been going to school for four years and all my contemporaries were preaching and I was desperate to start. It was the weakest church of the weakest and I was the weakest preacher of the weakest. They had several men trying out before me and had rejected them and they were not expecting too much. So here I was with a ten minute sermon.

The incident that saved the day for me was the fact that the pianist had to catch a train somewhere around twelve noon and consented to stay and play on the condition that I would preach a short sermon. When I got up to preach my ten minute sermon, I informed the people that I would have to cut the sermon short that day, because the pianist had to catch a train and then I preached the ten minute sermon I was going to preach anyway. On the basis of that sermon they called me to preach for the Genntown Church. The

Lord knows what He is doing. I'm sure I would never have been called to that Church had the pianist not had to catch a train. I had been there about four months and the elder, the one with the dour look, told me of another half-time Church over in Highland County that needed a preacher. He had written them and told them of me and told me they expected me to come for a trial sermon on the second Sunday of June and that brings us to the next segment of my ministry.

HOLLOWTOWN

When I arrived at Hollowtown I learned that no one had received a letter and they were not expecting me. However, since they were fresh out of a preacher, they asked me to preach anyway. They were not sure they wanted me, so they asked me to come back again and after about three times, they decided to call me to that pulpit half-time. They paid me twelve dollars a week. It was at Hollowtown that I conducted my first funeral. One of the largest funerals I ever had. It was during World War II and a lady had gone to Hillsboro to give blood and died. Because she was young and had many friends and because of the circumstances it was a big funeral. The building was full and as many more standing outside.

I was at a loss as to how to perform. I had only attended two funerals in my life and now I was to conduct one and the biggest at that. On the way to the funeral, there were two deacons driving me to the service, I asked them what I was supposed to do. They assured me that I would do alright. One of them said, "When you get up there just conduct the funeral service like you would an ordinary church service, the only thing to remember is you don't holler as loud at a funeral as you do in a church service." Those were the only instructions I ever had about conducting funerals. "Don't holler as loud. I was at Hollowtown

for a year and a half. On the day I announced that I was leaving, one of the elders was muttering something on the front row. I couldn't tell what he was saying, so I asked him what it was. He said, "We are nothing but a wiener, we wean them and then some other Church gets them." He was right. Many of the small country churches were nothing but "wieners." They wean a young preacher so that he can go to a Bigger place. The small country church renders a great service to the Lord this way. A preacher has to start somewhere, so praise the Lord for "wieners." Thirty years later, I reminded them that they were "wieners." But if they were "wieners" in the words of a well known hot dog advertisement in the Midwest, they are the wiener the world awaited. Meanwhile back at the ranch. It was about September of 1943, eight months after the memorable ten minute sermon at Genntown, the opportunity came to preach half-time at Hartford, Kentucky. I was resigning and would now preach half time at Hollowtown and half-time at Hartford, Kentucky. That brings us to the next segment.

HARTFORD, KENTUCKY

I was at Hartford for one year exactly, only half-time. They paid me twenty-five dollars a week and it took thirteen of it to ride the train down there and back to Cincinnati. Oh, by the way, the treasurer's name was Jessie James.

At Hartford I realized the sin of denominationalism. A group of young people were walking down the street one night after services - the youth minister of the Methodist Church, some of the young people from that congregation and some from the Christian Church. One of the Methodist girls grabbed me and told me to kiss her. She was a very pretty Methodist, so I did even as she said. The next day one of the girls in the Christian Church told me that it did not look good for the Christian preacher to kiss a Methodist - I should confine such attentions to Christian girls. I agree, as far as the Methodists are concerned they kiss alright, it is their baptism that I don't like. So much for Hartford. I left on my birthday, the first day of October and walked three miles with my suitcase from Hartford to Beaver Dam to catch the train for Cincinnati and that brings us to another segment of this saga.

LYNCHBURG, OHIO

Now remember at this point, I am still half-time at Hollowtown in Highland County, Ohio. It was during a revival at this place that the Church at Lynchburg was looking for a preacher and one of the deacons came over to check me out and told the church about me and I went for a trial sermon. I preached on baptism in the morning and Samson at night. It is appropriate at this point to say something of the providence of God and how He works in our lives. While at Hollowtown and attending the Cincinnati Bible Seminary, one day I walked down the hill from the campus to catch a bus on Glenway Avenue. Just as I emerged from the hill to the street, a car came by and the driver, a student in the Seminary, picked me up to go downtown. He asked me if I wanted a job. I said, "Yes." He said, "You can have mine, I'm quitting today." He took me to the Pepsi Cola Company and I was hired by the boss' secretary.

Her name was Roberta, my first wife that wrote the theme song for the radio broadcast "God Is Just A Prayer Away". She passed away July 4, 1980.

If I had not come down that hill from the Seminary at that moment, I would never met her. My life would have been very different, I'm sure. Without her I would never have been on the radio - GOD IS JUST A PRAYER AWAY. I was in the right place at the right moment. God must be working in our lives another case of the providence in our lives was the night the deacon came from Lynchburg to check me out. The other members of the pulpit committee had gone somewhere else. This one man and his wife came to Hollowtown. We spent eighteen years and eight months at Lynchburg.

It was while I was there that we built our denominational house. We call it our denominational house. Because we had plans for the house and then did not pay any attention to the plans. I wanted to build a house for four-thousand dollars and it took four years to do it. Every few weeks, we decided to change something. It is out of shape. It has no evident plan of structure; no one would deliberately start out to build a house like it. Just look at my house and you can see the sin of denominationalism. We have a Baptist living room, a Catholic kitchen, etc. More could be said, but we will let it rest. And now another segment.

ALLENSBURG, OHIO

Allensburg was a ministry that ran concurrently with the work at Lynchburg. I started there about three or four years after going to Lynchburg and stayed on about four years after leaving Lynchburg. They are only three miles apart. In the peak years the attendance at Lynchburg averaged about 360 per Sunday and 170 at Allensburg. I preached the sermon at Allensburg at 9:30 before going to Lynchburg for the Sunday school and Church service. Allensburg had their communion and Sunday school after the sermon.

After leaving Lynchburg, I preached at Allensburg only for the A.M. services and spent the evening preaching in revivals and in speaking for congregations on behalf of the radio program-GOD IS JUST A PRAYER AWAY-raising money to support this work. This November 18, 2011 we begin our 50 years on the radio. After Allensburg, there was yet one more Church to serve that was at Marshall, Ohio for a short while at which time they needed a full time minister and the radio broadcast was taking more and more of my time. All of my time now is devoted to the radio broadcasts - 10 in the US and 5 short-wave around the world.

Thank you for standing with me all these years!



SAVE THE DATE

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

November 18, 2011 is the beginning of GIJAPA's 50 years on the radio. We are planning a celebration for Saturday November 19, 2011, and want you to be part of that special day as we begin our 50th year broadcasting the gospel all over the world. Watch for details in our GIJAPA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER. In preparation for the program, we would like to hear from you if you are a listener, and let us know where you are from and how long you have been listening. Please pray for this ministry as we plan this event, and please put it on your calendar. We can't do it without YOU! God Bless!

UPDATE FROM IKE & LEE PERTEY OF GHANA

Our praises to God: Like King Hezekiah, God heard my prayer and cry and had mercy on me so He restored my soul from going down to the pit last August 2010, that today though a sinner I am also alive! Praises be to God for His mercies on me and my family! We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who heard about my plight and prayed for me, encouraged and helped me to live again. May you be blessed to live longer in good health to experience all the good things your hearts desire. God bless you.

The Truth: Work became stand still after August last year but believe you me, we worked even when we were not in good health. **The Truth** is still working and will continue to work till the judgement day. Over the later part of the year, we had the opportunity meeting so many of the converts we know and know not and have not seen for a very long time when they came to see me at home upon hearing about my problem. The opportunity was used to talk to them about their Christian faith, strengthening them to keep on with the race to be in Heaven after death. Souls were won through phone calls whilst Lee and the brethren were out soul winning. We thank God for **The Truth-Gijapa** collaboration-it has helped wIn many unto Christ.

Baptisms: Counting from January last year to December 31, 2010, our records indicates that a total of 211 souls were baptized. Out of this number are 176 females and 35 males. Whilst this number is not so encouraging to us, we pledge to do more this year though we are not as fit as before but with God's strength for us we know we will do more.

Churches Planted: Reports from the churches are very encouraging though there were some excommunications in some of the churches, report says out of the 7 brethren that were ex-communicated from 3 of the churches on the bases

of fornication and absenteeism 5 of them have returned and confessed to live a good Christian life and so are worshiping in their various congregations. Lee and I will go look for the other 2 and talk to them so pray over this. Adawukwao, Ofadaa, Fianko, Ofaakor, Nkwanta, The Unexpected church and Parkside congregations are all doing very well by God's grace. May the good Lord richly bless all of you for your prayers for us and for the souls in these churches.

Bibles, Clothing, Etc...: God bless you all for the clothing to Gijapa that have made it possible for many to be Christians because they can have something decent for church. We still need more as we are back unto the soul winning field to win more souls. We are still enrolling students for the Bible lessons and people are still studying and returning lessons for grading. Our Ed's Sermon Translation program too is on again after the break. Please, pray for us. **Conclusion:** We need your prayers as things are not straight at all with us. Keep praying that God will show us a way to live and live well to be able to do the work without murmuring. Keep donating to Gijapa for the Lord will bless you and all your descendants for helping others to hear the Gospel. We love you all and please, remember us with some more Bibles, clothing, shoes. Thank you and HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

Greetings! servants of the living God,

All the boxes of clothes, shoes, tracts and Bibles have arrived. Thank you very much. Please pray for my daughter Veronica, she is being accepted to study theology in Swaziland. She will report on 15th January 2011. Thank you very much. God bless. Naomi is fine. God bless you all.

Your brother and fellow servant of Jesus Christ. JOHN MASEKA, Evangelist ZAMBIA

I am called MEDHANIE ISAAK from ERITREA, EAST AFRICA. I received a Bible and lessons of the Bible covering from Genesis to Revelation before six years. Since then my life was changed and I am following Christ with all my hear. I want to tell you I am fruit of your ministry whom Christ has bought me by his blood. Recently through miracles God has brought me out of my Country Eritrea, where many Christians suffer for their believe in Jesus Christ. Now I live in Seattle, with my brother. I want to thank Ed and Naomi Bousman and their ministry for their dedicated work and influence to many Christians around the world and especially in our country. God bless you abundantly.

Madame Naomi: Thank you so much for all the three(3) latest CPs back-up you are sending in the mail for us. Just got last Friday a box of used clothing you have sent earlier. These stuff are big helps for us for the people around us to see Christ in our lives & teachings as they reflected our love to their souls in showing our cares to their basics. May God bless GIJAPA & her donors & supporters for this thought you put forth in us in preaching the Gospel. By the way, I am not able to proceed my schedules this Sunday morning. I requested a brother to do the work for me for a time. I have fever & colds due to change of whether. Hot

during the day & cold in the morning. Folks here, especially children, have this sort of illness & it looks like normal considering our El Niño phenomena, a hot whether coupled with the scanty of rain.

Dear Brother Bousman & GIJAPA Family,

I wish all of you a happy and rewarding New Year 2011. I want to thank you for your continuous support over the years with Bibles, clothing, communion cups and trays etc, to the Ministry in Liberia and that of Sierra Leone. On behalf of the 46 New Testament church of Christ congregations in the 2 countries, I feel great to network with your Ministry and you may rest assured that we will continuously remember you in our prayers. I am happy to report to you that yesterday I received the 2000 communion cups you posted December 7th 2010 plus a box of NIV Bibles. The communion trays are yet to be received.

In Christ, Mike Foday from Liberia

Dear Sister Naomi,

We really do appreciate your love for the brethren here. This is a very hard soil and we always need assistance. I suffer a whole day for the work and I request that you do pray for me and the work here. I love the work of God but lack sponsors to enable me do this work of my heart the way I want. Transportation to evangelistic points here is very expensive. Truly you people have been of great assistance to us on this hard soil. I met only one congregation from Ghana but now we have four, thanks be to God.

There is a certain denominational church here I have began teaching them, please remember me in your prayers. I did that in my home country Ghana and through the grace of God that church became the Church of Christ to the glory of God...I do hope our beloved brother Bousman is getting better from day to day. We are grateful to God. The rains are heavy here these days but very soon it will be over. Thanks so much and we salute you all in the Lord.

*Alexander Ofori, a servant of The Most High God.
From The Gambia*

Hello Madame NAOMI & to ALL at GIJAPA! I just came home from a 5-hour travel meeting with prospective co-workers in the LORD, & upon getting some nap I am making contacts & coordination again with our local churches for our special activities this New Year! Thus I am dropping you this note to say how grateful we are so much to YOU ALL at GIJAPA. It is another year & challenge for us ALL to hold out the ever Flaming TORCH of GIJAPA for GOD. Just these couple weeks we have done our benevolent project to my people & we have accomplished the 5-day mission work we have slated for the year end, plus we have encouraged local congregations here for their fellowship by fascilitating & working out their Christmas programs. I am requesting now souvenir photos for these activities to those who have taken pictures & I will send them to you next week in an Internet Cafe, plus my personal pictures you have requested. Pray we could have another immersions in the LORD on or in the 1st week of this New Year as they said they would. Meanwhile, May GOD Bless YOU ALL at GIJAPA & AMERICA, & we are looking forward for a greater momentum of GIJAPA for HIM!

Ed Domingo, Evangelist of the Sunset Beach Church of Christ in the Philippines

Hello my name is Shelia S. I'm interested in your Bible studies. Do you have a large print Bible? I'm currently in a women's prison. I try to occupy all my time in God's word and apply it to my life everyday, but it's hard. I hope you can help me. Thank you for your time.

Shelia S. Mcpherson Unit, Newport, AR

Mr. Bousman, I appreciate the Bible you sent to me and I enjoyed doing the Bible study lessons. Thank you and God bless you and everyone who helps to provide the free Bibles to everyone.

Kathy from Federal Corrections Institution; Neport, AR



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