

## Thoughts From the Prayer Room

(IHOP/KC Aug/Sept 2007)

***It's a Time to Run:*** We sense the Holy Spirit is calling us out of our comfort to run hard with Him. One morning last week as we were praying with our instruments, I began to unexpectedly play (on flute) the theme from Chariots of Fire. We took that as a hint from the Lord to see the movie and take notes as a family. The key phrase of the movie is when Eric Liddel preaches to a small gathering, in the pouring rain, just after winning an intense race (when he was unfairly tripped). He said: "...If you commit yourself to the love of Christ—that is how you run a straight race..." Later that week we (the boys) started running in the early am—to prepare ourselves physically and spiritually for the days ahead. The following scriptures refer to spiritual running: Jude 21 says: "build yourself up...[in faith], praying in the Holy Spirit...*keep yourselves in the love of God...*" 1 Cor 9:24 says: "...run in such a way as to win..." in other words run [in love] as hard as you can! The Lord is calling us out of the comfort of the bedroom to run with Him in the pastures, the mountains, the coastlands, the streets—wherever prayer & love take us. "Draw me after you and let us run together!" (Songs 1:4a) O God, love us well that we may *run* well!

***Where is the Manifest Presence of the Lord?*** "...if you yourselves do not know, most beautiful among women, go forth on the trail of the flock, and pasture your young goats by the tents of the shepherds." (Songs 1:8) If we are in a season when the "sense of His Presence seems gone (Though the sense of His presence should be the norm in our lives—oh you most beloved & beautiful to the Lord) then find Him in serving the sheep—especially the ones that act like goats. As we loose ourselves in building up one another, we will find a secret life in God growing in us—taking on a life of its own!

### **Thoughts on The Call, Nashville 07.07.07:**

(7.19.07)

When I asked my son Samuel (13) to give two words summarizing The Call he said: *repentance* and *covenant*.

There are many things that could be shared about The Call. As a family of six, we experienced wave after wave of conviction as the Spirit of prayer moved across the many thousands attending. Two of our boys said it felt like they had received a good scrubbing. It was as if we were corporately coming to God to acquire garments of righteousness and holiness for the coming season. There seemed to be a corporate searching of the heart.

Later in the afternoon, after time of repentance, three couples were married as a prophetic sign of covenant to each other and to the Lord. At the same time we corporately renewed our devotion to Jesus and severed all other ties. What really struck me was the significance of the three couples *who desired* to get married at this huge event. I was drawn to one couple, the bride in particular. She was experiencing such joy. You could see the sweetness of communion between them. Later in the day, she appeared again with one of the worship teams playing violin, guitar and also singing. She was ministering from an overflowing heart to her bridegroom king. She seemed to be in the ecstasy of two holy covenants of marriage—both to her earthly and heavenly husband! When I saw this, I thought what a prophetic picture of what we're moving into: A bride basking in the reality of a glorious future, *responding in covenant loyalty* in anticipation of her first wedding night. She was singing and playing the Song of Songs with great skill and fervency and you could feel the pleasure of God all over her! I believe this is a true picture of the "summer of love"—who we are and what we're moving into at this time. We can now walk in humility and rest under the covering of our heavenly husband, Jesus.

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