

# RAISE THE MARK

AUGUST 2006

*Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you. I PETER 5:6-10*

- Praise God for the specific ways He has cared for you these last few weeks.
- Pray that we would be sober, alert and firm in our faith.
- Praise God for specific ways you are seeing Him perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you
- Ask God to expose pride in your life and confess the areas He shows you.
- Confess ways you are lazy in your commitment to Christ and easy prey for your adversary.

## CONFESSION/EVALUATION

*Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth. COLOSSIANS 3:1-8*

- Ask God to reveal areas in which your mind is set on things on the earth and not on things above.
- Acknowledge and confess ways you are walking in immorality, impurity, worldly passion, evil desire and greed.
- Confess ways you have allowed anger to rule you.
- Confess any bitterness, gossip, slander or people pleasing the Holy Spirit is exposing in your life.

## COMMUNION

## PRAYING FOR OTHERS

*Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving; praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned; that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak. Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person. COLOSSIANS 4:2-6*

- Pray for compassion, wisdom, and sensitivity to the people God puts in our midst that don't know Him (your top 10).
- Pray for those in our body with special needs that you are aware of (marriages, health, family, personal lives, etc.)
- Pray that God would have our hearts and that we would be people completely yielded to Him.
- Pray for God's leading in the design and provision of our facility needs.
- Pray for other specific requests in your group (rather than stating these just pray them).
- Pray for the situation in the Middle east and for our troops.
- Pray for the leaders of the world, country, state and city.
- Pray for the spiritual leaders in your life.

## FAMILY TIME

*Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light. EPHESIANS 5:11-13*

- This is our time for you to share specific areas in which you individually are struggling or praising God for areas of victory over self.
- This is also our time for you to openly confess and "expose to the light" any area in which you are entangled in sin and for the body to pray for you .