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...Serving the Body of Christ by Identifying, Teaching, Training, Empowering, Mobilizing Intercessors ...

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Dear Believer:

Wow! I am so excited about what the Lord has been doing in and through the prayer community in these last few months. The participation in the various National Day of Prayer (NDP) observances in and around Corpus Christi was wonderful to see as God seemed to be speaking to the hearts of the pastoral leadership to be far more visible than they have been for many years. The Overnight Prayer and the Solemn Assembly were both extremely powerful times of prayer that were well attended. Both were marked by prayers of repentance and seeking God's grace. There were about 200 people who participated in the Overnight Prayer. A like number were present at the Solemn Assembly. Inclusive of the pastors who led the Solemn Assembly, there were at least twenty pastors and other ministers present to lead in signing a covenant with each other and with the Lord. At more than one observance on May 3rd, without specific scheduling, there were as many as eight pastors to share the burden of praying for our nation. Comments from people who had attended various observances were that the prayers were "on target" and "prayers of power" rather than perfunctory in nature. Through the ad in the Corpus Christi Caller Times there were as many as 200,000 people who were touched by what was done for NDP 2007. But prayer is about more than just one day.

Pastors of our city are seeing that and are expressing a desire for more corporate prayer. Many are asking that we organize more "extended time" prayer meetings similar to the Overnight Prayer and Solemn Assembly. The desire is for times of blended worship and prayer that will last from 3 to 5 hours as the Lord leads. We are working with them to see how that might be accomplished at least on a quarterly basis. As we continue to grow in prayer let us remember to continually ask for the heart of the Lord and the will of God.

It is important to remember that prayer is effective when done in a proactive fashion. As a child it often seemed to me that the pervasive teachings were that the gates of Hell were coming after us. It was some time before I realized that gates do not move. When Jesus said that the gates of Hell would not prevail against the church, He was speaking of us kicking them in and plundering the enemy's camp. I believe that it is time for us to begin to ask the Lord for an offensive, rather than a defensive prayer strategy. After all, it is well said that the best defense is a good offense.

Sincerely,
William W. Lumry, II

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