

Welcome to 2025. We anticipate some amazing things happening this year in the spiritual realm in many places around the world.

Hey, we are now "Officially Retired" from TEAM as of Dec 31st, the world hasn't all of a sudden ended and we remain as busy or busier, particularly with ministry. :)

As mentioned a month ago or so, we will now streamline our Prayer Update mailing list. If you would like to remain on the list, please let us know with a simple reply like: **"Yes, please keep sending me Updates."** If we don't hear from you by **Feb 15th**, we will assume that it's your time to move on to another focus. Nevertheless, we want each and every one of you to know that we **hugely** appreciate your years of partnership!!! Personal thank you notes will be forthcoming, and for now we offer a sincere, "Allah-yua-teek-il-afee-ya!" That is, "God strengthen you" in Arabic ☺

For those who will be or might consider a contribution to our Retirement Account, the method is the same as before so you can just keep using that. Or, anyone may donate using this link: <https://give.team.org/fundraiser/3232575> All donations receive a tax deductible receipt and 100% goes to us, with no admin fees! :)

Answers & Updates (Dec 6, 2024):

1) For the Lord to help Bill manage much ministry going forward.

Please pray for three fronts:

- a) **Equipping saints for outreach.** Bill is currently managing 10 Small Groups: he leads 7 (one with Carol) and is involved in 3 others. *Yes, its going very well PTL! It seems as one study drops off, another takes its place.*
- b) **Reaching the neighborhood** has been slow but 3 have come to the Lord so far and the fields are ripe! Bill just needs 30hr days. *Yes & No ... it's still slow progress, but our African neighbor in particular has begun truly opening up.*
- c) **Africa ...** The DMM outreach is doing well in Uganda under Pastor Franco and Bill continues to mentor him weekly (right now it's Greek & Hebrew study tools). The Spring 2025 vision with **Dr Celestin in Rwanda** to equip saints in 3 other African nations through Bill's training is being tweaked to cost as little as possible without compromising impact. This might involve a home-grown conference center in Nairobi, Kenya called Lifeway Missions International. We're looking into what it entails to rent a portion of the center which would include rooms & meals. Prayers appreciated! *YES, progress is being made! Although the Nairobi option proved too expensive, there are suddenly two US-based mission agencies, maybe a third, which hold the possibility of working together with us. More on that as it unfolds!*

2) For the 25-35 year old singles group to meet some real needs in the Church

No but Yes...We opened our home for 8 Sunday afternoons to help the singles in this age range meet each other and form a group of their own. Although our time slot made for a very looong Sunday, five ladies signed up! And they were promptly disappointed that there were no men. :) However, a Monday night gathering with military guys from the base may be filling the gap. Thanks for your prayers!

New Requests (Jan 17, 2025):

1) For the Lord to be the "Way Maker" back to Africa.

Through Carol's research and a divine happenstance, two US based mission agencies **may** hold potential for partnership with the Africa ministry—not only with Bill's short-term trips, but long-term with his indigenous co-workers Pastor Franco & Dr. Celestin! The Lord is not limited with resources, or to options we can conceive of, but this would be great! *Please pray!*

2) For the "being" and the "doing" to be in step with God

Between our official retirement from TEAM and her participation in our church's 21-day fast to seek direction for 2025, Carol senses a clearly defined shift has come for her this month. Although still busily supporting Bill in all of his ministries, the LORD seems to have granted her an increasingly quiet heart-focus on Him, along with a strange sense of anticipation. Our hectic schedule hasn't changed any, but His rest & Presence are affecting every area, almost like in the days of First Love, and she doesn't want it to end! The "being" may be preparation for "doing", so please pray for "whatever lies ahead"! *Thank you!*

Praising God for all of you!

Bill & Carol