

The

Firing Line

Winter 2009



The *Firing Line* is the quarterly publication of Crossfire.

Crossfire is a church without walls, built on the foundation of grace and love; serving God, building people, and reaching beyond the walls within us to the world around us.



10:00 a.m.
Join us for
Sunday
Worship!
CROSSFIRE
A CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:20 a.m. Pre-service Prayer
9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

Crossfire meets at:

The Grange Bldg. 2280 E. Noble. Pl.
Centennial, CO 80121

2 Blocks north of Arapahoe Road on Vine Street
Directly across from South Suburban Ice Arena



Bring your children ages 4-12
to Children's Ministry
with Pastor Peggy Nelson



Nursery for infants - age 4 provided

➤ Christmas Eve Service

6:30 pm December 24th

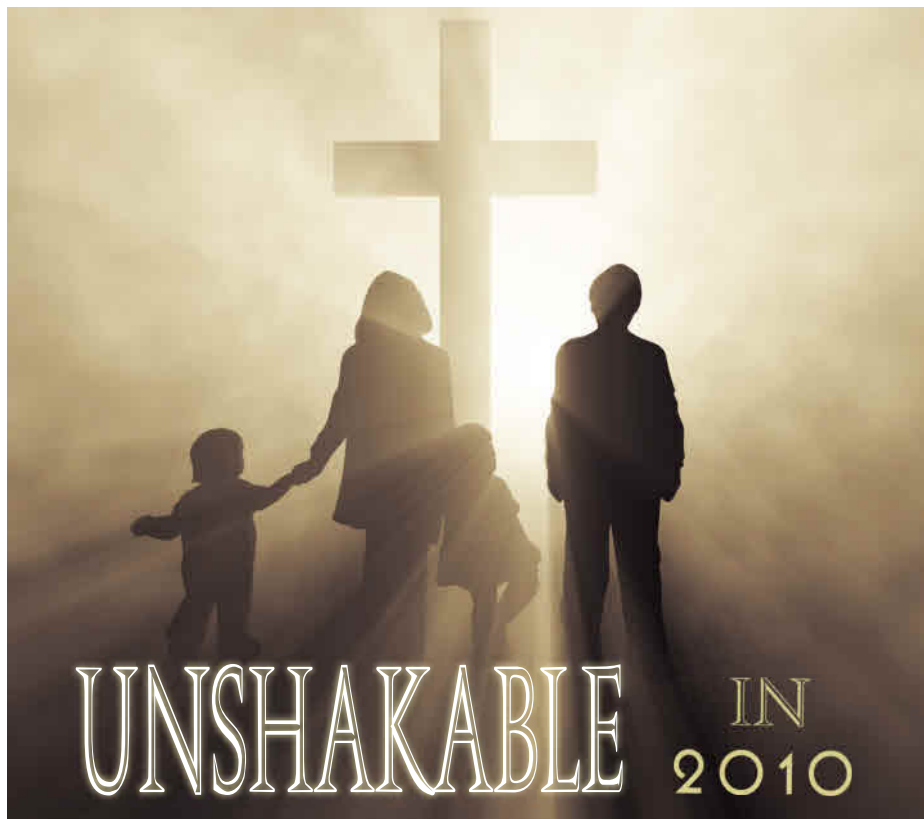


➤ New Year's Eve Prophetic Worship

Night 7:00 pm December 31st

➤ School of the Spirit

Watch for announcements at
www.crossfirechurch.us for the winter-spring classes for Crossfire School of the Spirit.



In recent years there has been increasing undermining of fundamental structures of the United States. We have courts that reinterpret the constitution. We have elected officials that redefine words of law. We have a President using executive authority to place people with anti-Christian and anti-American beliefs into powerful positions in federal government. Many of these people have clear, unambiguous belief systems oriented 180 degrees in opposition to original intent of our founders, of legal precedent, and of the fundamental principles and truths upon which our country was established. As we entered 2009 we may have been shaken by the economic turmoil. As we enter 2010

we may find ourselves shaken and troubled watching political, legal, and systematic changes transpire.

In these days we must ask ourselves a basic question: Do I focus my faith in God or in the government system? Perhaps you answer by saying; "well, a little of both." Therein lies a problem in your faith. Hebrews 11: 1 says that *faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see*. The author of Hebrews then goes to great lengths to remember men and women of faith, none of whom were commended for faith in a system but for faith in God. Our government system—as well designed, founded, and grounded as it is—cannot be the focus of our faith. (Cont'd pg 3)

www.CrossfireChurch.us

Harvey's Leadership Principles

Be Unshakable

Leaders in business and ministry often lead people that face difficult, trying circumstances of life. Those difficult circumstances can shake people's beliefs, faith, and personal stability. The emotional turmoil then spills over into family, work, and ministry environments. The leader is then challenged with leading such a person through tough times.

Here are three leadership principles to help you lead people through difficult circumstances:

1. Connect and Stay connected. Connect with that person. It is critical they know you care. You could easily go about your business of life giving only a quick, passing word to them. However, if you sincerely connect with them on a regular basis through the shaking circumstance, they will be affected and your credibility as a leader increases.

2. Sympathize but don't empathize. To *sympathize* is to feel and express compassion for another. To *empathize* is to identify yourself with the character and experiences of another, i.e. to put yourself in their shoes. The difference is subtle but significant. Jesus showed compassion for those in need, but did not put himself in their shoes. To do so he would be aligning his emotions with their emotions. As a leader, you don't want to align your emotions with theirs. This limits your own effectiveness in the situation. You can, however, express the true compassion of Jesus to help them.

3. Be unshakable when they're shakable. A critical aspect of helping anyone through shaking times is to be stable when they are not. Your stability can be an anchor for them as their mind, will, and emotions shift like sand. If you become shaken, then your ability to lead them and others is diminished.

Heb. 12:28 says, *Therefore we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken.* Leaders: live in **this unshakable** kingdom when others are not. ◇

New Year's Eve Prophetic Worship Night

December 31 • New Year's Eve
7:00 p.m. • The Grange Building

The world's sees December 31 as a night to get drunk.

WE see it as a night to celebrate God's goodness.

We see it as a time to seek His face for the upcoming year ahead.

The Bible tells us not to get drunk on wine
but to be filled with the Holy Spirit instead.

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 5:15-20

Come!
Join Harvey, Deborah and the
Crossfire worship team and gain fresh
insight for the year ahead!

**Better is one day in your courts
than thousands elsewhere.**

Deborah Ministries International

www.DeborahMinistries.org

November 21 -December 16 **Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Kenya**

Ministering at women's conferences,
leadership conferences, orphanages,
and churches

April 2010

Kenya & Bhutan

Ministering at leadership and
youth conferences



Deborah praying for a young boy in Pakistan
Sept. 2009

Merry
Christmas

Want to hear a fresh voice?

Read ministry blogs associated with Crossfire Church.

Go to www.CrossfireChurch.us
and click on **Links and Resources**
on the left hand menu of the home page

UNSHAKABLE continued from page 1

The system is a tangible, visible system that includes flaws and faults. It is susceptible to the influence of men, good and bad. We cannot be sure and certain about the system!! Therefore fixing our eyes of faith on the system is to misplace our faith.

As I have traveled and ministered in other countries people marvel at the relative ease of our lives. They marvel at our reliance upon our government to be good and just in its decisions. They marvel at the fact we do not have to believe for survival in spite of a government system. Believers in much of Africa experience military coups, open graft and corruption, illegal elections, decades of dictatorships, government endorsement of institutional human abuse, not to mention changing names and boundaries of their country. Our friends in parts of Asia experience Hindu and Buddhist dominated systems—some of which openly oppose Christianity. In other parts of the world believers endure Muslim governments with Sharia law.

Christians in much of the world have learned to ALWAYS fix their faith on the One who saved them, set them free, and ever lives to intercede for them before the Father. They live daily by Heb. 12:2,3 fixing their eyes on Jesus, "the author and perfecter of their faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. They consider Him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that they will not grow weary and lose heart." Focusing

your faith in a system will be frustrating and produce weariness and loss of heart in life.

The challenge for us in the U.S. is to change our focus of faith, when we find it misplaced. We can love our country, pray for our leaders, participate in governing, and believe God for His influence on the men and women who govern. However, it is Jesus that must be the object of our faith. . . not the system. . . not the President. . . not the Supreme Court.

As we close out 2009 and enter 2010, I challenge you to fix your eyes on Jesus. Focus your faith on the unseen, unshakable kingdom of God. When we see all else is shaking, whether in Africa or America or elsewhere, His kingdom remains unshaken. WE will not grow weary and lose heart as we fix our eyes and orient our hearts on the One who established the unshakable kingdom, Jesus Christ. Let us declare 2010 to be the year of the unshakable kingdom for all who believe!!

Harvey Wittmier is the pastor of Crossfire and is passionate about raising up leaders for the last days.



Perseverance: The Road Less Traveled

By Kim Gallegos



A Roman poet once observed, "The drops of rain make a hole in the stone not by violence but by oft falling." This is a striking picture of what perseverance means. The dictionary defines perseverance as steady persistence in adhering to a course of action, a belief, or a purpose; steadfastness.

I have learned this year what it means to persevere. At the beginning of March, I went to the hospital for a simple

operation. After several complications, I emerged with a long road ahead of me involving a lot of pain, swelling, and physical therapy. I have been unable to return to my previous way of life yet; I work from home and my physical activity has been limited. This is the first problem I have ever encountered that I could not overcome by an act of my will and hard work. I needed to learn how to persevere under difficult circumstances.

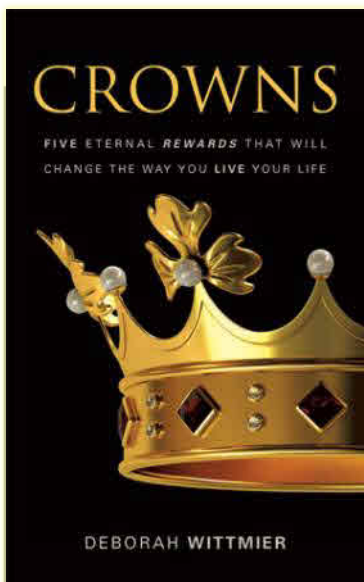
To persevere, a person must have **patience**. Further, he must be able to bear difficulties calmly and without complaint. Hard work and persistence have never been hard for me. Those two qualities were always present in my personality. Now what about patience? I used to be a very impatient person and I was not used to waiting for anything. To make it through the long hours and days of pain and the monotony of doing the same exercises over and over and over, I needed to develop patience. On my own I would have probably sunk into resentment or depression. But God is so faithful! He has been with me through the entire episode, and He has taught me to patiently just keep going and to rely on Him. He has changed my heart and given me peace under the most trying circumstances.

Endurance is another facet of perseverance and it seems foreign to some extent. Endurance means to bare pain or a hardship; the ability or strength to continue or last, especially despite fatigue, stress, or other adverse conditions. We, as a nation, are truly a blessed people. Individuals do endure pain and hardships but when you look at history and especially at other countries, we do not have to endure as much. Our society is portrayed as being made up of people who are not used to waiting or bearing hardships. Yet, there are many verses in the Bible that encourage us to endure. One of my favorites is from 2 Timothy 2:3 which states, "You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." My greatest lesson has been to learn endurance, to be patient throughout this ordeal and to lean on God as He is my ever-present help in times of trouble and always.

Another attribute of perseverance mentioned in the dictionary is **steadfastness**. I have always appreciated that quality as it implies a firm and unwavering commitment. This type of thinking has become outdated in our part of the world. The only time I hear this term is in reference to Muslims who remain steadfast in their commitment to their god or to their opposition to Israel. Going back to my story, I am steadfast in my commitment to my full physical restoration. I work on my physical therapy exercises throughout the day. Still it is not enough. But it does not have to be enough because God has promised me many times in the Bible that I am healed. I like to meditate on Jeremiah 30:17 which states, "For I will restore health unto you, and I will heal you of your wounds, saith the Lord."

These are just a few of the characteristics of perseverance that I have detailed to encourage you in whatever circumstances you face. Keep pressing on and press into God. He will be with you and give you the strength and perseverance you need to overcome anything!

Kim Gallegos attend Crossfire. She is married to Don and works as a Subcontracts Manager.



Deborah's brand new book just released!
Crowns: Five Eternal Rewards that Will Change the Way You Live Your Life

Get it now at
www.DeborahMinistries.org

BE AN EVANGELIST!

Chapter 2 is devoted to the topic of salvation.
Give **Crowns** to someone you know who needs to hear the message of grace.