

Inspirations



The ACTS Foundation Bulletin for "Wednesday Women Warriors & Mighty Meditating Men"

An Open Heaven

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ACTS sponsored a prophetic conference week in Richmond, Virginia during March. We prepared with great expectancy; God moved mightily. Ralph and I and the prophetic team fasted. God revealed Himself in amazing ways! The whole experience renewed my assurance that God opens up the sky over our heads and enables us to drink directly from Heaven when we seek Him corporately in one accord. While Nigerian born Dr. Joe Ibojie and his team members from Father's House (Aberdeen, Scotland) were with us, a spiritual awakening erupted throughout greater Richmond. On the prophetic team were medical doctor, Christian best seller author, and pastor Dr. Joe Ibojie, anointed businessman Ayo Shote, and worship leader Angelo Nwigwe. The three men stayed in our home in Richmond, Virginia. Ralph and I stayed with our longtime friend, Barbara Hobbs, just down the road.

Our home in Richmond, 9957 North Wagstaff Circle, is my childhood home. After Dad and Mom moved to Heaven, the family home was put on the market. The former horse pasture where as a young girl I helped my dad break horses, was sold to a Christian couple who built a lovely home. Two years ago Ralph made an offer on the home place, the 1 ½ acre surrounding it, and the barns and outbuilding. I never dreamed I would live in my childhood home again. It was in my upstairs bedroom I, as a young girl, prayed daily for my husband as he was growing up, wherever he was. Even though Ralph and I are still in ministry on the road most of the time, the weeks and occasionally months we are at what we now call *Father's House*, God always blesses us there! It was in this same home that my parents hosted many Bible study groups through the years to include a teen club Bible study which met every Friday night for ten years. My parents, along with two other families, started the Richmond Christian School which is still going strong today. Dad usual had a school bus or two in the drive to service. I still marvel at the financial sacrifice my parents made so hundreds of children could have a Christ-centered education. Through the years many people gave their heart to Jesus in this home. Foster children were accepted as birth children. Salesmen who came to the front door to sell wares left with a portion of God's written Word in their hands and often in their heart. God was honored. Ralph and I have continued the tradition!



It has been a joy and a privilege to carry on my parents' role of serving God in this place! Every Saturday night when Ralph and I are in the area, this home is open for ministry. We have had some precious evenings in God's presence. Praise Him! It was the perfect setting for the prophetic team to stay during the week of meetings in March. During their stay I smiled often when I thought of my parents being a part of the "*great crowd of witnesses*" who observed the fellowship of God and His people once again in their beloved house. One day when Ralph and I came by to see our guests, we discovered anointing oil was supernaturally coming down the walls in one of the bedrooms. Another day we discovered oil in a number of places on the ceiling in one of the upstairs bedrooms. Dr. Ibojie had commented that he sensed an open heaven over this home. We knew God used the scented oil in the natural to manifest symbolically to us all what was taking place in the spiritual. Truly, His presence was in the house!

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I have had a renewed desire to keep our home sanctified and consecrated to the Lord and His Kingdom. I have found myself thinking even more of passages like Psalm 19:14 regarding a deeper awareness of our words and thought life. Where God feels at home, the land and property is holy ground. Jacob slept a night with his head on a large stone and he named the place, Bethel, because God met him in that place (Genesis 28). A few times in the history of the Church the Lord has led His people to place stones where He had specifically met with them. God created each of us for His glory and fellowship. He desires our dwelling to have a spiritual Jacob's ladder connecting our hearts to His. So, I encourage you today, whether you are a student in a dorm room, a soldier in a tent on the battlefield, a missionary or minister traveling on the road, or you are settled in an apartment or home, invite the Lord God Almighty to personally dwell *Psalm 91-style* with you! Glory! He makes His presence known! Hallelujah! SMc